

The Purbeck Gazette

January 2019
Issue no. 228

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The Decline Of The Hedgehog. Pg 44



Is Your Tractor Safe On The Road?! Pg 36



Banish Those Winter Blues! Pg 22 - 33



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Editor's note...



Welcome to the January 2019 edition of your Gazette!

Well, that's another year in our rear view mirror and another new year ahead of us. What will 2019 bring?! At the time of going to press, UK politics is in disarray and no one seems to know what form Brexit will, or won't take. Interesting times, eh!?

It'll be fascinating to see what January brings politically and even more fascinating to see how 2019 will pan out. Despite clear divides remaining throughout the country as far as Brexit goes, let's hope that as a country (and therefore community) we pull together and make the best out of whatever future we end up facing.

The best way to make a real difference is to simply do what you can, on a small, local level. If everyone makes a real effort to shop locally this year, we'd hope to see the majority of our independent local businesses still thriving by the end of 2019.

If local independent businesses continue to turn over enough to stay open, that means that locals will still have jobs, and more importantly, will still have a wage packet to (hopefully!) spend in local shops.... it's a wheel that we need to keep turning, together, to keep Purbeck's economy strong, so let's give it a go - all for one and one for all!

We wish all of our readers a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and we look forward to hearing from you all in 2019!

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The February 2019 edition has a deadline of 10th January, and will be distributed from 28th Jan - 1st Feb 2019.

The March 2018 edition has a deadline of 8th February and will be distributed from 25th Feb - 1st March 2019.

Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - Jan '19

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

About Purbeck Media Ltd

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VOLUNTEERS: A massive thanks to our volunteers, whose help is invaluable each month. Our proof readers are the very professional: Gerry Norris and David Holman, with volunteer Photographer, Tim Crabb, also on-hand.

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Hare in the snow at Kingston, by Nico Johnson

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DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY IS 12 NOON, THUR 10th JANUARY

Your Letters

The clue is in the heading above - these are our readers' letters. They are NOT articles, they are letters. By you. Our readers. They are not our letters, they are yours - your letters. Simple!

Please send all letters to ed@purbeckgazette.co.uk with 'letter to the editor' in the email subject line. Please do not exceed 350 words. If handwritten, please ensure it is short and legible.

PLEASE DO NOT DUPLICATE LETTERS TO OTHER PUBLICATIONS - WE DO NOT PRINT MULTI-PUBLICATION LETTERS.

FEB edition deadline: noon, THUR 10th JAN

Remembrance Red

The Reds of Remembrance

"Wear your poppy with pride" they said
 "Remember all our war-time dead
 The blood is there in the petals red"
 But I thought of other reds instead.
 Of the politicians' ruddy faces
 Of the generals' tunics in their places
 Of the churchmen's robes that swept the floor
 As a million souls were sent to war
 Of those who stayed, the privileged few,
 But ordered others what to do
 Are their faces red when they come to view
 A million more poppies all bright and new?
 Many thanks, Martin Hobdell, Swanage, by email

Quizzers Donate To Charity



Dear Readers,

A weekly music quiz takes place (latterly at the Horse & Groom in St Johns Hill, Wareham) on Tuesday evenings and participants pay £1 to enter.

The winning team takes the cash but it has been the tradition (though not an obligation!) for regular quizzers to put winnings into a charity pot and distribute to local causes at a future date.

Three cheques of £275 each were presented recently at the Horse &



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Groom to:- Purbeck Youth Club, Wareham Scout & Guide Hut and Purbeck Citizens Advice Bureau (all based in Wareham) as a result of this year's contributions.

Thanks to all involved in the quiz who have made this possible.
 Marje Heath, Wareham

Bandstand Plea For Funds

Dear Gazette,

Friends of Swanage Bandstand would like to thank everyone who has helped us in our campaign to restore Swanage bandstand back to its former glory. The last eighteen months have been well worth all the effort that's been made, and we would not be in such a good position without that.

People have given their own money, others have given their time, some have just given their full support. The town council have backed us, also our newspapers have helped us to get to where we are now.

We now have now raised £77,500 and with the council pledge of £50,000, the new total is £127,500.

We are still looking for a final push for more funds. By the time you read this the tenders for the work should be in, and then we look forward to the work being started.

Thank you all for your help and F.O.S.B wish you a very happy New Year.
 Alan Houghton, Swanage, by email.

Model Completed!



Dear Readers,

My project for last year was to complete a model of the original Swanage Station inspired by a Christmas card showing one of the first trains to leave the station in the nineteenth century.

Research involved acquiring a 1/480 scale plan of the station site and a scale drawing by Messrs Galbraith and Church quantity surveyors of the original station. I found the plan fascinating with the Railway Hotel, Temperance Hotel and Conservative Club opposite the station, stacks of stone next to Kings Road and a stream covered in on the other side. Next to the station master's house was an unloading dock and huts for coals and foot warmers. On the roadside of the station were cab stands that are still in use today.

I can imagine a draftsman meticulously drawing the station plans and shading the walls in the cross section with a crayon. The original station was like a larger mirror image of Corfe Castle station and the Portland stone walls blended in well with the other buildings as brick structures only appeared after they built the Railway.

On the roof of the gentleman's urinal court was a wooden ventilator.



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LIVE ACTS FOR JANUARY

Sat	12	8pm	Lewis Clarke & The Essentials
Sun	13	8pm	The Local Honeyes
Wed	16	8pm	Open Mic Night
Sat	19	8pm	Phillip Clouts Jazz Ensemble
Fri	25	8pm	BURNS BINGE!
			Elvis & The Resurrectionists
Sat	26	8pm	Kent du Chaine

There was a separate ladies' waiting room and the booking clerk had separate rooms for parcels and the agent as well had his own room. The station master's house is unchanged, and the scullery had recesses for a larder, coals and wood.

The model enables me to depict scenes before they rebuilt the station in 1938. It took me about a month to build the station and I found it difficult to work out whether the roadside and railside canopies were glass, corrugated iron or wooden. I obtained the 1930s livery from HMRS Livery Register LSWR and Southern.

I made an outline drawing for the backscene concentrating on the main features like the Methodist Church, the Purbeck House Hotel, Easter Cottage and the Water Tower, disguising other buildings with trees. I enlisted the help of Barrie Ratcliffe to paint the backscene. I am very pleased with the result. Corfe Castle station will be this year's project.

Yours sincerely, Robin Brasher, Swanage

Poppy Exhibition Success

Dear Readers,

On behalf of Emmanuel Baptist Church, I want to say a huge thank you to our town for their wonderful support for the Poppy Exhibition held at the church from the 8th to the 11th November. St Mark's, St Mary's, Swanage Primary and Corfe Castle School created some beautiful, very creative poppy related artwork and the books of 'Letters from the Trenches' written by St Mary's pupils were particularly moving.

Clifftop Care Home contributed a wonderful papier mache 'Poppy Cliff', Wordsworth residents came up with a tissue paper poppy while York House residents somehow fashioned two beautiful poppies from red spoons! Our local artists came up with so many different framed pictures of poppies ... who would have thought that there were so many takes on the simple poppy flower?

Memories, photos, family trees and memorabilia played a huge part too – including a brass shell and the silver cigarette case punctured by a bullet. All had a story to tell.

Around 750 people visited the Exhibition over the three days, and another one hundred visited on the Friday afternoon to enjoy afternoon tea 'A la Ritz' whilst listening to the lovely Karen Grant singing wartime songs. Union flags waved and so did arms in the air, to the strains of Land of Hope and Glory! What a wonderful atmosphere!

So, thank you, thank you and thank you again, people of Swanage, for your wonderful support! We loved having you visit us

Marjorie Edwards, Emmanuel Baptist Church

Liquid Extortion

Dear Editor,

I was interested indeed to read the letter from Chris Radford in your November edition. It was entitled "Outrageous Water Rates".

I own a small terraced property in Swanage and a rather larger detached property in Bromley, South London. My Bromley property is occupied almost all the time, the Swanage one is used by my grown-up children and grandchildren (three families) - perhaps for half of the year.

I pay monthly by direct debit for my water to Wessex Water and Thames Water. My monthly bill for the Swanage property is 26% more than that of

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Bromley! Your November letter tells us that the cost of water supplied by Wessex is 70% more than that of Thames - this I can verify. I would also point out that the waste charge is 124% more in Wessex! Also, there is no standing charge for Thames Water.

Finally, just to highlight how expensive Wessex Water is, I pay 117% more for my water than electricity and 44% more for water than gas in Swanage. Yes, Mr Radford of Teddington, I would strongly protest with you.

Kind Regards, Bob Farrar, by email

Chaplain's Military Cross

Dear Gazette,

Following a recent visit to the Isle of Purbeck visiting all our old favourite family places which we used to visit in our early childhood, it struck me that you might be interested in knowing more about my grandfather and his previously unknown story.

Most people locally who remember my grandfather, remember a charismatic kind gentle retired Methodist Minister who used to ride his old rickety motorbike around Purbeck.

However, it is only now that his story has been discovered - I say that, but his story in the book: 'The Half-Shilling Curate, A Personal Account of War & Faith 1914-1918', has just been published in its third edition.

Through my research I discovered that my grandfather, Rev. Cowl also known locally as simply, Mr Cowl, was the only known chaplain to be awarded the Military Cross Medal for exemplary gallantry on a ship during the entire war!

It's a wonderful story of love, valour and faith.

For further information, please take a look at the website www.halfshillingcurate.com The book has been endorsed by many high-profile historians and military personnel.

Kind regards, Sarah (Reay), by email.

'Improvements' Disastrous

Dear Gazette,

I am writing to draw attention to the dangerous 'improvements' carried out on the A351 at the junction with the B3069 Langton Matravers road.

Apparently, part of the thinking behind it was to discourage lorries from passing through Langton Matravers.

Therefore, the turn at the junction to go left is impossible for a large vehicle as it would have to destroy the pedestrian 'refuge' in the centre of the road and cross into the wrong lane.

In fact, local lorries already avoided this junction because it was difficult before the 'improvements'.

However, the service bus, which is an hourly service from Swanage to Poole, has no choice and now has to mount the kerbs on both sides of the B3069 and the A351 as it turns to go into Swanage.

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

As the council workers were removing the traffic lights, I was confronted by a driver coming out of the junction on the wrong side of the island; potentially very dangerous.

Hopefully this letter will be seen by someone who has the authority and common sense to sort this dangerous mess out.

Yours sincerely, W.D.Wilson, by email

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Blindingly Obvious Point

Dear Readers (and letter writers!),

Hot topic! Ed's note on our letters pages...

Well, Jenny Jones' letter, which we printed last month ('Editor prints propaganda'), has prompted a flurry of responses!

Some correspondents have complained that despite writing letters to us every month on a wide variety of subjects, we weren't printing every single letter or poem received from them. We receive letters on a wide variety of subjects every month from a large number of readers and if you had a letter published one month, chances are that we'll give someone else a shot of being printed the following month.

If your letter contains disparaging remarks about our paper or our staff, then we automatically hit the delete button. Much like teaching granny to suck eggs, anyone who thinks that writing rude or obnoxious comments in relation to the paper, the staff and whether we know 'how to do our jobs right' is going to help you 'get into print', needs a swift reality check.

It really doesn't work like that – much like pub bar staff refusing to serve rude punters – we also reserve the right to send any obnoxious letters straight to the bin. Worth remembering.

We don't solicit letters from our readers and quite clearly therefore do not have control over who writes what. What we print each month is a reflection of what we have been sent for that edition. As far as Brexit goes, some months we have letters for, some months, letters against. They tend to even out, often with ongoing discussions between letter writers unfolding over several months.

If you'd like to see your letter in print, send it in prior to the due deadline and have a little ponder as to whether telling the folk who decide which letters to print how to do their job 'correctly' is likely to gain you any page space.

We think you'll find it won't....

Yours, the Editor

'Activists' Write Letters

Dear Readers,

Brexit Bias

We are frequent visitors to Swanage and take interest in local news of area we visit. Browsing the November issue of The Purbeck Gazette we were astounded and disappointed at the predominant anti - Brexit coverage in Readers' Letters to the exclusion of the other side of the debate.

The lengthy missives, clearly from activists, bore the usual hallmarks of the Remain - establishment script of economic Armageddon whereby forecasts to date have proved inaccurate - emergency budget; 800K job losses; instant recession anyone?

The disdainful denigration of those who voted and support the decision to leave the EU continues to be distasteful, especially bearing in mind Purbeck apparently voted to leave by an 18% margin, way in excess of

the national average.

As an aside, it is interesting that the Remainers dismiss the electorate as too dim to understand the few key issues that were voted on but are now expected to absorb a 500+ page international trade agreement and vote again!

Regards, G & L Howard, Wiltshire, by email.

Let It Go!

Dear Editor,

I think both Linda Welsh (December issue) and an even earlier plea from a young lad at the start of the year are right that we should all now draw a line under Brexit.

It is only weeks away (thank goodness) and neither of the two major political parties have an appetite to attempt to reverse the people's decision. Let it go.

Michael Lock, Swanage, by email

Insult To Freedom Of Speech

Dear Gazette,

I just want to say that I, and I dare say on behalf of many other Gazette readers, congratulate you and your team for producing an excellent, informative publication about all activities in Purbeck and, through 'Your Letters', current affairs; all of which are published free of charge to all.

'Your Letters' is a forum for us all to express our points of view, gratitude and useful information. I was therefore disappointed to read Linda Welsh's letter (December Gazette), begging you to cease publishing letters regarding Brexit for the simple reason that I doubt very much if Linda writes to the editors of the broadsheet and tabloids of our national press to cease reporting upon the same subject, but she is entitled to her point of view.

Similarly, I was disappointed to read the following letter in the same column from Jenny Jones, suggesting that the Gazette should 'shut up shop if you are only going to print propaganda' - what an awful item on her Christmas wish list.

You may have wiped the tears of laughter from your face, but I found her sentiments to suggest that both the Advertiser and the Gazette should close down, an insult to freedom of speech and to the outstanding efforts of the people who strive weekly and monthly to inform the residents of Purbeck of events and useful guidance.

Jenny has openly admitted that she wasn't trying very hard for nearly a week to find a Gazette which speaks volumes about her obvious inability to read the information the Gazette contains on page two, being specifically 'We publish in full online....See: www.purbeckgazette.com'.

Keep up the great job Nico that you and your team produce in serving the Purbeck community.

I wish you all, and your readers, a prosperous New Year.

Richard Ingall, Shore Road, Swanage

Protection Lies With E.U.

Dear Nico,

The contortions of the main Brexit players must be fantastic news for chiropractors.

Given Mr Corbyn's desire for an United Ireland, one might have expected him to jump at the opportunity to support a deal that loosened ties with Ulster.

The raison d'être of the Liberal Democrats has for many years been the decentralisation of politics but seem desperate to become an even

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smaller cog in The Euro wheel. The side effects of increasing prosperity are anathema to the Greens, so one might expect them to welcome an outcome that apparently dumps GDP by 8% but instead they hope to overturn the referendum result.

With the prospect of a Labour Government growing by the week, rather than hoping for a clean break, Tory right-wingers should perhaps consider that the only protection from Mr Corbyn's Venezuelan policies might lie with the EU.

Who'd a thunk it?

Yours sincerely, David Drury

Save Earth From Fools

Dear Editor,

What will Brexit mean for our small town upon Mother Earth, where we all live within her resource and the great distraction of boundaries and trade wars?

The earth is not a 'deal'; while politicians banquet and the homeless sleep in doorways of closed down high street stores.

Climate change falls through the floorboards of the dinosaur in some ice cream parlour, the one that's really in the room, where elephants step on landmines in the real world and the mighty Colorado River doesn't make the New Orleans shore, which, should levels rise, will impact on Swanage and the coastline's ice caps.

Wise leadership and a sea change in our consciousness; no more riots on the Champs-Elysees over the price of fossil fuel when we still have the time to save our Mother Earth from fools.

Yours sincerely, M.J.K Hamilton, by hand.

Leadership Required

Dear Editor,

Brexit mess - courageous leadership required

The task of Parliament is to seek the best for the UK. If the UK is to maintain a generous, confident and creative outward-looking perspective, it is incumbent on Parliament to exercise the courageous leadership that will enable us to remain as part of the EU. Only by sitting at the top table will the UK be able to continue to take a lead in working in constructive partnerships to prosper the welfare of the UK and Europe as a whole.

I recently returned from a visit to the French/Belgium border and revisited the British and Commonwealth War Graves. I pondered the sacrifice of so many young men 100 years ago and then, again, of my father's generation some twenty years later.

A deliberate, peaceful, creatively cooperative, generally just and predominantly prosperous Europe has emerged from the ashes of conflict. Europe's swords have progressively been beaten into ploughshares and spears into pruning hooks. Young people, students, their teachers and tutors, have gained immeasurable mutual cross-cultural insights and understanding through imaginative and affirming educational programmes. Vital climate change initiatives have been pursued.

Social justice has been championed and the free movement of people has contributed to growth in the economies of European countries and to shared identities. These outcomes are desperately hard won and precious. Our partnership with Europe is not merely about so-called sovereignty or indeed rational economic argument. It is profoundly emotional, creative and relational.

The European Union of course has its flaws, it is a complex work in progress. But it is a generous and well-intentioned work in progress. I am proud to be a British EU citizen.

The concerns of voters expressed through the referendum on 23 June 2016 do need to be addressed, and urgently. However, I cannot see any

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way in which leaving the EU will advance this vital process.

I believe it to be incumbent upon Parliament to champion the case for the UK to retain a vital positive influence, as an EU member, in shaping Europe's political, social and economic future - for the welfare of all European citizens. Otherwise the sacrifice and hard work of so many people over many years risks being squandered for a rashly served mean mess of brexit pottage - to the tragic impoverishment of the UK and Europe as a whole.

Yours sincerely, J John, Langton Matravers

Reduction In Council Tax?

Dear Readers,

I write to inform local residents that I have laid before Swanage Town Council a formal request that the Council Tax for all residents be reduced by 2% for 2019/20 on the basis that the Town Council has consistently achieved significant yearly surpluses by over budgeting expenditure and under budgeting income

The nett cost to the Council of reducing Council Tax by 2% is £14,000 which I have suggested be paid for in the following two ways - firstly by not refurbishing the Mayoral chain which is currently budgeted to cost £5,000 - one might think that, in times of continued austerity, this is a somewhat extravagant expense

Secondly, by increasing the car parking income budget by £9,000. Currently the Town Council are forecasting an income figure for next year which is not only considerably less than that forecast to be achieved this year, and that actually achieved last year, but in real terms is actually lower than that received in 2016/17. This would seem to be unnecessarily pessimistic in budgetary terms

These two budget adjustments alone would see everyone's Council Tax reduced by 2% at the same time as there being no reduction in the services provided by the Town Council to the residents of Swanage. I would urge Swanage residents to lobby their local councillors to approve these amendments to the budget

Yours faithfully, Philip Eades, Swanage

Are You Free On Thursdays?

Dear Editor,

Readers, would you enjoy playing table tennis, pool, table football, Scrabble, chess or cards? If you aged over fifty and free on Thursday mornings between 10am and 12 noon, then come along to the 'Not So Youth Club'.

The Club runs term times at the Youth Centre, next to Purbeck Sports Centre in Worget Road, Wareham. In addition to enjoying yourself, you will help support the valuable services the Youth Centre offers to young people. For more information call the Centre on 01929 552934.

Regards, Julie Bradshaw

**FEBRUARY DEADLINE
NOON, 10th JANUARY**

Community Matters

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

It Works - Don't Fix It

by David Hollister

It was in the late 1970s that I first became involved with the local press, by writing a social comment column for the 'Purbeck Mail', a little monthly A4 magazine based in Swanage.

The magazine grew and grew; Tina and I started a proper distribution network, the title was sold and we went with it. It became a weekly newspaper and was finally bought by the Advertiser group. We left in about 1989 to start a new weekly title – the Purbeck Independent – but the Swanage & Wareham Advertiser continued, eventually bought out the 'Independent', and continued as Purbeck's weekly free newspaper right up to this very day.

I started my association with the monthly Purbeck Gazette in about 2004 with a motoring column, later went on to write 'Telling It Like It Is', and for many years we have coexisted peacefully with the Swanage & Wareham Advertiser – a.k.a. "Another Publication" – friendly rivals situated just across the street from our own office. It was with genuine sadness that I learned that they have closed their Swanage office; I wish the very best to the staff that have left and hope that they will be happy in their chosen future careers.

I was astonished to learn that the Directory Enquiry service is to be 'capped' at £3.65 for ninety seconds, because I genuinely didn't realise it cost that much. Further investigations showed that the most popular – 118 118 – charges £11.23 for the same duration, whilst other providers cost even more. My mind boggles as to how they have the nerve to charge that much, remembering as I do the old '192' Directory Enquiry service which used to be free! So, you have been warned!

On the subject of rip-offs, just a reminder to all those employed readers who are in the 'auto enrolment pension scheme', shamefully brought in by the Government about five years ago with a 'contribution' of 1% which most of you didn't notice.

From April 2019, the 'staff contribution' will rise from 3% to 5% and the 'employer minimum contribution' will rise from 2% to 3%. I know that some readers will disagree but I genuinely don't see why 'Nanny State' has to force people to make pension contributions from their after-tax income, especially when they're already paying 12% 'National Insurance' a scheme which was set-up after the war to provide pensions and benefits for the workers, but which has now been swallowed into the tax system.

Unlike National Insurance, employees – and that could be you – have the right to 'opt out' of the Auto Enrolment scheme and save 5% of your net salary. Not suggesting that you do, but just mentioning that you can. Talk to your employer or have a look online.

A friend recently had the need to speak to the local Citizens Advice Bureau in the Town Hall, helpfully open from 10.15am to 2pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. Where you are supposed to go for urgent advice outside of these hours is not clear. My friend was told that Mondays was for

'drop ins' and Wednesdays for 'appointments'. So she duly dropped in on one Monday at 11.30am and pressed the buzzer. Nothing. She would have filled in one of the forms on the table, except there was no pen. She buzzed again. Nobody came. She knocked on a door; it was answered by a somewhat gruff staff member who said: "I'm doing paperwork" and shut the door on her. At 12.45pm my friend left, having seen nobody. She'd only 'dropped in' to see how she could go about volunteering!

Sorry, but if you offer a 'drop in service' then it should take no more than five minutes to see a client, even if it's only to say: "I've got someone with me, I may be ten minutes," or even: "Sorry, I won't be able to see you this morning." But leaving someone in reception for over an hour unacknowledged isn't on; especially as most visitors are going to be in some kind of distress and possibly in need of urgent advice.

On another note, who the devil are PETA? "People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals" – an American animal rights organisation based in Norfolk, Virginia, with an alleged 6.5 million supporters. It is good to know that people care for animals. I do too. Not to the point of being a vegan, but nevertheless, my stomach turns at the way many animals are slaughtered for meat, for their fur, or to test chemicals.

It would be a laudable organisation of which to belong, but their recent suggestion that Wool should be re-named "Vegan Wool" is not so much laudable but laughable. Puts me right off finding any more about PETA and I'm certainly not joining in; apparently most residents of Wool are not 'up in arms' but trying hard not to burst into peals of laughter.

Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership is an unelected business led private and public sector partnership that aims to promote local economic growth and prosperity. Acting as a strategic gateway to funding, the Dorset LEP supports and delivers projects of long-term economic benefit for all in Dorset through cross sector partnership.

A recent press release states that their aim is to double Dorset's productivity to £35.6 billion over the next twenty years, generating 80,000 jobs, building around 78,000 new homes, and creating a local economy that is sustainable innovative and creative. Their strategy document 'Horizon 2038 – a Vision for Growth' – outlines the ways in which it aims to achieve this vision.

I'm sure this is really worthwhile vision affirming a fast-track plan to bring industry, buildings, factories, supermarkets, shopping precincts, lorries, cars, tarmac, concrete, noise, congestion, more and more and more people into our lovely rural county. One wonders whether they have really grasped the point of Dorset and why so many have deserted the cities and come to live here.

As Gandalf the White Wizard said: "He that breaks a thing to find out what it is has left the path of wisdom." Or – in my own words – "If it works, don't fix it."

Rural Crime In Dorset Increases By 45.9% in 2017

- Rural crime cost the county £881,541 last year, up 45.9% from 2016
- Quad bikes and ATVs (all-terrain vehicles), tools and 4x4s top thieves' wish-list
- UK statistics show rural theft costs rose 13.4% in 2017

Rural crime cost Dorset £881,541 in 2017, a higher than average rise of 45.9% from £604,329 in 2016. The figures form part of NFU Mutual's Annual Rural Crime Report, published today, which reveals that the UK saw a 13.4% rise in the cost of rural crime last year.

The items most commonly targeted by thieves across Dorset over the last 12 months were quad bikes and ATVs (all-terrain vehicles), tools and 4x4s.

Nigel Cryer, NFU Mutual Agent in Dorset, said: "Countryside criminals continue to become more brazen and farmers are now having to continually increase security and adopt new ways of protecting their equipment. Social media is fast becoming the new eyes and ears of the countryside. By keeping in close touch with neighbours and police through local farmwatch schemes

country people can play a significant role in identifying suspicious activity and bringing thieves to justice. Fitting gates to prevent easy access to farm yards and drives is one of the most effective measures. High-tech security such as movement detectors, infra-red cameras and 'geo-fencing', which triggers an alarm if a farm vehicle moves off the premises, can also play a part."

The report further reveals that limited police resources and repeat attacks are the biggest fears for people in rural communities, with many forced to change the way they live and work as a result of rural crime.

As the main insurer of the countryside, NFU Mutual has responded to its members' concerns about rural crime by supporting local and national rural security initiatives and investing more than £1.2m to tackle the menace of rural crime.

For more information and advice on how to beat rural crime in your area download the report at www.nfumutual.co.uk/ruralcrime

Over 60s Group Closes



Dear Readers,

Closure of Swanage Over Sixties Club

It is with much regret that the Swanage Over Sixties Club closed on December 6th 2018. The club had been running since 1954 - well over sixty years, and many people have enjoyed their Thursday afternoons, visiting speakers, outings and all that went with the Over Sixties Club.

Unfortunately, the ladies in charge (all of whom have been running the club for eighteen years and are now in their eighties!) are unable to carry on.

Despite two years of trying, no one has been willing to take over the organisation of the club to keep it running. Very sad!

We give great thanks to all of our helpers and for the donations received from various organisations over the past sixty-four years - there are far too many to name individually. Goodbye, our Over Sixties Club.

Yours, Pam Wright, Margaret Brown, Mary Betteridge, Kitty Burridge and Elsie Marsay.

Pictured: Swanage's Over 60s group celebrating VE Day 2015

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

service and all at Carpets Select pride themselves on their workmanship.' He went on to say 'It goes to show, that in these days of impersonal supermarkets, you can't beat personal, friendly, high quality service and workmanship from people who really care about their work.'

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Swanage Fire Station...Climbing Everest And More!



Hi and welcome to a look back at what has been happening with Swanage fire station and its crews over 2018! Since April when I last gave an update, operationally we answered over 250 incidents.

Too many give a rundown on all of these incidents, but here's some of the more interesting facts and figures about the calls we have attended:

Over thirty incidents were medical, where we backed-up our colleagues from Southwest Ambulance Trust. We attended ten road traffic collisions - these ranged from people being trapped in their vehicles where we used special rescue equipment to cut them free, to just making vehicles safe after a minor collision.

We attended some special services which included rescue of people from confined spaces, such as one lady being trapped underneath her vehicle, a gentleman on a flat roof with a dislocated hip, and more recently, a gentleman who had fallen from height into the maintenance area at the Swanage railway.

We have attended many fires. We were part of a large attendance to a large building fire on the Brewery site at Blandford and we also attended a large fire at a recycling centre at Canford Heath. In total, this fire required the attendance of twelve appliances to bring the fire under control. More recently we have attended a thatched cottage at Affpuddle, where embers from the chimney had ignited the thatch roof.

Locally, on the Sunday 21st of October at 09:45, we attended a local rest home where a fire had started in a resident's bedroom. The fire was extinguished by six firefighters wearing breathing apparatus using two hose reels. On investigation it was found that the fire had started when the sunlight was reflected through a magnifying glass on to a plastic trolley. The residents were all evacuated safely by the staff, who did a magnificent job and no one was injured, apart from one firefighter who had to attend Swanage hospital with slight smoke inhalation.

Due to the great weather this summer we were very busy dealing with outdoor and heathland fires. These included a massive fire at Ferndown Common, where appliances from all over the county were sent to deal with the fire. Swanage's appliances were committed to this fire for three whole days. We also attended many other heath fires across the county in June,

July, August and September. Then, at midnight on the 8th of November, both appliances and the Land Rover from Swanage were alerted to a large fire at Rempstone Heath. On arrival, it was found to be a large fire burning out of control, being driven by strong winds.

Further appliances were requested and in all, we used fifteen fire appliances, six Land Rovers, one Unimog off-road appliance and two water carriers to extinguish the fire. Crews remained on site for three days damping down hotspots and making sure the fire didn't reignite. Lastly, the following week, six fire appliances from Swanage, Wareham, Poole and other stations across Dorset also attended a large fire at Soldiers Road, near to the halfway house on the A351.

Away from the firefighting, on the 27th October the station carried out a charity ladder climb on the Mowlem building to raise money to help retired firefighter, Nick Dampney, with specialist treatment for multiple sclerosis and also the Firefighter's Charity.

We had pledged to climb the height of Mount Everest, which, with all our station personnel and help from Firefighters from other stations, we achieved. It took six hour and eight minutes. I must say a big THANK YOU to all the local business that helped us with this challenge, because without their help we could never have succeeded in achieving our goal.

These included the Mowlem Trust, who allowed us to use their building, S & D scaffolding, who provided and erected the ten-meter tower, Brook Tea Room, Beavers, Deja Brew and many more local business who kept us fed and watered throughout the day.

Also a big thank you must go to everybody who donated money, either online or putting money into our collecting buckets on the day. With all your generous donations we have recently presented £2000 to Nick and a further £450 to the Firefighter's Charity.

To bring a long and busy year to a close, on the 5th of December Swanage Fire Station took delivery of a brand-new Scania Fire appliance, kitted out with all the latest up to date firefighting and rescue equipment. This means that Swanage is now equipped with two state of the art appliances that can respond to any type of incident.

Thanks to everyone who entered the competition to name our new engine - we had hundreds of suggestions and chose 'Phoenix'! Thanks to all!

Lastly, I would like to wish all the residents of Purbeck a happy New Year from all of the crews at Swanage, Wareham, Bere Regis and Dorchester Fire stations!

Phil Burridge, Station Commander

Spot The Difference - Christmas Lights? Where?!



Locals were bemoaning the state of Swanage's Christmas lights in 2018, so here's a 'spot the difference' competition for you...

2017 - Mike Dimarco, David Pike and electrician, David Barrow, all volunteers, erected the Christmas Lights, including those purchased by the 'Switch on Swanage' charity, as they had for over twenty years.

2018 - Swanage Town Council took over, with the volunteers finally retiring after over twenty years of erecting the lights.

Where are all the festive lights which were purchased? Why were they not erected this year, despite the volunteers managing to adorn the town



safely for all to enjoy for over two decades? The previous volunteers state that all lights and fittings were left in good, working order.

An online statement from Swanage Town Council said: 'The Council agreed to take on responsibility for the maintenance of the festive lights and employed a local electrician to undertake a survey. This highlighted a number of steps that had to be taken to ensure their continued use for this Christmas (2018). Given the requirement for this work it did not prove possible to put on the usual high standard of display that has been seen in recent years.'

Major Improvements Underway At Bovington Primary

A major programme of improvements is underway at Bovington Primary after inspectors placed the school in 'special measures'.

Following the school's latest inspection in October, Ofsted rated the school as 'Inadequate' as it felt that pupils were not receiving an acceptable standard of education. With the support of Dorset County Council, the school is making improvements across several areas, including: leadership and management, quality of teaching and learning, and pupils' behaviour.

The school also needs to focus on raising outcomes for pupils, particularly for the most able and those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

Changes the school have already made include taking steps to improve the effectiveness of governance; the introduction of new progress assessments

and measures; and work to develop and improve the impact of good quality teaching and learning.

Ofsted did identify a number of strengths during the school's inspection.: Arrangements for safeguarding are effective and inspection evidence confirms that this is a safe school, the school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is good, all staff have an in-depth understanding of pupils' pastoral needs and work with agencies to remove any barriers pupils may face, the school's curriculum provides a range of subjects and experiences, early years provision is improving, pupils are happy, enjoy attending school, and feel safe

Being put into special measures means that an 'academy order' will be issued for academy trusts to express interest in supporting the school's improvement.



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Best Young Gardeners!



Students at The Purbeck School were recently the proud recipients of an award at the Wareham in Bloom awards. The Best Young Gardeners certificate was received by student Chris Hall. Chris said: "I felt so proud to be able to collect the award on behalf of the rest of the group."

The students have regenerated the school allotment over the past eighteen months, during which time they have grown an array of wild flowers, harvested a variety of fruits and vegetables and are currently in the process of constructing a fruit cage.

One of the green fingered group, Mac Macphail, said: "The award has inspired me to work hard and persevere at things"

Headteacher, Mr Adam Darley, said: "This award is in recognition of all the hard work and determination that has been put into the project – well done to everyone involved."



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National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast

It's always nice to welcome visitors to the lookout and one of the frequently asked questions is: "What is it you do?" We can sum it up in four words: spot, plot, report and respond.

Our key task is to maintain a visual watch on the waters from Old Harry Rocks to Durlston Head. We log vessels, and other water users, based on type and use and record their direction and bearing from the lookout. If someone gets into difficulties, we are able to use this information to plot their position and report this to the National Marine Operating Centre (NMOC), at Fareham.

It's the NMOC, run by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) that decides how to deploy the various marine rescue services. If you ring 999 and ask for the Coastguard, the operator will pass you through to the NMOC. As the "eyes and ears" on the ground, we're often asked to provide an update to the situation and help direct the rescue services to the incident.

High technology and sophisticated systems such as radar and telecommunications have vastly improved safety at sea, but there is no substitute for a watchful pair of eyes. Accidents do happen and a computer or technology cannot spot a distress flare, an overturned boat, a yacht with problems, a water sports enthusiast in difficulty, or children or adults in trouble.

The National Coastwatch Institute was set up in 1994 following an incident when two fishermen lost their lives off the Cornish coast below a recently closed Coastguard lookout. The tragedy resulted in the first NCI station being opened at Bass Point, on the Lizard. The Swanage Station followed shortly, opening in April 1995. There are now over fifty stations dotted around the coast from Rossall Point in the North West,

through Wales, to Sunderland in the North East. All of the stations are manned by volunteers. At Swanage we have people from a wide range of backgrounds, from retired merchant navy captains through to plumbers and even a magician!

The importance of keeping this visual watch was brought home to us, the other day, when we listened to an incident on the radio, involving our sister station at Hengistbury Head. They had spotted a person clinging to a buoy in Christchurch Harbour, after their boat tender had capsized. The watchkeepers reported the incident to NMOC who launched the Mudeford Lifeboat.

With such a small target, the lifeboat made use of the Hengistbury team to help direct them quickly to the casualty. Luckily the outcome was a positive one. When the person was recovered, they were suffering with hypothermia and, but for the sharp eyes of the Hengistbury watchkeepers, it could easily have been a different outcome. Well done to our colleagues for saving a life.

As we come into the New Year, it's interesting to look back on 2018 and see what we've achieved. We've manned the station on 364 days, with our watchkeepers putting in over 5000 hours on duty. During that time, we've logged nearly 5500 working vessels, ranging from the Barfleur through to the ten metre boats of the Swanage fishing fleet, while the leisure craft numbers are even higher – 12,600 watercraft.

We say watercraft as the leisure category covers everything from kayaks and stand up paddle boards through to big ocean racing yachts. Being so close to Poole, we often see the RNLI lifeboats out on trial and we've logged around 500 "official" vessels. That's quite an impressive list for a volunteer organisation. Thankfully we've only recorded around fifteen incidents where we have been involved.

We'd like to wish all our local water users and coastal visitors a happy and a safe New Year. As you sail, drive or paddle past the lookout in 2019, give us a wave or give us a call on our dedicated NCI radio channel, Channel 65, and let us know your voyage details. We can even give you an update on the local conditions before you leave port!

Support For Those Suffering From Domestic Abuse

£1.3m has been secured to help tackle domestic abuse across Dorset, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

Dorset County Council is supporting Hart District Council in leading on an innovative project bid to prevent domestic abuse and support victims across the region, securing £1,297,125 of funding. The funding has been awarded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to:

- introduce new initiatives focused on early intervention
- break down barriers faced by those in our most hard to reach communities
- support people experiencing domestic abuse and keep them safe in their homes

This new funding means that the success of Dorset's Isolated Communities Engagement Project provided by the You Trust will continue to operate in the county for another eighteen months. Learnings from the project will be shared with Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

New initiatives that will be adopted through the fund include early intervention in hospitals, GP surgeries and other community health care

settings and increasing the number of specialist refuge bed spaces locally. Dorset will also learn from Hampshire's Making Safe Scheme, which provides security measures to homes of people threatened by domestic abuse to help keep them safe.

Cllr Steve Butler, Cabinet member for Safeguarding said: "We are pleased to have secured this funding to help people affected by domestic abuse in Dorset. It's important that vulnerable people are reached early. I'm pleased that we are taking on new initiatives from Hampshire, as well as sharing our work with them. This is proving to be making a difference in helping to keep people safe across our communities."

Partners involved include: East Dorset District Council, North Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council, West Dorset District Council, Weymouth and Portland Borough Council, Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, Dorset's Police and Crime Commissioner and the You Trust.

Anyone who is experiencing domestic abuse can contact the confidential, free twenty-four hour helpline on 0800 032 5204 or by visiting www.dorsetforyou.com/dvahelp

SWANAGE RAILWAY

**Swanage Railway wishes our members,
supporters, friends and passengers
“A Happy and Prosperous New Year”.**

During the first week of January 2019 the Swanage Railway will be operating a steam hauled service between Swanage and Norden via Herston Halt, Harmans Cross and Corfe Castle.

The service will operate Tuesday 1st January to Sunday 6th January 2019.

An ideal opportunity for a winter ramble across the Isle of Purbeck to blow away the cobwebs and make good that New Year Resolution!

The 2019 January – December Timetable has now been published together with the 2019 programme of events, including our steam and diesel galas and classic transport rally.

The 2019 Wessex Belle Dining Train Programme is now on sale featuring new for 2019 the “Purbeckman” Luncheon train operating on selected Wednesdays during the year as well as the ever-popular Saturday Night Wessex Belle, Friday Night Bistro and Sunday “Dorsetman” Luncheon trains.

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

Volunteers

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

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

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South Westerners Admit To ‘No Rainy Day Fund’

Three quarters of Brits are worried about their current financial situation, a new study has found. The poll of 2,000 adults revealed almost two thirds also worry about how they will cope if they lost their job or received an unexpected bill.

In the South West, almost one in five admitted they would struggle if they faced a long period of unpaid or statutory sick leave and 22% wouldn't be able to cope with the expense of a broken boiler. Others are concerned about how they would pay for an unexpected car repairs bill (26%), a large utility bill (23%) or even Christmas (13%), although, this is lower than the national average of 17%.

In the survey, commissioned by Salary Finance, it also emerged that 17 per cent of those in the South West have nothing saved for an emergency whatsoever, with a further 4% having less than £100 and 48% have less than £1,000 in their rainy-day funds. This last statistic being in line with the national average.

Asesh Sarkar, CEO and co-founder of Salary Finance, a salary-linked benefits provider, said: “Money worries affect 40% of UK employees. For those who are already living payday to payday, the idea of something unexpected happening, such as a job loss or a large bill, can be a large source of stress. Saving for a rainy-day fund is difficult for many people, if it wasn't everyone would have one. However, it can really take some of the pressure off and help avoid high cost loans, especially if something does go wrong, and reduce your financial worries.”

The study found employed adults believe their savings would last them around five weeks if they were to lose their job, with 11% of people from the South West admitting they would struggle to last a week with no pay packet.

Half of those polled have had to rely on their savings to get them through a difficult period, with their funds seeing them through just 41 days. 34% have also been caught out by a large bill and not had enough money set aside to cover it.

Worryingly, just 34% of those in the South West have a back-up plan in case they find themselves with little or no income, the same as the national average. Instead, 13% use their overdraft to get them out of trouble while

5% would take out more credit cards, possibly leading to significant interest and a poor credit score. Others max out their credit cards (12%), ask for a loan from their parents or friends (28%), or sell personal possessions at car boot sales or auction websites (38%).

But it's not just emergencies Brits are dipping into their rainy-day fund for, with 39% admitting to taking money out for luxuries such as holidays. It also emerged that 53% of Brits think they need to make more effort to boost their rainy-day fund. 46% ‘regret’ not putting more money into their emergency fund.

But while 30% of those from the South West polled, via OnePoll.com, would describe themselves as a ‘saver’, 20% admit they are a ‘spender’. This was higher than the national average, and is a concerning figure. If they had spare money, while 35% would save it for when they really needed it, 13% would immediately ‘splash out’ on something they wanted. Concerningly, over a third even said they would rather enjoy their money now than save it for something which might not happen.

Asesh continued: “It’s our mission at Salary Finance to enable employers to provide products and services that improve the financial health and happiness of their employees. This survey goes further to demonstrate a great need for these types of employee benefits amongst the UK workforce.”

For more information please visit www.salaryfinance.com

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Out Of The Blue



Another year gone, not sure where, but as usual, we stay committed to improving the community, listening and acting upon what you have had to say.

Poaching

There has been an increase in poaching across Purbeck. This includes methods used by the offenders which cause harm and distress to the animals. Offenders also damage farm gateways, crops and hedges at a detrimental cost to the rural and farming community.

We ask that if your readers see suspicious vehicles or people/torch light in fields/areas where they shouldn't be, they call the police and report it at the time, rather than waiting for the next day, we are then able to send officers to the area at the key time.

We take incidents and reports of poaching/rural crime very seriously, but we need the public to tell us where they are happening so that we can build up a picture of where the incidents are occurring and plan accordingly. A recent Poaching offender was convicted and given a five-year Criminal Behaviour Order (CBO). More details on this can be found on the Dorset/Purbeck Facebook page.

We will be increasing Police patrols in the areas concerned and working on identifying offenders and bringing them to justice. We will also identify the communities affected and work with them on improving their communication. <https://www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/rural-crime/>

Residual/Shed Burglaries:

Over the festive season burglaries both residential and shed/beach huts saw an increase and just because the festive season is over we would remind you not to take your eye off the ball, always have the security of your property and possessions in mind. This includes those with heating oil tanks review your security as we tend to see this type of theft rise at this time of year, as people fill their tanks ready for winter.

Be aware there has been an increase in peddlers (in particular door to door sellers) in recent months. There are always concerns regarding potential links to scoping out addresses for burglary and other acquisitive crime, so please be aware of who's at your door.

https://www.dorset.police.uk/media/1477/security_advice_pack.pdf

https://www.dorset.police.uk/media/1484/sheduation_2012.pdf

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/home->



PACT

Partners And Communities Together

[property-belongings/protect-your-home/](https://www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/home-property-belongings/protect-your-home/)

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/help-advice-crime-prevention/home-property-belongings/protect-your-home/doorstep-crime/>

Finally, if you need to contact Dorset Police please call our Police Enquiry Centre by calling 101. Always call 999 in an EMERGENCY when there is a risk of HARM or a CRIME in progress. Alternatively, call the free CRIMESTOPPERS line on 0800 555 111.

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

Don't forget to visit us on our Facebook page [Facebook.com/Purbeck-police](https://www.facebook.com/Purbeck-police) and Twitter - @PurbeckPolice – we really value your support and comments.

You can also see our latest priorities and up and coming events at <https://www.dorset.police.uk/neighbourhood-policing/purbeck/>

Why not register on Dorset Alert, by registering for the free Dorset Police community messaging alerts you will receive information on, local crime and incidents where we believe that sharing information with you will help to prevent further offences occurring, crimes and incidents where you may be able to help by providing vital information, current crime trends, crime prevention advice and Safer Neighbourhood activity and opportunities to meet the team.

You can also receive news from our partner agencies such as Dorset Fire and Rescue Service or Trading Standards and Community safety messages.

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

Purbeck Neighbourhood Policing Team

Local Call To Action On Climate Change

Wool retiree heads to Poland to call for action on climate change

A 72-year-old man from Wool headed to Poland in December to join thousands of people calling for world leaders to take action on climate change at a major UN conference.

Bernard White, who is a volunteer for the Catholic development charity CAFOD, travelled to Katowice, Poland, for the 24th Conference of the Parties – known as COP24.

Passionate about tackling climate change, Bernard is making the trip to call on UN member states to ensure the full implementation of the 2015 Paris Agreement. Campaigners are hoping that member governments will show greater ambition in restricting global temperature rises to 1.5 degrees and take action to have net zero emissions by 2050.

Bernard will join campaigners from across Europe to share ideas for bringing about action back home in Dorset, and to live more simply and sustainably.

Bernard said: "I believe that climate change is the biggest threat to the planet and all the people and other living things in it. Governments must be made to take this seriously and lead action to prevent it from worsening. Public pressure can be very powerful. In addition, the more people who take personal actions to minimise their burning of fossil fuels and otherwise contributing to harmful emissions the better."

CAFOD's Head of Advocacy, Neil Thorns, said: "It is great that Bernard is able to travel to COP24 in Katowice to represent Catholics in Dorset. COP24 represents an opportunity for CAFOD alongside its partners and sister organisations to ramp up the pressure on national governments to follow through on the commitments they made as part of Paris Agreement in 2015."

"The historic agreement that so many of CAFOD's supporters like Bernard pressed to be signed has now been ratified by 183 of the 197 Parties to the Convention. However, as the recent IPCC Special Report



on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels so clearly illustrates, the current global ambitions are not going to prevent this global temperature rise.

"This is why CAFOD will push for greater ambitions to be set and an agreed framework that ensures immediate and effective action on climate change at the national level at the upcoming COP, highlighting the need to keep to 1.5, particularly for the poorest and most marginalised."

Catholics in England and Wales have shown a widespread response to Pope Francis's letter, Laudato Si', which calls on us to care for our common home by pledging to live more simply, sustainably and in solidarity with poor communities.

[Find out more at \[cafod.org.uk/climate\]\(https://cafod.org.uk/climate\)](https://cafod.org.uk/climate)

New Nuisance Calls Measures

Rogue companies making unsolicited calls related to personal injury claims or payment protection insurance (PPI) could now be fined up to £500,000 by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if they breach the new rules.

New powers which came into force on 8th September give consumers the choice to 'opt-in' to receive these calls, and people being harassed by nuisance calls now have new powers to stop them if they have not chosen to receive them.

Previously people had to 'opt-out' of receiving such calls by registering with the free Telephone Preference Service or withdraw their consent while on the call.

However, the new powers will force the caller to make the necessary checks to make sure they have the recipient's consent before calling.

The Financial Conduct Authority highlighted that in the last twelve months, approximately 2.7 billion unsolicited calls, texts and emails were made to the UK's adult population offering to help them make a claim. This is equivalent to approximately fifty calls, texts or emails being made to every member of the adult population.

These new measures, together with the strengthened Data Protection Act, will curb the number of nuisance calls received by consumers.

If you receive nuisance calls you can report it to the ICO who may investigate and take action against those responsible.

The Government has already made it easier for regulators to fine those breaching direct marketing rules, by forcing companies to display their number when calling customers and there are increased fines for wrongdoers.

If you think you have been the victim of a scam or would like advice about your consumer rights, then please contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 040506.

A Rotary Christmas



Swanage and Purbeck Christmas events a great success

Over sixty stallholders braved the high winds for the Christmas Market, organised by Swanage & Purbeck Rotary, in collaboration with the Commercial Road Traders. Spread out over Station Road and Commercial Road, this year's market brought in record crowds. Santa was in residence checking whether children had been naughty or nice! Stalls offered a huge range of craft items and there was plenty of delicious seasonal fare to eat and drink. The local shops also benefitted from the numbers in attendance. Live music was provided to keep everyone's spirits up and the whole atmosphere was one of cheerful goodwill and seasonal excitement.

John Thraves, one of the Rotary organisers, was delighted that so many people supported the event, which raised in excess of £2,500. Santa's Sleigh also toured the streets of Swanage, Langton Matravers and Corfe Castle this year, to the delight of young and old (pictured, above, with some of his elves!). Thanks to all who came out to support Santa and donate to Rotary-supported charities - especially during the nights when it rained!

All money raised from Christmas events will be used to support local Rotary-supported projects.

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Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

Readers' letters in the January 2009 edition focussed on the proposed wind farm at East Stoke, questioning the reliability of wind-provided power. The proposed turbines were thought to be viewable from up to 35km away.

Reader, Dominic Gatreall of DART, argued that it was no more appropriate to build an offshore oil rig in the 'middle of beautiful Swanage Bay' than it was to erect turbines at East Stoke.

Reader Gavin Cochrane also wrote in, stating that onshore wind turbines were woefully unreliable, monumentally expensive and an ever present danger to wildlife. Gavin also stated that global warming was 'greatly exaggerated' and said that the Arctic ice was not melting and that polar bears were actually increasing in number, with widespread early snow occurring in the Alps and elsewhere, and a hard winter predicted for the UK in early 2008.

Purbeck residents were congratulated for coming second once again in the UK for producing the least amount of rubbish per person. According to figures released by DEFRA, Purbeck residents produced a total of 298 kgs of rubbish per person in 2007. This compared to 958 kgs of rubbish produced by residents in the least well-performing areas of the country. That was a difference of 660 kgs (or 660 bags of sugar)!

Residents were urged to continue being 'rubbish aware' and to next focus on reducing food waste, which could save the average family around £610 per year.



The team attempting to build a new village hall for Harmans Cross reported on their progress, calling for additional funds to allow them to be able to complete the funding drive and start the build. Lottery funding regulations stated that the build had to start by July 2010, so the team were busy applying for building regulations approval and a trial pit had been recently dug to determine the soil samples (pictured above - Team leader Roger Tucker with JCB driver, Terry Lucas, watched over by architect Christine Taylor and structural engineer, Roger Locke).

Columnist, Maya Pope-Weidemann, wrote on the subject of fox hunting, still an emotive subject since the ban came into force in February 2005.

The ban outlawed hunting wild mammals with dogs and allowing your land to be used for this purpose. Drag and trail hunting were hoped to be the alternatives for those still wishing to 'hunt'. Although legal, the IFAW suggested that drag or trail hunting was actually likely to increase the risk of 'accidental kills' when dogs would attack live quarry, including pets and livestock. Most supporters of the ban were thought to be against fox hunting on the grounds of cruelty. Whilst hunters argued that fox populations need control, the 'traditional' fox hunting method was what had been brought into question.

The impact on fox populations through traditional fox hunting was relatively small whilst damage caused to agriculture (by rabbits - one of the primary prey for foxes) totalled £100 million per year - ten times higher than that caused by fox predation, which caused an average of less than 1% of lamb losses. The argument for 'traditional' fox hunting with dogs seemed mute therefore (for population control).

Mya quoted Rosa Argent of the IFAW as saying: 'There is no human right to be cruel and traditions change as society evolves. Seven out of ten people support the ban and police should do more to make sure the law of the land is upheld. It's time for the hunting community to move on.'

In response to our 'call out' for photographic evidence of big cats roaming Dorset, reader Christine Amphlett sent in a photograph showing an unusual footprint which she had discovered with her husband whilst walking in Wareham Forest. Having done a little detective work, Christine and her husband thought the print may have been made by a Coypu.

We passed the image on to Ben, one of the Rangers at Durlston Country Park, who said: 'A bit of a mystery, but we're pretty convinced it's not a Coypu print, due to the width. A Coypu track is much narrower at the

Shrouded By The Sea - The Sad Truth About Dolphin Deaths In Nets	Page 25
Wind Turbines - Still Being Debated	Pages 4 & 9
Name The Beast! Footprint Found In Wareham Forest	page 24
Build A Sustainable Future By Supporting The Young	page 12
Is The Hunt Gone For Good? Mya Pope-Weidemann writes	page 21
How Much? DCC Grapples With Iceland's Financial Crash	page 15

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knuckle. To be honest, none of us are really sure what the track is as it's not that clear. It looks like the heel has slipped, giving the impression of being longer than the actual foot itself. This could be as the animal was running on a hard ground with a thin layer of mud on the surface. If we were to hazard a guess, it would probably be either the front foot of a badger or a large dog.'



Finally, we reported on the awful losses to our dolphin populations, caused by fishing net deaths. A slow and harrowing death for the dolphin and an ongoing significant and heartbreaking loss to local populations.

An estimated 554 whales, dolphins and porpoises were stranded on UK shores in 2007, with the majority of deaths thought to be caused by death in fishing nets. Those whose bodies had not been stranded on-shore were not counted in the official tally, leading to the presumption that deaths due to fishing nets were significantly higher than reported.

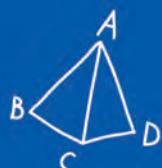
Bodies of bycaught dolphins were commonly recorded as having broken teeth, beaks or jaws and extreme internal injuries. Deaths caused by entanglement in nets and rope were generally brought about through asphyxiation, with significant bodily damage caused by the significant struggle to regain freedom. Injuries included rope and netting cuts and abrasions, with fins and tail flukes often totally or partially amputated during the struggle against tightening nets and eventual death by drowning. It would heartening to think that a decade on, we're taking the lives of animals with whom we share the planet more seriously and that these deaths no longer occur. We live in hope that cruelty towards other species will soon become a thing of the past.... it's up to us - all of us.

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Remembrance In Purbeck 2018



Whilst Armistice Day 2018 quickly made way for Christmas, a century ago the clean up was not so easy. You might have seen 'Silent Silhouettes' on display across the UK, quietly reminding communities today of the silent return of thousands of wounded and dazed men and women who returned home in 1918.

There were three in Swanage; two together on the High Street at Herston Cross and a Silent Sailor on Swanage Pier. Our silhouettes and the wreaths at War Memorial will remain in place until the end of the first week in January.

By stark contrast, what did not return home were the bodies of those who fell. During our very moving eleven 'Days of Remembrance' in Swanage, I explained that early in the Great War it was agreed that the exhumation and return of bodies would have been a distraction to the war effort, and so for the first time, most families were unable to bury their dead! This is why so much attention is now paid to War Memorials at home and abroad, and also the tomb of the Unknown Warrior in Westminster Abbey.

It was extremely humbling to lead our community in Swanage through the various events over our eleven days. From the peal of one hundred bells on the 1st November, through to the lighting of the Beacon of Light at 1900hrs on 11th November, the engagement within the community was truly fantastic! I think we did very well and those who fell would have been extremely proud.

The Poppy Coffee and Craft Day, all events at the Emanuel Baptist Church (especially the fantastic Poppy Exhibition), the Museum displays, the Coastwatch presentation for HMT Arfon and the Air Cadets display were all well planned and received.

Meanwhile, the Swanage Chamber of Trade and Commerce mobilised a massive team effort with some stunning shop displays across the town. Other organisations came right behind us, such as at Swanage Hospital and the Guides at Herston, whilst locomotives carried our message to Norden and back, and others went out of their way to support us. Thank you all at Boots the Chemist!

What an evening there was of 'Stories and Song' in The Mowlem, where all those who fell were remembered in a very sensitive and appropriate way. Thank you to all the artists and musicians. Despite the heavens opening for the Pipers at Dawn, there was only slight drizzle for the 11.00hrs gathering at the War Memorial and then fair weather right through to the Ballard Beacon lighting at 19.00hrs; and what a magnificent end that bright light proved to be on our Armistice Day.

In parallel with the World War I Centenary events was, of course, the Poppy Appeal so ably led by Mrs Janet Dyke and her happy band of helpers. I am extremely grateful to all of you who supported our cultural and Remembrance events throughout the period. Perhaps I can give special thanks to the 150 or so present at dawn on Remembrance Sunday, including members of the Ringwood Pipe Band, Piper Rob Webb from London Fire Brigade, RBL Standard Bearer, Tony Smith, Town Crier, Mr Andrew Fleming, and of course, Jim Gray, who arrived appropriately armed for the event!

There are simply too many people to thank personally, however I and the Mayor of Swanage, Councillor Mike Bonfield, must thank those who directly financially supported us in cash or in kind:

Ibstock (Swanage Handmade Bricks), Fred Pope (steel fabrication), 3 (Harrogate) Squadron - Royal Signals. Alison Strong (Dressmaker), GHPM Printing, Hayman's Bakery, Hordern Ciani Ltd (Mowlem event) Jewsons, MKL Accountants, National Coastwatch Institute, Ringwood Pipe Band, St Mary's Bell-ringers, Smiths Funeral Directors, Swanage Army Link, Swanage Chamber of Trade and Commerce, Swanage Museum, Swanage Pier, Swanage Railway, Swanage Town Council, The Skip Company (steel for poppies and beacon), The Veterans Forge CIC, Tim Crabb, Karen Delahay, Emmanuel Church and of course, all elements of the Royal British Legion. We will not forget the sacrifices of the past, made for our today.

Words by Frank Roberts, images by volunteer photographer, Tim Crabb





YOUR Pictures.....

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

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



Sunset over Purbeck Golf Club by Mo Murray



Old Harry Rocks at sunset by Donna Derrick



St Aldhelms Chapel by Richard Murgatroyd



Willow Warbler by Denise Exon



Hedgehog and baby by Mo Murray

Donation For 'Steps For Stan'



Alison Clough, Chair of Harmans Cross Village Hall, hands a cheque for £250 to Samantha Cole in aid of 'Steps for Stan'. 'Steps for Stan' raises money for Stanley Cole, who has cerebral palsy. Stanley lives in Wareham and goes to school in Corfe and the money enables him to undertake intensive therapy to help him become more independent.

The money was donated from proceeds from the raffle at the Harmans Cross Fete on Bank Holiday Monday in August.

Pond Dipping Revived At Stoborough School!



A Wareham primary school's pond restoration project has won a £450 Wessex Water Watermark Award to help repair and rebuild its pond dipping area.

Stoborough CE VA Primary School is an active Eco School and is passionate about its environment. On Tuesday 11 December the school received the Watermark Award from Meghan Upton, Wessex Water's education adviser.

Deborah Corbin, the school's

Headteacher, said: "Our school sits in the middle of a site of special scientific interest, so we are very aware of the natural environment and we bring it into the school's teaching whenever possible. We are proud to have achieved three green flag awards.

"Our current provision for pond dipping is a fenced off area that is wild and natural with a pond that historically was used for wildlife and pond dipping. Our eco club strive to look after the pond, but without replacing the fencing and installing a new pond liner and dipping platform the school is unable to use it.

"We have an active eco club run by parents on a weekly basis and they are very supportive of restoring the pond. Now that we have this Watermark

Local Elections

Information event for prospective Town Councillors - Wednesday 30th January 2019

The upcoming local elections will provide an opportunity for local people to make a real difference to the local community by standing for election to Swanage Town Council. On 2nd May 2019 the residents of Swanage will elect 12 local people to serve as Town Councillors.

If you feel that you have a valuable contribution to make, and would like to find out more about the role of a Swanage Town Councillor, then why not drop in to the Town Hall to speak to Councillors and Council officers on Wednesday 30th January 2019 between 4.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. We look forward to welcoming you.

**Dr Martin Ayres, Town Clerk,
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Award, we can make a start on re-building the dipping platform and replacing the old pond liner. We are delighted with our Watermark Award which will help our pupils benefit from the practical, hands-on experience of pond dipping in a safe and natural environment."

Wessex Water's Meghan Upton said: "Over the years the Watermark Awards have helped repair, rebuild and create from scratch school ponds throughout the Wessex Water area. These ponds are a great natural resource for schools to have. It enables children of all ages to experience at first hand the specific fauna and flora that exist only in and around the edges of water."

The Watermark Award provides funds for environmental projects within the Wessex Water area. Now in its 25th year, it has supported nearly one thousand environmental initiatives.

To celebrate this milestone, Wessex Water has launched a new Watermark Award. Now communities can apply for a special Anniversary Watermark to help with installing water bottle refill points that will reduce single use plastic drinking bottles.

The Wessex Watermark Awards are organised by The Conservation Foundation who judge all the projects.



WINTER IS HERE!

January often brings a case of the blues to many of us - there's a lull after Christmas and the short, cold, grey days make us want to huddle-up indoors and ignore the world.

However - the world continues to turn and it's up to us to drag ourselves out of our warm houses and get out and about a bit - even if just to get the blood flowing again!

Whether you feel the need to detox, get fit, shop for a bargain, get spring cleaning and redecorating or simply enjoy a meal out with friends, the following pages feature local businesses who want to tempt you out and about this January.

Keep our local economy strong in 2019 and start as you mean to go on - support our local business (and therefore our community!)

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Antiques Valuation Day At Swanage Railway

**Weds, January 12th
11am - 3pm**



The Winchester Salerooms of Andrew Smith & Son's closing sale of 2018 resulted in a remarkable array of successful sales, with items finding new homes and presumably, many secured for gifts just ahead of the Christmas festive holidays.

Among these were boxed sets of pre-war models, mostly aeroplanes, consigned to the salerooms by their elderly owner, having carefully looked after them since a child.

Pre-war Dinky model aeroplanes in original boxes, sold for £800 each. Andrew Smith & Son enter the New Year with an Antiques Valuation Day in the foyer of Swanage Railway Station, Wednesday 12th January 2019.

The auctioneer's valuers will be available to advise across a wide range of items, including pictures, silver, jewellery, watches, furniture, Asian arts, ceramics & glass, rugs & carpets, textiles, toys etc. etc.

No appointment necessary although the saleroom offices will be happy to answer any enquiries on 01962 735988 or visit the website at www.andrewsmithandson.com

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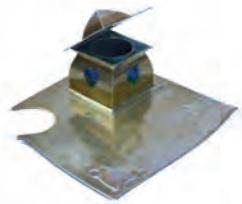
The Foyer, Swanage Railway Station, BH19 1HB



A Sino-Tibetan gilt bronze Buddha
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South Africa medal
to a 57th foot officer
SOLD for £3,000



Archibald Knox for Liberty, London
Cymric silver and enamelled ink stand
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Our valuers will be available throughout the day to offer free advice and no obligation valuations for your items including:

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Join The Countryside Volunteers This Year!

January! Miserable, grey, cold, wet. Time to sit indoors and put your feet up? No!! Grab your coat and gloves and head out into the countryside in good company to join in with the Dorset Countryside Volunteers!

Details of January's meets locally are below - sign-up, get out there and have some worthwhile fun and fresh air!

Sunday 13th January: Dorset Countryside Volunteers will be at Vitower (Rempstone, Purbeck) where we will be removing scrub to open areas around a pond to benefit the rare natterjack toad. We welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside.

For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

Saturday 26th January: Dorset Countryside Volunteers will be at Langton West Wood (Langton Matravers, Purbeck) where we will be doing traditional woodland management for the National Trust. We welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside.

For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

Sunday 27th January: Dorset Countryside Volunteers will be at Langton West Wood (Langton Matravers, Purbeck) where we will be doing traditional woodland management for the National Trust. We welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside.

For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

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Monkey World - Ape Rescue Centre, Longthorns, Wareham, Dorset BH20 6HH
www.monkeyworld.org

Please Note: this offer is valid for the month of January 2019 only. Proof must be shown on entry – ID/household bill. Excludes all School, Pre-School and Group bookings. Monkey World reserves the right to withdraw this offer at any time.



Local Promotion At Monkey World!

Banish those blues with a visit to Monkey World!

Monkey World is starting the New Year off with a promotion for all locals to the parks! Half price off entry during January!

From the 1st to 31st, anyone with a BH, DT or SP postcode will benefit from 50% off the entry price to Monkey World at Wool.

Come and see over 250 primates of more than twenty different species, including the world's largest group of chimpanzees outside of Africa. Most primates have been rescued from unbelievable cruelty or neglect, but at Monkey World they can enjoy the company of their own kind in safe and natural living environments. Some are even part of breeding programmes for endangered species.

Combining fun with conservation, half hourly keeper talks are available to explain all about man's closest living relative. Visitors can see the stars of TV's 'Monkey Business' and 'Monkey Life', then 'monkey around' in the south's largest Great Ape play area for children with its huge variety of swings, slides, and climbing frames. There are several food outlets available at the park, or visitors are welcome to bring a picnic and enjoy lunch in the beautiful surroundings.

Visitors can choose to support the parks rescue work further by adopting a primate. This means you get an annual pass to the park for a whole year, as well as three magazines a year, a photo, certificate and access to exclusive adoptive parent only events!

For more details please see our website www.monkeyworld.org. Alternatively, email apes@monkeyworld.org or call 01929 462537.

Pictured, above: Naree was rescued in 2018 and can now be adopted to help enable us to rescue more primates!



NEW HEALTH FOOD CAFE IN WAREHAM!

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- 19 Saturday 8pm BACK TO THE 70s
- 20 Sunday 3.30pm THE SIDEKICKS
- 27 Sunday 3.30pm ROCK BRITANNIA

FEBRUARY

- 03 Sunday 3.30pm THE OTHER GUYS
- 09 Saturday 8.30pm CABARET NIGHT
- 16 Saturday 8pm SOUL CELLAR
- 17 Sunday 3.30pm BANDTASTIK
- 21 Thursday 8pm OPEN MIC
- 28 Thursday 8.30pm SWANAGE BLUES

MARCH

- 01 Friday 2pm SWANAGE BLUES
- 02 Saturday 1pm SWANAGE BLUES
- 03 Sunday 12.30pm SWANAGE BLUES
- 09 Saturday 8pm BACK TO THE 80s
- 10 Sunday 3.30pm THE POPTONICS
- 17 Sunday 3.30pm ROCKIN' THE JOINT
- 21 Thursday 8pm OPEN MIC
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New Year's Eve Menu

£49 per person

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Mediterranean Vegetable & Goats Cheese Tart with Onion Marmalade

Smoked Salmon, Prawn & Crayfish Salad with Watercress, Cherry Tomatoes & Citrus Dressing

Main Course

Prime Fillet Steak served with a Wild Mushroom Jus and Rosti Potatoes

Pan Seared Duck Breast with a Red Wine & Orange Sauce, Parsnip & Carrot Puree

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All dishes accompanied by seasonal vegetables and baby roast potatoes

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Thursdays 9.30-10.30 at
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T: 01929 421065

W: purbeckdancestudio.co.uk

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FOR ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS

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Wednesdays 9.30-10.30a.m. at St Edwards Hall, Swanage

Thursdays 10.30-11.30a.m. at Wareham Scout & Guide Hut



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Motoring

Usual Trip, Different Car!

by David Hollister

It was time for our annual trip to Derby to spend time with our good friends and relatives there, four days living in a purple palace eating and drinking well. It's where our family Christmas really begins!

Knowing this and having read my three-year review of the excellent Mazda 2 in the last edition, Simon Rhodes (the new young manager of Magna Mazda at Canford Cliffs) said: "Why don't you take the new Mazda CX3 and see how they compare?" Who could refuse an offer like that?

So off we went on the sunny Friday morning, sat-nav duly programmed to avoid the motorways, for our comfortable four-hour journey which unfortunately – due to road works, traffic lights, cones, and other people's accidents – took closer to six hours. I say 'unfortunately' but on the positive side, it really gave us time to get to know and to enjoy the CX3 Sport Nav +. Even though the crowded, out of date and ill-maintained UK road system has turned motoring from what used to be a pleasure into something totally different, the CX3's cabin is still a nice place to spend six hours!

The CX3 is very slightly longer, taller and wider than our Mazda 2. Meaning more comfort, a slightly better payload, and perhaps much more of a feeling that we were in a solid 5-door SUV rather than a small family hatchback. Although it's about nine inches longer, it was actually easier to park thanks to the reversing camera and front and rear 'leepers'. Didn't hit a thing all weekend.....

The superb seven-speaker Bose system was amazing, offering volume with clarity and allowing us to play our own music via bluetooth, which we always choose to do as soon as 'Steve Wright in the Afternoon' comes on to Radio 2. It offers 'Apple Car Play' to those of you who know what that is. There's not a lot of road noise at legal speeds and thankfully an on-screen display to remind you to change up, because there isn't a lot of engine noise either.

The revised suspension on the 2018 model emulates the comfort and handling of its big brother the CX5, which we took to Derby this time last year and reviewed for the Purbeck Gazette (still available online!). It's firm but not uncomfortable, and copes relatively well with potholes and bumps. Our car was a 2-litre 6-speed petrol model offering 0-60 in 9 seconds, alleged top speed of 119 mph, 141 CO2s and 45.5 mpg combined. A 4wd version is optional and becoming more and more sensible as our roads deteriorate.

The CX3 didn't have the blindspot monitoring or auto-dip headlamps that we have on ours; those are available as optional extras. However it does have the remarkable 'heads up' display which not only gives an eyeline view of your speed, but also an eyeline view of the sat-nav instructions showing the next turnoff or roundabout, a really useful safety feature.

The lane departure warning system bleeps when you wander over a white line, initially an annoyance but it actually stimulated me to concentrate harder on the road ahead.....



I liked the 'keyless entry' feature with 'walk away locks' which simply means you can keep the key in your pocket and gain access or lock up by pressing a small button on the door. It has heated seats but they're not to everyone's taste – including mine!

Lots of useful storage spaces for bottles, cups, and all the other stuff we seem to have to carry round in our car. How long, I wonder, until a manufacturer offers a dedicated smart-phone holder in exactly the right place? The boot floor is adjustable creating a separate under-floor storage area useful for storing valuables out of sight, and useful too as it reduces the load-lip, making it easier to lift heavy shopping in and out.

I really liked the electronic handbrake; just flick up a small switch on the centre console, and the brake comes on. When you drive away forward, it turns itself off and prevents you rolling backwards on a hill start. Driving away in reverse, it's just a quick flick. One day all cars will do away with the handbrake lever!

There's a three-year 60,000-mile warranty, lots of airbags and a Thatcham Category 1 alarm system. It comes with free Mazda Roadside Assistance (which you won't need!) also accident aftercare (which we hope you won't need!) and is available on a range of finance packages flexible tailored to your budget and your needs.

The journey home down the A429 was delayed by the Police just closing the road with no apparent explanation and no signed diversion. But the sat-nav directed us down the M40 and the A34 and for once, there were no delays or roadworks to worry about; we made it home in five hours including a pleasant break for lunch in Cadham.

Arriving at Magna, we realised that the CX3-full of parcels and presents might possibly be a squeeze for our smaller Mazda 2, but luckily we just about got everything in!

So – would I buy one? Well, if I didn't already have the Mazda 2 (see last month) the answer would be – very probably. But because there are only two of us small people, we will stick to the smaller car. So whatever your needs, the Mazda range has the right model for you!

At £21,700 this is about £4,300 more expensive than the top-of-the-range Mazda 2, but a full £6,600 less than the amazing Mazda CX5, which was my 'car of the year' in 2017.

If you need the additional space, then the CX5 would be your choice but if a small SUV is what you're looking for then look no further; the CX3 is great value for money as well as being a great drive.

Contact Simon on 01202 701222 to arrange a test drive!

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2015 (15) Ford Eco Sport Zetec, Kenetic blue, parking sensors, alloy wheels, full service history, supplied from new by us, 20k miles.....£8,995

2016 (66) Ford Focus Titanium X 1.0 125 PS Auto, Moondust Silver, front & rear parking sensors, half leather trim, remote locking, Full service history, 14k miles.....£13,995

2013 (13) Ford Fiesta Titanium 1.0, 5-door, race red, reversing sensors, folding mirrors, remote locking, heated windscreen, privacy glass, 17k miles.....£6,995

2005 (54) Ford Fusion 3 Auto 1.6, Tonic, central locking, electric windows, alloy wheels, 42k miles.....£1,795

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2012 (12) Audi A5 3.0TDi S-Line Black Edition 2 Door Coupe, Multitronic in Silver with 72000 miles. Satellite Navigation, Xenon Headlights, Electric Windows/Mirrors, DAB Radio/CD, Black Leather Trim, Front & Rear Parking Sensors.....£13995

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Dorset's Gritters Named!

Teen Dorset gritters have been named - by you - ahead of the cold snap. After the extreme weather of last winter - which saw 24-hour working to keep strategic roads open - Dorset Highways asked residents to name their gritting fleet.

The team enjoyed reading through the many suggestions, and the names are now being unveiled:

- Chillingstone
- Cold-Harbour
- Gold Chill
- Spreadisbury
- Ice Maiden Newton
- Osmington Chills
- Wooly Monkey
- Wimborne Monster
- Polar Bere Regis
- Cerne Giant's Chilly

The final names were chosen by the gritter drivers and, where possible, the vehicles are being named after the route they serve. Martin Hill from Dorset Highways said: "During the snow events of February and March, quite a number of people got in touch and asked whether we could name our gritters like other authorities have. We thought this was a great idea, so we challenged residents to come up with Dorset-themed names for our dedicated vehicles - and we're delighted with the final names."

Dorset Highways' winter service started on 1 November with more than eighty drivers on a shift pattern to ensure twenty-two drivers can jump into action for any twelve-hour period. Twenty-two main routes cover the 680-miles of road that make up the gritted network, which accounts for 27% of the county council's roads.

Follow [@TravelDorset](#) to stay up to date with this winter's gritting action. You can also find all gritting information online.

Is Your Tractor Safe On The Public Highway?



Dorset Police is issuing a reminder to the farming community to ensure they correctly secure sharp tractor loader implements when travelling on public roads.

In May this year, officers attended a serious collision in the Furzebrook area of Wareham where a car collided with a tractor. The loading forks pierced through the car's windscreens and came to a halt inches from the driver, who narrowly escaped life-changing injuries.

The collision occurred following an unfortunate set of circumstances where the tractor driver had lowered his forks to avoid low tree branches, and at the same time, the car driver ended up on the opposite side of the road in the path of the tractor, shortly prior to the collision.

The tractor driver was unharmed in the collision and after an extensive period in hospital, the car driver has made a remarkable recovery and is in the process of returning to full time work.

An investigation into the circumstances of the collision has now concluded and neither drivers were prosecuted. However, words of advice were given

to both drivers. Police Constable Donal Doyle, from the Alliance Roads Policing Unit, said; "When travelling on the public highway, the forks or any other front mounted handling equipment should be folded back and secured, covered or protected by an appropriate guard or removed and carried separately, such as on a trailer.

"If this advice isn't followed, the tractor driver could be prosecuted for dangerous driving as the attachments pose a significant risk to other road users."

"Tractor drivers should aim to keep the centre of gravity of the loader as low as possible to improve stability and visibility."

Police Constable Claire Dinsdale, from the Dorset Police Rural Crime Team, said; "We know that the farming community take their responsibilities very seriously when travelling on the public highway.

"However, with shorter days and additional farming machinery moving around on the roads at this time of year, we felt it was the right time to remind drivers of their responsibilities."



Business

CHARLES STANLEY

Wealth Managers

Happy New Year!

Following a busy (and potentially expensive) festive period, early January is the perfect time to review your finances. This may involve a review with your investment manager, financial advisor, solicitor and/or accountant.

I would suggest that you consider doing the following:

Look at your day-to-day expenditure and consider any savings that can be sensibly made on utility bills etc.,

Check any insurance policies you have and make sure that all the information on the policy documents is accurate, the policies are valid, and you have made a diary note to look at them again well ahead of their renewal.

Get all your filing up-to-date, make sure your paperwork and/or electronic filing is all in order and try to spend a little time regularly sorting it out.

Make sure your Will is up-to-date and if you have not made one at all, make it a priority to see a professional to draw up a Will for you.

Think about setting up a Lasting Power of Attorney, whatever age you are – none of us knows what is around the corner and it is prudent to have one in case of need.

Calculate your full financial position and think about whether your finances and investments are doing what you need them to do to fulfil your short term and long-term plans e.g., income or capital growth or a balanced return.

Think about whether you need any professional help with your finances on an ongoing basis. You may find that although you end up paying for help, the monies spent are more than recouped by more productive and efficient management of your finances.

It pays to set aside a little bit of time to quietly sort and review things. It is also a good idea in the dark January days to plan something exciting (however small or large) to look forward to – it will be all the more enjoyable if it is using monies that you have saved by sorting out your finances.

With every good wish for a happy, healthy and prosperous 2019.

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

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Personal Tax Account

Personal Tax Accounts (PTAs) were launched in 2015 and work as an online resource to allow taxpayers to review and update their details in real time. For many routine requests and services using the PTA can avoid having to phone or write to HMRC.

Every individual in the UK that pays tax has a PTA, but taxpayers must sign up in order to access and use the service. This can be done using either the Government Gateway or a GOV.UK Verify account.

HMRC has confirmed that the following services are currently available on the PTA:

- check your Income Tax estimate and tax code;
- fill in, send and view a personal tax return;
- claim a tax refund;
- check and manage your tax credits;
- check your State Pension;
- track tax forms that you've submitted online;
- check or update your Marriage Allowance;
- tell HMRC about a change of address;
- check or update benefits you get from work, for example company car details and medical insurance;
- find your National Insurance number.

HMRC will continue to add more services in the future to allow taxpayers to more fully manage their tax affairs online. The PTA is part of HMRC's overriding strategy to move to a fully digital tax service, which will eventually see the end of an annual tax return with all personal tax affairs being managed through the PTA.

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Super-Fast 'Jurassic' Broadband!



A group of properties along Dorset's Jurassic Coast are to get some of the fastest internet connections in the UK.

With advice from the Superfast Dorset project, people living and working in Coast Road – a stunning but isolated location between Burton Bradstock and Abbotsbury - have tapped into Government money to future proof their broadband.

On learning that they fell outside any commercial or publicly-funded plans for faster internet, locals applied to the national Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme, which funds full fibre connections for businesses and the homes around them. Their chosen network provider Openreach will fund the other half of the project as part of its Community Fibre Partnership (CFP) programme.

Openreach engineers will now extend fibre-optic cables from the exchange direct to properties in the area giving access to ultrafast download speeds of up to 1 Gbps (gigabit per second) – more than 300 times faster than their current connections and fast enough to stream 200 HD Netflix movies simultaneously. The Othona Community in Coast Road has been offering retreats, courses and holidays-in-community since 1965. Its visitors come from all over the UK and some from overseas.

Tony Jaques, who has overseen the growth of the community since 1995, said: "Until I arrived there wasn't a single computer on site! And we still have an emphasis on trying to live simply. But today, of course, our good administration and communication relies on internet connection.

"To be honest, as a small business and a charity we really struggle with the existing copper network. So, to have fibre-optics all the way to our buildings will be a dream come true. And help from public funding makes sense. Without it businesses like ours in outlying areas just get left behind."

Under the Gigabit Broadband Voucher Scheme businesses can claim up to £3,000 against the cost of gigabit-capable (1,000 megabit) internet connections, either individually or as part of a group.

Counterfeit Goods What is the real threat?

When we think of counterfeit goods we probably think of films, clothes and music, but what about electrical goods, toys, or cosmetics? These all have to meet certain safety standards as laid down in law. These standards are there to protect the consumer.

Counterfeit goods may not meet these standards: 98% of a batch of apple electrical chargers tested failed to pass one or more of the safety tests; tests on counterfeit lipsticks have found 300 times the permitted amount of lead in them; In 2016 airbags for vehicles which turned out to be counterfeit were found; in 2017 one Trading Standards service seized 88,000 counterfeit toys in the run up to Christmas. All of these failed safety tests and all highlight the potential harm to the public from counterfeit goods. If something on sale seems to be too good to be true then it probably is. Organised crime groups play a large role in the

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Residents can benefit from the scheme too if they are part of a group project, which also includes businesses, and can claim a voucher with a value of up to £500. The scheme is only accessible through broadband service providers. More details and a list of locally active suppliers can be seen at dorsetforyou.gov.uk/superfast

Openreach's Community Fibre Partnership programme is designed to help people in places not included in any current roll-out plans to bring fibre broadband to their local area, working with Openreach to co-fund the installation.

Emma Howarth, Programme Director for Openreach, said: "I'm delighted that we'll be able to help the process of bringing ultrafast broadband to Coast Road. "Partnerships like this help us bring high-speed connections to those areas that broadband providers, for a variety of reasons, struggle to upgrade alone. That's why we're investing in hundreds of similar community projects across the UK, working in partnership with businesses, schools and residential communities to deliver faster speeds from a wide choice of competing service providers."

The UK-wide CFP programme is bringing fibre broadband to some of the UK's most challenging areas with more than 30,000 UK households and businesses already able to benefit from faster speeds. The figure is expected to double to 60,000 within twelve months.

Across the UK, more than 600 CFP schemes have already been agreed, with upgrades complete in more than 200 communities. Once Openreach has installed the infrastructure, residents can place an order for the new faster services with a provider of their choice.

Daryl Turner, Dorset County Council Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment, said: "I'm pleased we have been able to support these homes and businesses, who can look forward to the very fastest internet speeds.

"Of course, around 96% of properties in Dorset can already access superfast broadband - download speeds of 24 Mbps or more. But to benefit you have to contact an internet provider and ask to switch to fibre broadband."

To check fibre broadband availability at your property and see the options if you are outside current plans visit dorsetforyou.gov.uk/superfast

To find out more about Openreach's Community Fibre Partnership programme visit <https://communityfibre.openreach.co.uk/>

supply of counterfeit goods and they obtain significant financial benefit from doing this.

Top tips to help you avoid buying counterfeit goods

When buying online check the spelling and grammar on the website and of the URL – often the people behind these sites do not pay a lot of attention or care to this detail. Fraudsters may also try to deceive you by slightly changing the spelling of a well-known brand or shop in the website address.

Look to see where the trader is based and whether they provide a postal address – just because the web address has 'UK' do not assume the seller is based in the UK. If there is no address supplied or there is just a PO Box or email, be wary.

Deal with reputable sellers - only use sites you know or that have been recommended to you. If you have not bought from the seller before then do your research and check online reviews.

Get the trader to tell you if they provide an after-sales service, warranty, or guarantee.

For further advice on this, or to report something to Trading Standards, call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06.



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Humphries Kirk donates more than £940 in aid of the Indonesia Tsunami Appeal

Leading Dorset and Somerset law firm, Humphries Kirk, held a designated 'Dress Down Day' recently in aid of the Indonesia Tsunami Appeal, donating £946 in total.

The combined Humphries Kirk offices raised an impressive total of £473 via donations from members of staff who wore more casual attire to work in return for a charity donation.

This sum was matched by the firm and thus a total of £946 was donated to the appeal.

The money raised by the law firm will go towards providing vital support to the survivors of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Indonesia. The donation will allow Disasters Emergency Committee member charities to respond by providing temporary shelter, emergency healthcare, food, clean drinking water and sanitation services.

Katharine Jones, senior partner at Humphries Kirk, commented: "I'd like to take this opportunity to thank staff for getting involved with our Dress Down Day and helping to raise an impressive fundraising total for such a worthy cause."

James Winterkorn, philanthropy and partnerships manager at Disasters Emergency Committee, commented: "On behalf of the DEC and our Member Charities, please accept our sincere gratitude to all at Humphries Kirk for your generous contribution to the DEC Indonesia Tsunami Appeal. The funds raised will help to provide essential relief, including shelter and clean water, to the survivors of this terrible disaster."

Humphries Kirk has offices in Bournemouth, Parkstone, Poole, Swanage, Wareham, Dorchester, Crewkerne as well as London and has an international network of lawyers.

Visit www.hklaw.eu for more information.

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From The Kitchen Garden...



Easy Leek Plait

By Regula Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

The new year has started and winter is a good time to get the kitchen garden ready for the next growing season. But before all that, I want to start this article not with ambitious New Year Resolutions, but with an apology to all the lovely people who were trying to follow last month's spice cake recipe.

I stated in the ingredients list the need for 1 dl strong coffee. What I should have written was either 100 ml or a good 3 fl oz. Thank you for getting in touch and making me aware that I confused you. I'm glad you felt I was approachable and I hope you were having your cake and eating it! I felt chuffed so many are actually not just reading 'seasonal grub', but are also being inspired enough to try out the recipes each month!

So here we are - festivities over, it's wet and windy, the light is flat, the rosehips have all gone by now and the days are still short. However, I like this time of year too, because it gives me a real chance to take a deep breath and think on how I'm going to approach the new season. This month, I not only have the time to put structure into my sowing and planting plans, but I will also be tidying the perennial plant beds up a bit, so the new growth gets enough light and air.

I also plan to clear out the poly tunnels completely and start afresh this spring. I will need some poly tunnel tape as there are quite a few rips in them, then will need to wash them down, inside and out.

In the meantime, the geese get to graze all winter long and I can't wait for them to start laying their beautiful eggs again. The ducks are dabbling about, finding little slugs all over the place and the chickens will hopefully get down to some serious egg laying, having had quite a long break....

Of course, even in winter there are some vegetables to pick and one of those are the leeks. A truly versatile vegetable, eaten thinly sliced raw in salads, steamed, baked as a gratin with cheese or put into a stew. It's important to wash the long sticks well, as they are earthed up while growing and grit hides between the layers. Leeks are part of the allium family, the same clan as onions, garlic, shallots and chives and they make a tasty ingredient in a thick and comforting leek and potato soup. This recipe is for an easy leek plait – or it could be done just like a pizza.

Leek plait - Ingredients:

Pizza dough rolled out into a rectangle roughly 50x30cm (19 inch x 11 inch)

Filling:

2 onions, halved, sliced
2 garlic cloves, sliced
25 g butter

3 leeks, sliced into strips

1 tsp curry powder

100 ml cider or water

A little ground pepper

2 small apples or pears, sliced

50 g ground hazelnuts

A good handful grated cheddar

Method:

Gently fry the onions, garlic, leeks and curry powder in the butter. Add cider/water and season and gently cook with pan lid half on for ten minutes or until softened.

Leave to cool down then add the sliced apples/pears, hazelnuts and cheese to the mix.

Share mix onto rolled out dough rectangle, leaving about an inch uncovered all the way around. Roll the whole thing into a sausage shape starting on the long side.

Cut the roll in half lengthwise and weave the cut side on top into an overlapping pattern.

Bake for thirty minutes in preheated oven at 220C.

On rolls the next growing season!



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For more information,
contact Regula Wright on 07758 013230
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Pie and a Pint Night

Saturday 19th January 2019

Choice of:

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

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

Bookings Essential

Clavells Restaurant Opening Hours

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Breakfasts, lunches and afternoon teas.

Clavells Valentines Evening Menu

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

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Starters

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

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

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

Pork, chicken and apricot Terrine

served with toasted brioche, mixed leaves and chutney.

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

Main Courses

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

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

Loin of Venison from "Kimmeridge" wrapped in Parma ham

served with a rich redcurrant and sloe gin jus

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

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

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

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

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

Desserts

Chocolate Fondue to Share

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

Passion Fruit Syllabub with homemade shortbread.

Mixed Berry Pavlova drizzled with a Raspberry Coulis.

Morello Cherry & Chocolate Roulade

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

£29.95 per head

Booking Essential Tel: 01929 480701

Valentines Special High Tea

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**CLAVELLS
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THURSDAY 14TH AND SUNDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

Assorted Finger Sandwiches

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

Fruit and Plain Scones

with Dorset clotted cream and locally sourced Strawberry Jam.

Cake Selection

A delicious array of miniature cakes and tartlets.

Dorset Tea Selection

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

£14.95 per person

Prosecco Afternoon Tea

All of the above plus a glass of prosecco.

£19.95 per head

Booking Essential

Telephone: 01929 480701

A Message From The Swanage Foodbank Team



SWANAGE FOOD BANK SAYS: "THANK YOU, SO MUCH"

A happy New Year to everyone and endless thanks to so many of you who have tirelessly supported the FoodBank in so many different ways this year.

For Christmas 2018, local people showed amazing support for the FoodBank: In particular we would like to mention:

Geoff and Polly at GMPH Printers for their free printing of Christmas posters, Boots, who put on a special cake sale and raffle, The Swanage School had a special drive to raise awareness of the need for FoodBanks, Zanny and her team at Swanage Medical Centre put on a special event at BarEast and thanks to all of you who have baked cakes, worn Christmas sweaters or put much-needed items in our blue bins round the town.

Thank you all so much! We are so grateful for all your help and support. In 2017 we assisted 355 adults, 201 children and 11 pets. In 2018, those numbers have more than doubled as people struggle with Universal Credit and the rise in the cost of living since the devaluation of the pound. Sometimes, the margin between just managing and not managing is very small and rising prices can easily tip any of us over the edge; desperate people do not know where to turn for help.

With your support, we can just help alleviate the problem for a temporary period.

All we can hope for is that the new year will bring a more equal society where the need for FoodBanks is eradicated ... but in the meantime – we'll carry on.

With love and gratitude from Beryl and David Hopkins and the Swanage Foodbank team.

Should you need assistance from the Foodbank, please contact us on: 07759 230313.

SOME FACTS FROM A RECENT CITIZEN'S ADVICE REPORT:

Number of Clients with Universal Credit [UC] Issues:

Across Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole, local Citizens Advice offices were contacted by 1,108 clients with 2,110 issues relating to Universal Credit in the period October 2017 to March 2018. The top three UC issues recorded were: the initial claim (n1023, 48%), housing elements (n297, 14%) and universal support (n135, 6%). There were ninety-six more detailed 'evidence forms' submitted during this period which give further insight into the specific issues clients are facing.

There was a substantial increase in issues from January to March 2018 when the full service roll out had started in all areas. In these months, local Citizens Advice saw 928 clients with 1,832 issues.

70 detailed 'evidence forms' were submitted from January to March, 73% of the overall total since the rollout of Universal Credit in October 2017.

In March 2018, 12% (323) of all clients (2,676) contacting local Citizens Advice had an issue relating to Universal Credit. In terms of issues during this month, UC issues were the third highest issue clients presented with, after Benefits and Tax Credits and Debt. 37 (11%) of the 323 were in some form of paid employment.



A Hidden Jewel In Kimmeridge



Steak and Lobster Night

Saturday 13th April 2019

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Canapés

Followed by a

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

Finished with Fresh Strawberries and Clotted Cream

£29.95 per head.

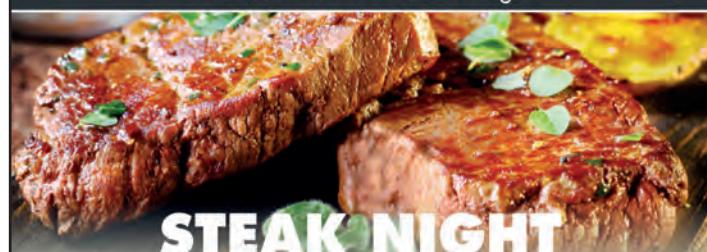
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Opening Hours

Open Monday to Sunday 10am-5pm
Breakfasts, lunches and afternoon teas.
Open Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.



A Hidden Jewel In Kimmeridge



STEAK NIGHT

Saturday 26th January 2019

Nestled in the charming picture box village of Kimmeridge on the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset one mile inland from the World Jurassic Heritage Coast. Being Part of a family that have farmed in the Purbecks since the 1950's we are passionate about offering delicious locally sourced food with delightful service at an attractive price.

Sunday Roasts every week!

BUY ONE STEAK GET
THE SECOND FOR £4.95

8oz Sirloin steak from Kimmeridge farm served with gourmet chips, salad, mushrooms, tomatoes and onion rings £18.95

Second Steak £4.95!

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Clavells Restaurant
Opening Hours

Open Monday to Sunday 10am-5pm
Breakfasts, lunches and afternoon teas.



Natural Matters

WIND



by John Garner

Here on the south coast we are subject to some decent winds. It's a kite surfing and sailing destination for good reason. Many coastal places are subject to fairly consistent prevailing winds and in this country the prevailing wind is south westerly, so the south coast and western facing areas will inevitably experience a high concentration of these winds.

Being somewhat protected here in the south, we don't experience the gale force winds that regularly hit the west of the country and especially Scotland, but we definitely have enough wind to have some fun. I, for one, am all for the wind.

But first. A bit of dumbed down science. Not dumbed down for you, but dumbed down so that I can understand what it is. Here goes....

Put simply, wind is the motion of air moving between different air pressure. So, to grasp the idea of wind we need to have a handle on what affects air pressure. So, if you're still awake, put on your best furrowed brow, stick your tongue out of the side of your mouth and focus. As air heats up the atoms and molecules within the air move quicker and spread out. Warm air therefore expands and rises.

Conversely, if the air is cold the opposite occurs. Cold air molecules move more slowly, stick together and sink down. Sun shining down on the surface of the earth will heat the air above it causing it to rise. As it rises it will leave an area of low pressure beneath it.

Therefore, areas of lower pressure will form around colder air. Air will always try to even out the pressures, so where there is an area of high pressure next to an area of low pressure, air will always move from high to low pressure.

'How does this affect us on the coast?' I hear you slur through the drool of an interrupted doze? Well, on sunny days the land heats up much quicker than the sea. You therefore have warm air above the land and colder air above the sea. An unequal pressure. So, the air moves from high pressure (colder air) to low pressure (warmer air) to equalise the pressure and a sea breeze is formed, otherwise known as a gentle wind.

This rush of air is the wind. Large scale winds work on the same principals and are more severe versions of air moving from higher to lower pressure

areas with varying degrees of intensity.

Well this explains the basics, but other things come into play when we look at the wind on a grander scale. The principles remain the same, but our winds and weather are affected greatly by the jet stream (just when you thought it was okay to relax).

The jet stream is a ribbon of wind that exists between five and seven miles up at speeds of up to 200 mph. We don't see these speeds, but it will carry the weather with it. Its effect is to change areas of high and low pressure at the surface, which for the attentive (or those with little else in their lives) among you is the self-same cause of the wind.

What causes the jet stream is the cold air of the north and the warm air of the equator constantly trying to equalise itself. In the winter the difference in the two pressures is more extreme, resulting in fiercer winds and wetter weather in the winter. Where the difference in temperature is less, there is a tendency for lighter winds.

Now. The Gulf Stream. Just kidding. I'm not even going to attempt to explain that for all our sanities. What, you may ask, is the point of all this dubious pseudo-scientific dithering? It's to make the most of the wind. You don't have to be a sailor or a surfer to enjoy the wind. The wind changes the landscape. Brings trees to life. Changes the shape of our coastlines.

It adds drama to the countryside. You only have to look at the angle of the trees and hedges near the coast to see the effects of the prevailing winds. Trees seem to grow squat and thick trunked to cope with all the buffeting. But its effects are most clearly seen on the seas around us. Swanage Bay, protected from the south westerlies, can be mill pond flat when off shore it is a churning turmoil of bubbling water.

The south-facing coasts round towards Lulworth take the brunt of the weather and the sea can be an intimidating sight, even from the safety of the shoreline.

But its best trick is to send waves crashing into the rocks and beaches. If the wind blows long and hard enough out in the Atlantic, it sends perfect clean waves landwards for the surfers to appreciate.

Wind. It's brilliant.

The Decline Of British Hedgehogs



New research throws light on factors associated with the decline of Britain's hedgehogs

This was the first systematic survey of rural hedgehog populations in England and Wales using footprint tracking tunnels to measure the presence / absence of hedgehogs.

Hedgehogs were present at only 21% of all the sites surveyed.

Hedgehog presence was negatively affected by badger sett density. However, both badger setts and hedgehogs were absent from 27% of all sites, suggesting that there is a wider landscape issue affecting both species. Hedgehog presence was positively affected by the amount of built land (i.e. housing); areas of human habitation may, therefore, be acting as a "refuge" habitat from the problems associated with rural landscapes.

In early September, results from the first systematic survey of rural hedgehog populations in England and Wales using footprint tracking tunnels was published in *Scientific Reports*.

The research, titled: 'Reduced occupancy of hedgehogs in rural England and Wales: the influence of habitat and an asymmetric intra-guild predator', investigates the effects of the availability of key habitat types and badger (*Meles meles*) sett density on native hedgehogs (*Erinaceus europaeus*). The results show that while badger sett density is negatively correlated with hedgehog presence, there was evidence of both species co-existing and hedgehogs being positively associated with built habitat (e.g. houses). More worryingly, both hedgehogs and badger setts were not recorded at many of the sites surveyed, suggesting there is a much wider land management issue in our countryside affecting both species.

The research, led by Nottingham Trent University and the University of Reading, and funded by the People's Trust for Endangered Species and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, surveyed 261 rural sites covering all habitat types (seven land classes from arable farmland to upland sites) across England and Wales between 2014 and 2015 (18 sites in Wales, 243 in England) using footprint tracking tunnels. Many sites were surveyed by volunteers.

Ben Williams, PhD student from the University of Reading, the primary author of this paper, explains: "We found that although hedgehogs were generally widely distributed across England and Wales, they were actually found at a worryingly low number (21%) of sites. We also found

that hedgehogs were absent from 71% of sites that did not have badger setts either, indicating that both hedgehogs and badgers may be absent from large portions of rural England and Wales."

"We found hedgehogs at fifty-five sites. We also found that badger setts were present at 49% of these sites, demonstrating that badgers and hedgehogs can, and do, coexist, as was the case historically for thousands of years prior to the recent decline in hedgehog numbers. However, perhaps more importantly, our results indicate that a large proportion of rural England and Wales is potentially unsuitable for both hedgehogs and badgers to live in. Given the similarity in diets of the two species, one explanation for this could be the reduced availability of macro-invertebrate prey (such as earthworms) which both species need to feed on to survive. This could be as a result of agricultural intensification and climate change."

While the results don't dispute that high numbers of badgers in some places do have a negative impact on the presence of hedgehogs, crucially, neither hedgehogs nor badger setts were present at seventy sites (27%), meaning that at over a quarter of the study sites the landscape was apparently unsuitable for either species. This would imply a wider landscape management issue affecting both species, rather than a single factor being the cause of the well-documented hedgehog decline.

Nida Al-Fulaij, Grants Manager at PTES expands: "Badgers are known as 'intra-guild predators', meaning they predate hedgehogs but also compete with them for food resources. This naturally makes their relationship complex, which we already knew, but until now we didn't realise the extent to which changes in the landscape were affecting both species".

Ben further elaborates: "The results also indicate that hedgehogs may be using areas of human habitation as a sort of "refuge habitat". This was evident across all scales (from small villages to cities), becoming more pronounced with greater urbanisation. Residential gardens potentially offer a number of advantages for hedgehogs and enable them to escape some of the problems associated with the rural landscape.

"Therefore, houses, villages and towns bordering more rural landscapes are important areas for hedgehogs and may become increasingly so if we continue to see the rate of declines we are currently witnessing in rural Britain."

Image, top of page & front cover, credited to Stephen Oliver



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Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack

Magic Carpets



January is the month when great swathes of snowdrops come into flower and create wonderful white carpets that are fantastic to show off other plants (pictured, left). Here the gorgeous stems of this bright *Cornus 'Midwinter Fire'* (pictured, second down, left) contrast beautifully with the pure white snow beneath, but a carpet of snowdrops would work just as well.

The benefit of growing carpeting plants are many, especially if you want a low maintenance garden as they help prevent competing weeds from germinating and getting established. Another benefit is that they also provide a home and food source for wildlife, as well as being pretty to look at.

Here are just a few excellent choices:-

Variegated Ivy

Pictured (left) is another type of *Cornus*, *C. 'Baton Rouge'* and variegated ivy has been used beneath it as the carpet. The ivy can withstand the shade created by the leaves of the *Cornus* in summer and then becomes a major contributor to this winter scene.

Geranium macrorrhizum is a wonderful plant (pictured, top right). It is so easy to grow and it

tolerates very difficult dry, shady conditions. The attractive pink cranesbill flowers range from pale almost white to a deep wine red.

Periwinkle

This British native is charming. The more vigorous *Vinca major* is a little untidy, so go for the variety pictured which is *Vinca minor*. This has white and purple flowered forms as well as the more commonly grown blue (pictured, middle right).

Cistus 'Grayswood Pink'

This sun rose is a great evergreen spreader and will thrive in difficult, hot, dry conditions.

The felty silver foliage is evergreen and the pretty pink flowers appear in late spring and early summer (pictured, bottom right).

This January at Holme there is up to 25% off all gardening items including plants, compost, pots, stoneware, garden sundries, bird feeders and bird food, so it is a great time to pick up a bargain ahead of the new gardening season.

The whole team at Holme for Gardens and the Orchard Tea Rooms would like to wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year and look forward to assisting you with all things gardening-related throughout 2019!



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Call To End Illegal Killing Of Our Birds Of Prey



Birdcrime Report: RSPB calls on governments to help end the illegal persecution of birds of prey

RSPB's *Birdcrime* report reveals sixty-eight confirmed incidents of bird of prey persecution in the UK during 2017, but many illegal killings are going undetected or unreported.

Incidents occurred in all four UK countries with England having the highest number of confirmed incidents.

The RSPB believes the introduction of a licensing system for driven grouse shooting would help tackle the ongoing illegal persecution that occurs on these grouse moors, and protect the interests of responsible landowners.

The UK's birds of prey continue to be at risk according the latest *Birdcrime* report, which has revealed a minimum of sixty-eight confirmed incidents of detected illegal bird of prey persecution in 2017.

Birdcrime 2017 – the only report summarising offences against birds of prey (also known as raptors) in the UK – revealed forty-eight shootings, nine poisoning, three trapping, four nest destruction and four other incidents of illegal persecution against raptors. However, evidence suggests these figures are just the tip of the iceberg with many illegal killings going undetected or unreported. It's not only detection that is a problem. There were just four raptor persecution-related prosecutions in 2017 and only one single conviction.

Among the victims found were both rare species such as hen and marsh harriers, peregrine falcons, and short-eared owls, as well as more common species such as red kites and buzzards, putting the ongoing recovery of some of these species at risk.

The report also revealed that more than three quarters (55) of the confirmed incidents took place in England. However, incidents weren't confined to England, with the report highlighting confirmed case in Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland.

Martin Harper, RSPB Conservation Director, said: "Birds of prey are part of our heritage and inspire us. We should all be able to enjoy seeing these magnificent birds, however illegal activity continues to put species at risk.

"There are laws in place to protect these birds but they are clearly not being respected or adequately enforced. We need governments across the UK to do more to tackle illegal killing to protect our raptors for us and for future generations to enjoy."

Previous research has shown that illegal killing of birds of prey is associated with land managed for intensive driven grouse shooting, leaving vast areas of our uplands without typical breeding raptors. A Natural England study revealed 'compelling evidence' that persecution of hen harriers –

associated with driven grouse moors – was the main factor limiting their recovery in England.

Governments need to do far more to create a climate of accountability, particularly on shooting estates. Whilst there has been some steady progress in Scotland, elsewhere far more needs to be done. The RSPB is calling on the UK Governments to introduce a system of licensing for driven grouse shooting, to ensure land is managed legally and sustainably.

This would also help tackle the wider problems of intensive management of 'big bag' driven grouse shooting, like the draining of and burning on fragile peat bogs. A fair set of rules in the form of a licensing system could help ensure shoots are operating legally and sustainably and introduce the option of restricting or removing a licence in response to the most serious offences, for example where staff on an estate have been convicted of illegally killing birds of prey.

Bob Elliot, RSPB Head of Investigations, said: "The persecution of birds of prey is a widespread problem in the UK, and is affecting some of our most loved and vulnerable species, like owls and eagles. Every week the RSPB's Investigations team get reports of yet another raptor being shot, trapped or poisoned. But for every report we receive, scientific studies suggest there are many more that go undetected and unreported. As such, these figures only scratch the surface of the true extent of raptor persecution in the UK."

The RSPB has also launched the Raptor Persecution Map Hub. This comprises two interactive maps – one which can be filtered by year and incident type, and the other that provides an overview 'heat map' of confirmed incidents across the UK for the period 2012-2017 – enabling people to see where this illegal activity is occurring.

In 2017 there were three recorded incidents in south west England. Tony Whitehead, speaking for the RSPB in the south west added: "There were just three incidents in the West Country in 2017. One of these was a female peregrine was found injured on 6 March 2017 in Tavistock and taken to a vet, where an X-ray confirmed that a piece of shot was lodged in its shoulder. The other two involved a buzzard shot in Devon and a sparrowhawk shot in Bristol"

For the full copy of *Birdcrime* 2017 report summarising the extent of illegal persecution offences against birds of prey in the UK, visit www.rspb.org.uk/birdcrime

Pictured: Goshawk, by Roy Mangersness



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Stop Taking And Start Acting To Save Nature

Even out of ten British people (68%) would like to see an independent body set up in their country to enforce environmental laws. Nine out of ten (88%) feel we have a shared responsibility to protect our environment. After more than a year of closed-door meetings between environment ministers, the RSPB is calling on the governments of the UK to provide more details about their plans for what leaving the EU will look like for our environment.

According to a new YouGov survey for the RSPB, when asked about the laws to protect our nature and wildlife, 63% of people want stronger legislation and safeguards. This is something that we can achieve in the next twelve months. Nearly seven out of ten (68%) people support the creation of a national body independent from government, set up by law that would be responsible for upholding and enforcing the laws that protect nature and wildlife.

YouGov also found that British people feel we have a responsibility to protect our environment. Almost nine out of ten (88%) people agree that we all have a shared duty in the UK to look after nature and wildlife.

Over the next twelve months the RSPB will be encouraging anyone who cares about nature and our environment to back their call for:

- Ambitious and binding targets for nature's recovery, set in law, that politicians must meet.
- Environmental laws that are strengthened, not weakened.
- A reformed system of farm subsidies that rewards the way landowners manage their land, not just how much land they happen to have.
- A world-leading, independent environmental watchdog or watchdogs to hold governments across the UK to account and ensure we leave our natural heritage in a far better state than we found it.
- Continued cooperation with other countries to help save our shared nature and tackled shared challenges.

To find out more about what the RSPB is doing and how you can get involved in ensuring wildlife and the environment are given a voice over the next twelve months, please visit www.rspb.org.uk/letnaturesing

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

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Natural England Teams Under One Roof



Teams from Natural England (NE) are coming together from across Dorset to form a new hub at Dorset County Council's County Hall. NE bringing their staff together under one roof will deliver huge operational and financial benefits, as well as a fantastic opportunity to build on existing relationships with the Council.

Other Government organisations who work for the benefit of Dorset's green spaces and conservation issues such as the Natural Environment Team, The Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Team (AONB) Team, Historic Environment, the Dorset Coast Forum and Litter Free Dorset all already share office space at County Hall. The addition of a further organisation which works to protect and enhance our countryside and wildlife will strengthen conservation efforts already in place in the county.

Natural England's Area Manager, Fran Davies said: "We believe working in partnership is key to achieving environmental outcomes. Bringing our Dorset team under one roof, and alongside DCC colleagues also working to protect the natural environment, will strengthen and support the work we do. We look forward to the opportunities and benefits this move brings for Dorset."

Cllr Daryl Turner, Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment said: "It's great that colleagues from Natural England are moving into County Hall. We already play host to many organisations which have a vested interest in Dorset's natural environment, so the addition of Natural England makes us even stronger in looking after Dorset's green spaces and wildlife."

Durlston Country Park Tells History in Sign Language



A new self-guided video is set to make visits to Dorset County Council's Durlston Country Park even more enjoyable for users of British Sign Language (BSL). The tour takes in iconic features of the site, including the Great Globe, Durlston Castle and of course, the World Heritage coast.

The video was produced in partnership with Heritage Ability, an organisation which works with historic sites to help

make them more accessible. All its projects are developed or supported by people who understand the challenges faced by disabled people and deaf people.

Kristy Cooper, the Deaf Volunteer Coordinator for Heritage Ability said: "Durlston Country Park is a beautiful place to visit, with so much to see. Normally when I come to places like this, I have to accept that I can't access the information.

"Thanks to the Heritage Ability scheme, all that is changing I'm proud to be part of this project, so that more deaf people can have meaningful and

enjoyable experiences alongside their family and friends."

For many deaf people, English is their second language. This means that simply providing written information or subtitles on videos is not always enough, as many of the words cannot be translated into BSL.

Ali Tuckey, Ranger at Durlston said: "It's wonderful to be able to offer this BSL guided tour. Deaf visitors can now borrow the tablet at reception and explore the park while learning about this historic place."

"We also have an all-terrain mobility scooter free to hire, so visitors with limited mobility can explore the estate with their family and friends. We are excited to be working with Heritage Ability over the next two years to further accessibility even more."

Daryl Turner, Dorset County Council's Cabinet Member for the Natural and Built Environment said: "We are committed to making Dorset's fantastic coast and countryside accessible for everyone to enjoy and learn from and this fabulous resource to help British Sign Language users will make a great site even better."

The tour is provided on a tablet which is available to hire from the Castle.

DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



Being the first month of the new year, January can readily give rise to many first sightings or achievements. Adders have been recorded as having made brief, tentative explorations from their hibernaculum on sunny days during this month. Similarly, overwintering Red Admirals can also emerge too early before any substantial nectar source is available.

However, in our woodland it is possible you may see the purple flowers of spring Crocus or the flowers upon a Hazel bush which are, of course, dangling catkins.

On the woodland floor a green carpet of Bluebells, Lords & Ladies and Snowdrop leaves provide a suggestion of the flowers yet to come. Meanwhile, it is most appropriate that the white spheres that are Snowberry fruits are out during a time when we can have a crunchy carpet of glistening frost.

Again, it is the woodlands that can harbour the likes of Glistening Ink Cap and Velvet Shank the later fungi emerging through the leaf litter. From the scrub cover resounds the melodies of Song Thrush, Blackbird, Dunnock and Robin, joined by the quick-quick-slow of a Chaffinch.

Out in the open, a Black Redstart (which is grey and black with only a red tail) may be spotted along the coast path. Out off shore following an easterly wind pass Gannets, Scoter and Brent Geese.

Our first 2019 activity will be a Wild Wednesday in the Castle

Belvedere Room. Aimed at young children, this free drop in art and craft sessions can provide a welcome break from the elements. A Durlston Pleasure Grounds Tour will look at the work that has begun and will illustrate that which is to follow.

A separate Guided Walk will focus specifically upon Durlston's Victorian Heritage. The opportunity to try Nordic Walking or learn hints and tips from Julian Sawyer (regarding Wildlife Photography) may help support a New Year's resolution, to take up an activity or even rekindle an old interest.

Just before the month's end we offer a free half hour stroll with a Ranger or Volunteer for those whom wish to get active at their own pace.

Of course, we have plenty of volunteer opportunities available including:

Castle Counter

Dolphin Watch

Weekly Practical Work Parties:

Tuesday's Pleasure Ground Tasks

Wednesday's Practical Access & Conservation

Thursdays Dry Stone Walling tasks

Individual / independent tasks and opportunities.

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



Margaret Green Animal Rescue

Happy New Year! As we all look forward to 2019 and all that it may bring, here's a taster of just some of our events, we'd love to welcome you along to...

19 - 26 May – Margaret Green Week!

26 May – GroundDog Day, Lincoln Farm, Bere Regis

4 August – Family Fun Day & Novelty Dog Show, Church Knowle, Wareham

22 September – Country Fayre, Church Knowle, Wareham

Keep an eye on our website for the latest updates:

www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk/events

Make sure you pop them in your diary to ensure you don't miss out...

Our Church Knowle Rehoming and Visitor centre is open 363 days a year from 10:00 – 16:00 so why not pop along and visit?

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Arts & Entertainment

Purbeck Valley Folk Festival Returns In 2019!



Purbeck Valley Folk Festival 15-18 August 2019 at Purbeck Valley Farm BH20 5HU.

Purbeck Valley Folk Festival is back next August for its eleventh year. For 2019 the festival has an exciting mix of World and Celtic music as well as its usual weekend of song, poetry, arts, crafts, and circus fun. Saturday night headliner, Afro Celt Sound System, is an eleven-piece band which features musicians from West Africa, India and Ireland. N'faly Kouyate, singer and kora player hails from Guinea and Johnny Kalsi is a master of the Indian dhol drum. N'faly is known as the 'Jimi Hendrix of the kora' (West African harp).

Sunday night headliner is Cara Dillon, the fabulous Irish chanteuse who brings her six-piece band to Purbeck. The BBC has praised "Dillon's crystalline, angelic voice, an instrument of rare beauty, capable of melting the sternest of hearts".

Purbeck is known for its laid-back afternoon Songwriter Circle. For 2019, it's Chris Difford (of Squeeze), John Bramwell (I Am Kloot) and the lovely Thea Gilmore.



Of course, Purbeck Valley Folk Festival isn't just a great music festival. There are a huge number of craft workshops and demonstrations, including traditional wood turning, blacksmithing, crochet, tie-dye, jewellery-making and pottery.

The healing area has yoga, meditation, massage and loads more. And there are so many children's activities that they will be kept busy all day and not

PURBECK VALLEY FOLK FESTIVAL
15-18 AUGUST 2019

AFRO CELT SOUND SYSTEM
CARA DILLON
WITH 6-PIECE BAND
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get bored! Organisers, Catherine and Paul Burke, have been inundated with positive feedback about the music, the friendly atmosphere and huge number of child-friendly activities at the festival. They especially want to say thanks for the incredible support they have received from local people.

Tickets for 2019 are on sale now on the festival website. Super Early Bird tickets sold out before the line-up was even released! Locals living in Swanage and Wareham receive a 20% discount by using the promo codes: BH19 or BH20.

For tickets, and more information please visit [www.purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk](http://purbeckvalleyfolkfestival.co.uk)



SWANAGE
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www.swanage-blues.org

Get Ready For PAW 2019!



Purbeck Art Weeks Festival wishes all our visitors a very Happy New Year.

We have a rich and varied feast of art and music lined up for 2019 – with something for everyone, so do come along and enjoy this

celebration of creativity across Purbeck.

Next year's festival dates are May 25th to June 9th 2019. Concerts and talks take place in beautiful venues and visits to artists open studios can be a voyage of discovery.

You can expect:

- A huge variety of artists' Open Studios displaying a wealth of diverse talent.
- A range of top-quality concerts in historic churches.
- A celebration of art and creativity by hundreds of local children and community groups, and a concert by talented young musicians.
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- Contemporary dance and informal jazz.
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- Workshops for musicians and singers.
- A film in Wareham's historic Rex Cinema.

We look forward to welcoming you!

If you would like to find out more including about our winter series of Chamber Music in Purbeck Houses, please go to Purbeck Art Weeks

Tickets for PAW Festival events will be on sale from mid-March.



MAY 25th to JUNE 9th 2019

APPLICATIONS

To all visual artists who live or work in Purbeck

If you would like to take part in the Purbeck Art Weeks Festival 2019, why not join us? To find out more and how to apply, please go to our website or contact us at membership@purbeckartweeks.co.uk.

Closing date for applications is January 31st 2019.

BURSARIES

John Flower bursaries are available to help and encourage artists, of any discipline, to take the next step in the development of their career. If you would like to find out more and how to apply please contact info@purbeckartweeks.co.uk.

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THE LINE-UP FOR 2019!

SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL: 28 FEB - 3 MAR

PURBECK PIRATE FESTIVAL: 24 - 27 MAY

PURBECK ART WEEKS: 25 MAY - 9 JUNE

SWANAGE FISH FESTIVAL: 8-9 JUNE

WILKSWOOD REGGAE FESTIVAL: 19 - 21 JULY

SWANAGE REGATTA & CARNIVAL: 27 JULY - 3 AUG

SWANAGE LIFEBOAT WEEK: 9 - 18 AUGUST

PURBECK VALLEY FOLK FESTIVAL: 15 - 18 AUGUST

SWANAGE FOLK FESTIVAL: 6 - 8 SEPT

SWANAGE BLUES FESTIVAL: 3 - 6 OCTOBER

WAREHAM WEDNESDAYS - WEDNESDAY NIGHTS THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER

Health & Beauty

Matron's Round

Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column

The recent closure of the ward at Wareham Hospital has, quite naturally, generated concern about the future of services in both Wareham and Swanage, with worries that one or both of the hospital may be about to close.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

At Wareham Hospital, we continue to be busy, offering a range of outpatient services including physiotherapy, podiatry, speech and language therapy, family planning, and many other clinics, as well as conference and training facilities for NHS staff.

A number of patient services have approached us to see if they can join the Wareham team, and Dorset HealthCare is clear that Wareham Hospital will continue to function and develop until it moves into the new hub.

This will be a major investment by Dorset HealthCare which we know will be supported by the Friends of Wareham Hospital and we are excited to work from a purpose-built site with our GP and community colleagues. We hope to hear more news in January.

In Swanage, whilst there is no proposal of a new build for the hospital, the Friends of Swanage Hospital and Dorset HealthCare are embarking on a major programme of investment which will transform the hospital and allow us to offer extended services to the Purbeck community.

Works include remodelling of the toilets shared by our Minor Injuries and Radiography departments; complete reconfiguration of the clinic rooms in that area of the hospital to provide new radiography and ultrasound facilities and enlarged multi-purpose clinic room space; upgrading of our four-bedded and twin-bedded rooms on the ward; redecoration of the ward and provision of new televisions; improvements to Day Surgery; development of the undercroft and external stores to provide visitor accommodation and staff facilities; a new patient and visitor car park and a therapeutic garden for everyone to enjoy.

So whilst there will be some delays here and there, some disruption to sites and a million details to sort out, this is a very exciting time for both sites and we look forward to (eventually!) welcoming you to see how your contributions via the Friends and the investment of Dorset HealthCare are creating the right environment to deliver services in Purbeck for a long time to come.

Until next time, take care, Matron Donna



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

receding, swollen, sensitive or bleeding gums,
loose teeth, teeth that are moving or missing,
bad breath, bad mouth taste or halitosis.

Or perhaps you need dental implants?

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

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

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

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

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

For an appointment, please call 01929 462269 or email your contact details to:
wool@mouthpeace.com or MouthPeace.deWaal@aol.com

CHIROPODY

Rachel Ciantar

Home Visits & Clinic Appointments

Comprehensive foot care - Diabetic Patient's Care
Biomechanics & Orthotics

Registered with Society of Podiatrist & Chiropodists, HPC Registered

Contact 07979 840542

NEW PATIENTS £5 OFF FIRST TREATMENT

West Dorset Mobile Foot Clinic



Nail Cutting, including Diabetic Feet, Cracked Heels, Fungal Infections, Corns, Calluses, Medical Pedicures, Warm Wax Therapy (For Foot & Joint Pain).

07903 722542 Roy Fox

07712 525058 Christine Fox

www.westdorsetmobilefootclinic.com

£15 Dorset Health Care Award

£15million awarded to Dorset's Integrated Health and Care System

A total of £15.2million has been awarded to Dorset's Integrated Care System by the Department of Health to continue the major programme of transformation and improvement in the county's health services.

The money, announced on Friday 7 December by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, will be used to fund three major initiatives:

- Mental health estates development (£5.9m)
- Major hospitals' pathology service improvements (£5m)
- GP and community services (£4.2m)

The award was announced after Dorset bid for the funds earlier this year alongside other health and care systems up and down England.

The allocation by the Department of Health follows the award of more than £100million in July last year to support the changes being made to planned and unplanned hospital services following Dorset's Clinical Services Review.

Tim Goodson, leader of Dorset's Integrated Care System and Chief Officer of Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, said: "This money will support us to take another step forward to improve the quality of health and care services in Dorset. The three projects being funded are all quite different, showing the scale of our ambition and commitment to delivering the very highest quality services."

The mental health investment is earmarked for the development of inpatient older people's services at Alderney Hospital, Poole.

It will deliver a major upgrade from the existing accommodation for older people at St Ann's Hospital in Poole.

The pathology service investment will be used to make significant improvements to the digital information system that underpins the pathology service across Dorset's three acute hospitals and our partners in Hampshire. Once upgraded, the new system will make the sharing of laboratory results much easier and it is forecast to save local NHS organisations up to £2million every year.

GP and community services in Blandford are earmarked to receive the £4.2million community services investment, where a hub will be created at Blandford Community Hospital, bringing more services to the hospital and improving access for local communities.

Responding to the investment in older people's mental health services, Eugine Yafele, Deputy Chief Executive of Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust, said: "This investment will enable us to make significant improvements to the quality of care for the older people we serve. Not only will it directly improve the service for older people, it will also enable us to consider how we best use all of our mental health estate, which will benefit many more people."



The Friends of Wareham Hospital are grateful for the continuing help we receive within the community of Wareham/Purbeck as we work with local organisations to get the best possible health and social care we can for our local population.

We have increased our range of support to include community services and will continue to highlight and support the many important out-patient services which are held within Wareham Hospital and which we hope will be transferred to the proposed new Hub.

These services are:

Chemotherapy
Audiology
Dermatology
Physiotherapy
Community Mental Health
Pulmonary Rehabilitation
Coagulation Clinic
Speech and Language Therapy
Adult Learning Disabilities
Chronic Fatigue Syndrome/ME
Steps to Wellbeing
Dietician
Community Alcohol and Drugs Advisory Service
Better Balance Group
Heart Failure Group
Leg Ulcer Clinic
Stroke Review
Children's and Adolescent Mental Health Services
Pain Service
Family Planning
Musculo/Skeletal
Paediatrics
Continence Services
Memory Assessment
Elderly Psychology
Diabetes Dietician
Podiatry

Please contact: The Friends of Wareham Hospital, co Wareham Hospital, Strete Road, Wareham. BH20 4QQ
Tel: 01929 552433, email: friendsofwarehamhospital@gmail.com
or via our Facebook page (charity no: 252073)

Sport

Swanage Cricket Club Report

Swanage Cricket Club visited the Swanage branch of the Co-op, where they were fortunate to be one of three local recipients of the Co-op Community Fund – a fund where Co-op members have raised an amazing £19 million for over 4,000 causes across the UK.

The presentation took place in store where members of the cricket club had a mini cricket game set up for children to give cricket a go and also talked to local shoppers about the club's plans for the future.

Later, they received a cheque from the Co-op for over £14,000 to complete their year as part of the fund.

The club is looking to extend its facilities by extending the existing pavilion, creating extra changing areas and more space for its expanding use. With three senior teams and eight junior teams next year, along with a growing Women's and Girls' section, the club is becoming bigger and bigger with summer days and evenings filled with training sessions and matches.

Whilst the plans are not finalised at present, this donation will go a long way to making the dreams become a reality.

Even though it is not cricket weather winter training is well underway for the junior teams at The Swanage School. We have sessions on Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings, with sessions across the age range starting at year three.



We always welcome new players at both adult and junior level. For more details go to our website www.swanagecricketclub.co.uk or contact Tim Ives at timswanagecricket@gmail.com.



Swanage Bowls Club Report

Swanage Bowling Club's President, Brian Beeston, chose the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Wareham and Purbeck as his charity for 2018.

With the help of local businesses donating some fantastic raffle prizes, visiting teams from as far afield as Leicester and East Sussex paying to play against the Club and all the Club members donating throughout the season, Swanage Bowling

Club was able to present a cheque for £1250 to the MS Society.

A further £187 was raised via collection boxes where Club members and visitors were asked to pop a pound in for any bowling misdemeanours!

John Smith, Vice Chair of the Society, accompanied by Ray and Heather Fairweather attended the Club's Finals Weekend where Brian donated the funds raised.

The MS Society is particularly important to some members of the Club and this was a wonderful opportunity to give something back to such an important charity.

The Club and MS Society would like to thank the local businesses who donated raffle prizes; Surprise n Store, Going for Bust, Leonards, Amber Bay, Pursenalties, Boots, McColls, Fish Plaice, Pet Luv, Nixons, Jurassic Outdoors, Swanage Deli and WH Smith.

Swanage Sea Rowing Club



Swanage Football Club



Above: Swans Walking Football

We are in the final stages of putting together our Christmas Race night. Although this is our Club's Christmas event for this year, it is another fund-raising event on the back of our very successful fashion show. This was organised by our Club Secretary Alison Newell.

A local firm 'travelling trends' came in, they specialise in these events. It proved to be very popular and sold out with a few days before the day. There were a number of people who were left disappointed, so remember to buy your tickets early as we have only enough room for seventy. The next fashion show has been pencilled in for the spring of 2019, so keep an eye on our social media sites and in this column for advance notice of when this will be happening.

We are striving to have numerous fundraising events throughout 2019. This is part of our process to raise funds to aid in the redevelopment of our Clubhouse and grounds. I have written about this over previous articles, but as with any redevelopment, they take time. As you know our clubhouse and sports hall are to be demolished and replaced with brand new facilities, which the whole town can use and be part of.

We have had numerous surveys done around the site and we are working our way through the necessary paperwork. After a few months off, our regular meetings with the council and councillors are back on track and things are starting to progress nicely. It will be a long process, but we are all 100% committed to this and look forward to the day when we can bring a state of the art multi-function centre to the town.

On the pitch things haven't been going too well for the 1st team. We are on a poor run of results, only winning one of our past ten league and Cup fixtures. In amongst those is a 11-0 defeat at Merley, which was our biggest defeat in seven years. Also, there was the 10-2 Cup defeat at Poole Town. Among those ten games were two Purbeck Derby clashes.

We drew away at Wareham Rangers in a poor game. The Corfe Castle game was a much livelier affair. We suffered a 3-2 defeat against Purbeck rivals Corfe Castle in our first ever meeting in The Dorset Premier League.

The visitors got off to a flying start scoring after forty seconds when Swans Keeper Beeston let Ryan Cattano's speculative shot squirm



Above: Swans Reserves

under his body. Ten minutes later Corfe doubled their lead with a carbon copy mistake by Beeston which resulted in top scorer Courtney Johnstone scoring his side's second.

Swans managed to claw their way back in the game when Charles Dares slotted home following a good ball from Clark. Corfe should have increased their interval lead when they missed two great chances. H.T. 1-2.

Swans equalised on fifty-eight minutes with a penalty from Garan Bennett after Charlie Dyke was fouled in the box following a good run. It was now game on. But two minutes later disaster struck again for Beeston when he fumbled a cross which Courtney Johnstone was on hand to hook home.

Swans dominated the rest of the game with wave after wave of attacks and Rose-Moore hit the post when clean through. Then Corfe had a let off with the ball being cleared off the line.

However, Corfe proved to be dangerous on the break and Flockton should have scored with a header when well placed. The Swans were unable to break down the visitors' resolute defence so Corfe held on for an historic win at Day's Park.

Corfe's manager, ex Swan Martin Patterson, will be delighted with the win while his former team mate, Tim Brown, will be bitterly frustrated with the result, although the performance was a massive improvement from Saturday's draw at Wareham.

Our Reserve side gained their second point of the season with a well-deserved draw in their last home game against Blandford Utd Res. Reserve manager, Andy Dunster, was delighted with his team's attitude. He praised their commitment and battling qualities in obtaining this point.

HAPPY NEW YEAR to all our supporters from everyone at the Football Club; don't forget you're always welcome to join us for a game of football at Day's Park in 2019.

COME ON YOU SWANS!

John Peacock



Above: Swans Mini-Kickers



The Purbeck Gazette - Proudly Supporting The Swans

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 FEB is noon, 10th JAN

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.

JANUARY 2019



Tue 1st

- * **Artisans on the Beach** At the Swanage Beach Huts, Shore rd. Local, unique, hand crafted items for sale every weekend in December.
- * 50% off for locals At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Steam Service** At Swanage Railway, between Swanage and Norden.

Wed 2nd

- * **Artisans on the Beach** At the Swanage Beach Huts, Shore rd. Local, unique, hand crafted items for sale every weekend in December.
- * 50% off for locals At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Steam Service** At Swanage Railway, between Swanage and Norden.

Thu 3rd

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Steam Service** At Swanage Railway, between Swanage and Norden.

Fri 4th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Steam Service** At Swanage Railway, between Swanage and Norden.
- * **Give Blood** At Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall rd. To book an appointment call 0300 123 23 23 or visit blood.co.uk.

19:30

- Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: Members' travels and pictures + New Year Buffet. Visitors welcome ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841

Sat 5th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Steam Service** At Swanage Railway, between Swanage and Norden.

Sun 6th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Steam Service** At Swanage Railway, between Swanage and Norden.

15:30

- Runaway** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.

Mon 7th

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

Tue 8th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- 14:00 **Purbeck Parkinson's Meetings** At All Saints Church, Swanage. Ffi: 01929 425970 or 01929 551962.

Wed 9th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!

Thu 10th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **New Year Sale** at Heirlooms Jewellers & Silversmiths, Wareham, up to 50% off antique, pre-owned and modern jewellery and watches.

Fri 11th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- 19:30 **Purbeck Railway Circle** Meets at Harmans Cross Village Hall for "Of Tangerine, Chocolate and Irish Cream: a transport odyssey around Britain and Ireland." A presentation by Gavin Johns. Refreshments and railway raffle. Doors open 7pm. Admission is by donation only. Ffi 421 913. Everyone is welcome.

19:30

- Sleeping Beauty** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Swanage Drama Company. Tickets £10 full, £9 concessions, £5 children.

Sat 12th

- * **50% off for locals** At Monkey World, Wareham. All residents with a DT SP or BH postcode can visit the park for half price in January, simply show proof of postcode on entry!
- * **Purbeck Sports Centre** £1 Sale Day Try any excercise class and use the gym for £1 per activity.

11:00

- Antiques Valuation day** At The Foyer, Swanage Railway Station, no appointments necessary.

14:00

- Sleeping Beauty** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Swanage Drama Company. Tickets £10 full, £9 concessions, £5 children.

19:30

- Sleeping Beauty** At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage. Swanage Drama Company. Tickets £10 full, £9 concessions, £5 children.

20:00

- Lewis Clarke & The Essentials** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

Sun 13th

- * **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Vitower (Rempstone, Purbeck) where we will be removing scrub to open areas around a pond to benefit

the rare natterjack toad. We welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

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

18:00 **Purbeck Village Quire At Wareham Parish Hall, Christmas Concert.**

20:00 **The Local Honeyes** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

Tue 15th

14:30 **The Purbeck Assoc of the National Trust** Illustrated talk 'Radical Dorset - 500 Years of Protest' – Harriet Still talks about our history of popular response to injustices as shown in the Radical Dorset exhibition; at All Saints Church, Ulwell Rd, Sw. All welcome. £3.00 incl refreshments Ffi 01929 427300.

Wed 16th

14:30 **Studland History Group** Meets in the Village Hall for a talk by Audrey Pembrok, "The Mowlem Family". All welcome. Ffi the Secretary 01929 439245.

19:30 **Wareham & District Archaeology & Local History Soc** Meetings held at Wareham Town Hall. John Smith - Roman Life.

20:00 **Open Mic Night** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

Thu 17th

14:00 **Talk by Professor Gerry Stoker** of Southampton Uni 'What is wrong with Politics today: Politicians, Citizens or the Media? At Corfe Castle Community Library.

17:30 "Experience a Taste of Mentoring" The Granary, The Quay, Wareham. With Dorset Business Mentors (Dormen). An opportunity for Purbeck business owners and entrepreneurs in any sector and stage of business to gain an understanding of the process and enormous benefits of mentoring in an informal setting. Places strictly limited to maximise the benefits of attendance. These evenings are usually oversubscribed so earliest booking advised. Email: marketing@dormen.org.uk or call 01202 607530 to book and for more details.

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

Fri 18th

19:30 **Sleeping Beauty At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage.** Swanage Drama Company. Tickets £10 full, £9 concessions, £5 children.

19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Friday 18th Meets in the Rectory Classroom Church Hill for: Dorset Cup 'Dorset Festivals/Celebrations' and The 3 in 1 Cup 'Open' Competitions. Judge: Rob Barron. Visitors welcome. Ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841

Sat 19th

14:00 **Sleeping Beauty At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage.** Swanage Drama Company. Tickets £10 full, £9 concessions, £5 children.

19:30 **Sleeping Beauty At The Mowlem Theatre, Swanage.** Swanage Drama Company. Tickets £10 full, £9 concessions, £5 children.

20:00 **Phillip Clouts Jazz Ensemble** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

20:00 **Back to the 70s At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Sun 20th

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

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

Mon 21st

Tue 22nd

* **Give Blood At All Saints Church, Ulwell rd, Swanage.** To book an appointment call 0300 123 23 23 or visit blood.co.uk

16:30 **Swim School** free taster Early Steps 1 Class at the Purbeck Sports Centre. Limited spaces so please book early.

Fri 25th

20:00 **Burns Binge! Elvis & The Resurrectionists** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

Sat 26th

* **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Langton West Wood (Langton Matravers, Purbeck) where we will be doing traditional woodland management for the National Trust. We welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

* **Steak Night** At Clavells restaurant, Kimmeridge. Buy one steak for £18.95, get the second for £4.95! Booking essential on 01929 480 701.

20:00 **Kent du Chaine** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229

Sun 27th

* **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Langton West Wood (Langton Matravers, Purbeck) where we will be doing traditional woodland management for the National Trust. We welcome new people interested in caring for our countryside. For details see www.dcv.org.uk, email DCVpublicity@gmail.com, or text or message 07923-498760 for us to contact you.

15:30 **Rock Britannia At The Legion, Swanage.** Ffi 01929 422722.

Wed 30th

16:00 **Information Event for Prospective Town Councillors** At the Town Hall, Swanage.

Thu 31st

* **Closing Date for Applications For Purbeck Art Weeks 2019.** Ffi: membership@purbeckartweeks.co.uk

19:30 **Script Reading Evening** The Rex Players' invite everyone to a fun evening in Wareham. Free event. Further details contact John 01929 554959.

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY MONDAY

09.00 **U3A Table Tennis Group** meet at Harmans Cross VH.

09.30 **Under 2.5 years old group.** Till 11am. at Parish Hall, Wm.

09.45 **Toddler Club URC**, Sw. Till 11.15

10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093

10.30 **Flowers with Liz** at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com

13.00 **Play and Learn** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Strete Rd, Wm. Till 2.45pm

13.00 **Under 1s and Tums** at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 3pm

14.00 **Pins and Needles** at Harmans Cross VH.

14.00 **Swanage Disabled Club** meet until 4pm. Meeting place alternates between Catholic Hall & Queensmead Hall, Sw. Transport available. Call Mrs Daphne Saville on 01929 425241 ffi.

16.45 **Soccer Skills** Sw FC First Sch chldn £1 Till 5.45. 425175

18.00 **Lesbian and Gay Friendship Group** meets every Monday evening for social events and shared interests, such as meals, walking and outings. Ffi: contact Karen via email: outinpurbeck@gmail.com

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

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

19.00 **Wareham Choral Society** meet URC Meeting House, Chch St, Wm. Till 9. New singers always welcome. 554229/553460

19.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School year 10 and upwards. Till 9.30pm

19.00 **Whist.** Come & join us at the Reading Room, Church Hill, Swanage. Ffi, call 07984 968733

19.00 **Purbeck Chess Club.** Mortons House Hotel, Corfe Castle. Ffi, call Steve Peirson on 01929 552504.

19.30 **Purbeck Quire** rehearse at Wm Methodist Church. New/visiting singers (no audition necessary). String & wind players also welcome. Ffi: 423505 or 480737.

19.30 **Wareham Art Club Workshop** at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.

19.30 **Wm Folk Dance Club** Stoboro' VH. All welcome. 552763/551029

19.30 **Swanage Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, Court Road, Sw. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.

20.00 **DARTS** at the RBL Club, Sw.

20.00 **Herston Hall Management C'tee** Bingo

EVERY TUESDAY

09.00 **First Steps Toddler's Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 10.15am. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours, or sylvia@swanagemethodist.org.uk

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, Remptstone Rd, Sw. Till 1pm. Outdoors in summer. Ffi: Gina on 421689.

09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 11.30am.

09.30 **Kiddies Corner Mother & Toddler Group** (term time only) No fee - donations welcome. Purbeck Gateway Church. 551415

09.30 **Wareham Art Club Workshop** at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.

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

10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com

10.00 **Sandford Toddlers** at Sandford Community Hall, till 11.30am.

10.00 **Short Tennis** at Sw FC All ages & abilities £1.50 Till noon. 425175

10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 21 Commercial Road, Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances.

10.30 **Swanage Walking for Health Group** starter walks (15-30mins). Start from the Mowlem Shelter on Swanage Seafront. Get back into the swing of things gently! Ffi: 481000

10.30 **First Steps Toddler's Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 11.45am. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours, or sylvia@swanagemethodist.org.uk

10.30 **Wareham Walkers.** Convivial health walks for mainly older people, of up to two hours in and around Wareham, ending with coffee at a local tea room or pub. Ffi: www.wareham-walkers.org.uk or call 552933.

12.00 **Nature Tots** (0-4yrs) at Bovington Memorial Hall Garden. Until 2pm

14.00 **Swanage Walking for Health Group.** Walks of 60-90mins, various locations. Walks are very social, for a range of abilities. Walks start from car parks at

Studland, Corfe, Arne, Durlston, Langton, Acton, Worth and Kingston. Ffi: 481000.

14.00 **Harman's Cross Village Hall** Art Group Till 5

14.00 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Furzebrook VH. Roll-up session, all standards welcome. Ffi 401799

14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.

18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Girls' Night (Yr 8+)** Till 10

18.15 **Sw Cricket Club** Practice till 8.30pm

18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840

19.00 **Wareham Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, St Martin's Lane, Wm. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.

19.30 **Swanage Group of Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at Swanage Day Centre, High Street, Swanage. If you want help to stop drinking, you are welcome. Or call 01202 296000 for more details.

19.30 **Sw & Langton Folk Dance Club** Langton VH. Ffi: 421913

19.00 **Belvedere Singers** rehearsal at St Mark's CE VA Primary School, High St, Sw. Parking on-site. Till 9pm. All singers welcome! 423350.

20.00 **Carey Hall, Wm Bingo**

EVERY WEDNESDAY

09.00 **St Mark's Toddlers Group**, St Mark's Church, Swanage. Herston, Sw Till 11am

09.45 **Corfe Wool Workshop** Corfe VH, East St. Members £1.50; non-members £2.50. Till 12.00. 427067

10.00 **Short tennis for adults** at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till noon.

10.00 **Breast Feeding Group** at Wareham's Children Centre, Strecche Rd, Wm. Offering peer support and breastfeeding counsellor advice. Till 12 noon. Ffi: 552864

10.30 **Play and Learn at Kids of Wool (BH20 6DY)** until 12 noon.

13.00 **Studland Toddler Group** at Studland Village Hall until 2.30pm.

14.00 **Herston Senior Citizens** meet Herston Hall, Jubilee Rd, Sw. All welcome

14.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 3pm. With Penny at the Mowlem Community Room, Sw. Ffi 07969925502

14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.

15.00 **Extend Exercise Class**, now at Morton Village Hall. To improve strength, balance and flexibility. All welcome. Donations welcome. Ffi: 471490.

16.15 **Swanage Football Club U-7s** Training til 5.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346

17.15 **Swanage Football Club U-9s** Training til 6.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346

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

18.00 **Swanage Youth Club**. School years 7&8. Till 8.30pm

18.00 **Table Tennis** at Harman's Cross Village Hall. All ages & abilities welcome. £2.50 per session. Ffi: 424591

18.45 **Sw Hockey Club** Training Wm Sports Centre. Till 8. 424442

19.00 **Wm Bridge Club** at the Library, South St. 552046

19.00 **Swanage Town Band** meet for our weekly practice in the Council Chamber, Swanage Town Hall. New musicians warmly welcomed. Please call David Cook (musical Director) for further information on: 01929 422909.

19.15 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Crows Nest, Sw. 4/5 mile run.

19.30 **Swanage Musical Theatre** meet Swanage Bay View Complex Rehearsal Room. All welcome. Ffi: 426161

20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 10

20.15 **Dorset Buttons Morris Practice.** URC Hall, Wm. 423234/421130

20.30 **Wm Swimming Club Adults.** All standards + stroke improvement. Till 10

22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (16+)** Till 11.59

EVERY THURSDAY

08.30 **Wm Home Producers** Veg, cakes, plants, flowers, handicrafts. URC. New producers/helpers welcome. Till 11. 553798

08.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 9.30am.

09.00 **Carey Crafters** meet every other Thursday (call to check if it's this Thursday!) at Carey hall, until 12.30pm. No age restriction, all crafts welcome (we have a wide variety!), £2 charge for coffee & cake. Come share your craft or learn a new one! Always welcoming new members.

09.00 **Swanage Painting Club.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Friendly group. New members including beginners welcome. Till 1pm. Ffi: Jane on 01929 427078

09.30 **Play and Learn** at Chapel Lane, Swanage, till 11am.

09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Strecche Road, Wareham, until 12 noon.

09.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11am.

09.30 **Sensory Play** for under ones, at Bovington Centre until 10.30am

10.00 **Wm Parent & Toddler Group** During term Parish Hall, Quay Till 11.45. 556806

10.00 **Wool Country Market** D'Urbeville Hall. Cakes, preserves, plants, crafts, vegetables. Coffee & biscuits available.

10.00 **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** at Queensmead Hall, Sw. Til 11am. Adm 50p

10.00 **Volunteer Centre Drop-In** at Wareham Library till 12pm. Find our about volunteering to support community groups & charities.

10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com

10.15 **Chess** at the Cafe Tratt, Lower High Street, Swanage (from 8th February 2018). Call in for a friendly game of chess and a chat. All welcome.

10.30 **Mid-Week Market Morning Service** URC, Church St, Wm. Prayer requests to Revd. Simon Franklin 556976

10.30 **Woodworking** with Bernard and Terry at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com

11.00 **Sensory Play** for 1-4yrs old at Bovington Centre, until 12 noon.

13.30 **Under 1 year olds** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Strecche Rd, Wm. Anti-natal mums welcome. Till 3pm. Ffi: 552864.

13.30 **Toddler Group**. All Saints' Church, Sw. 423937. Till 3pm (Term times)

14.00 **Studland Chair-based Exercise** in the Village Hall, Studland. Ffi: Julie on 558139 or email: jbrad@uwclub.net

14.15 **Sw Over-60s Meet** in the Rectory Classroom, Swanage, Sw. All Welcome.

17.45 **Swanage Youth Club.** Learning Difficulties and disability (age 11-25) night. Till 7.30pm

18.00 **Five High Singers**, United Reformed Church Hall, Swanage. 11 - 18 years. Till 7pm

18.00 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Weekly evening Art Group. Aimed at beginners, at the Youth Hostel classroom, Cluny Crescent, Swanage, till 9pm.

18.15 **Sw Cricket Club** Practice till 9pm

18.30 **Swanage Sea Rowing Club Circuit Training** at Swanage Middle School. Ffi: 07776 201455

19.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 8pm. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502

19.00 **Purbeck Gateway Club** meets at Wareham Youth Centre until 9pm. Purbeck Gateway is a club for adults with learning difficulties. We meet during term time and have fun! All welcome. Ffi: Lew on 552173. Email: Lewisbell1@aol.com

19.15 **Wm Town Band Brass & Woodwind** players welcome. 551478/01202 242147

19.30 **Short Mat Bowls** in the Durbeville Hall, Wool. All standards welcome, till 9.30pm. Ffi: 552682

19.30 **Purbeck Arts Choir** meet for rehearsals, with conductor Jay Buckle, at St Mary's School, Northbrook Road, Swanage. Sept-May. All welcome. For more information please phone Liz Roberts 01929 481419

19.30 **Swanage Youth Club Youth Action** (year 7 - sixth form). Till 9.30pm

20.00 **Herston Hall OAP Committee Bingo** Sw

EVERY FRIDAY

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

09.30 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 10.30am. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502

09.30 **Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. Term time only. Until 11.30am. Ffi: Alex on 07904 412067.

10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093

10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 21 Commercial Road, Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances.

11.00 **Swanage Library Rhyme Time**, ages 0-4, until 11.30am.

11.00 **Toddler Time** For Under 5s And Carers. Wareham Library. Stories, songs and crafts. Every Friday, including school holidays. Ffi: 01929 556146

14.30 **Short Mat Bowls** at Durbeville Hall, Wool. Till 4.30pm. All standards welcome. Ffi: 552682.

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

18.00 **Purbeck War-Game & Model Club.** Royal British Legion, Sw. 426096.

18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club** 12-13 (Yr 7-9) Till 8

18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840

19.00 **Sw Youth Centre Seniors Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 9.30pm.

19.30 **Short tennis** for adults at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till 9.30pm. £3.

20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Live Bands** (as advertised) Till 10pm.

22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Late Session (Yr 9+)** till 11.59pm (members free)

EVERY SATURDAY

08.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 4/5 mile run.

09.00 **Sw CC U11 - U15** Practice till 10.30

09.30 **Sw CC U9 & U10** Practice & Kwik Cricket till 10.30

10.00 **Tea, coffee and home-made cakes** in the Parish Hall on Wareham Quay during the Community Market. Til 2pm. Bric-a-Brac stall weekly. Christian bookstall most weeks. All welcome for a warm-up and a friendly chat.

11.00 **Lego and Megablok Mayhem** at Swanage Library, until 12 noon.

20.00 **Herston OAP Committee Bingo** at Herston Hall, Sw

EVERY SUNDAY

09.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 8+ mile run.

10.00 **Arts and Crafts Market** at the Mowlem in Swanage. A wide range of local art for sale, including pottery, glass, cards, fabric and much more! To book your table, or for more information, call Tony on 01929 421321.

10.30 **Stoborough Emmanuel Baptist Church** meet at Stoborough First School, Stoborough. All very welcome.

13.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 2.30pm

14.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 4.30pm.



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