

The Purbeck Gazette

March 2019
Issue no. 230

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Remembering My Gerry Pg 16 - 17



Spring Has Sprung! Pg 21 - 27



Swanage Blues Festival Pg 44 - 45



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Editor's note...



Welcome to the March edition of your Gazette!

Spring has arrived in Purbeck; February saw bulbs pushing their way up and an abundance of snowdrops, crocus and daffodils adorned our gardens, verges and wild places.

Temperatures are steadily rising and summer is certainly on the way. Swanage kicks off the 2019 season this month with the Swanage Blues festival - see our pick of the gigs in our Arts section this month. Don't forget to purchase a full programme from local outlets to see all gig playing during the festival, as well as getting yourself a festival support wristband for a mere £10!

This month we have an emotional and educational piece written by Jane Turner, wife of Gerry Turner, who sadly went missing from their home in Swanage in March 2018 and remains missing. I encourage you all to read Jane's words and we applaud Jane for her courage in being so open in sharing their story with you all, in the hope it may help others in a similar situation. Our thoughts are with the whole family.

All of your letters, updates, events and so on are included, as always, this month - if you've nothing planned, take a look through the packed pages and at the spotlight diary at the rear of the magazine and start booking some interesting dates into your diary - there's always loads going on in Purbeck!

Have a great March everyone!

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We distribute 20,000 copies of the Purbeck Gazette every month to properties in Purbeck utilising Logiforce GPS-tracked delivery teams.

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The **April 2019** edition has a **deadline** of 8th March, and will be distributed from 25th - 29th March 2019.
The **May 2018** edition has a **deadline** of 9th April and will be distributed from 29th Apr - 3rd May 2019.

Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - Mar '19

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

Swanage Town Council Meetings - March 2019

Planning & Consultation Committee	Mon 4th	6.30pm
Tourism Committee	Wed 13th	10am
Council	Mon 25th	7pm

Wareham Town Council Meetings - March 2019

Council	Tue 5th	7pm
Planning & Transport	Mon 11th	6.30pm
Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Thur 14th	7pm
Museum	Tue 19th	7pm
Policy, Resources & Finance	Mon 25th	7pm

Purbeck DC Meetings - Open to public - March 2019

Licensing Committee	Wed 6th	9.15am
Policy Group	Wed 13th	7pm
Council	Tue 19th	7pm
Audit & Governance Committee	Tue 26th	2.30pm
Planning Committee	Wed 27th	9.15am

Meetings are subject to change. To double check, see: <http://www.dorsetforyou.com/meetings/purbeck> and see 'dates of council and other meetings'

About Purbeck Media Ltd

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Langton Dawn, by Jason Selman

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DEADLINE FOR APRIL IS 12 NOON, FRI 8th MARCH

Your Letters

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

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

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

APRIL edition deadline: noon, FRI 8th MARCH

Coastal Revival

Dear Editor,

It was great to see the government provide funding to help restore three well-known coastal landmarks in Dorset to their former glory.

Bounce Back Arts CIC in Weymouth received £50,000 to improve the exterior terrace of Nothe Fort, the Marine Theatre in Lyme Regis secured £32,000 to redevelop the venue and improve access while Upton Country Park in Poole was given £7,150 to revive the pleasure gardens surrounding Upton House.

They were among twenty-three projects across the country to share almost £1 million from the Coastal Revival Fund. Historic buildings and landmarks play a key role in attracting visitors to our seaside towns and boosting the local economy.

This funding will help some of Dorset's most cherished landmarks reach their potential, ensuring they can be used and enjoyed by generations to come.

Chris Loder, Chairman, Dorset Conservatives.

Upper Woodsford Plans

Dear Gazette,

Ref: Upper Woodsford

'Campaigners urge council to consider 'building to the east of Dorchester.'

'My company, Nexus Planning, act on behalf of the landowners promoting an alternative new settlement strategy at Upper Woodsford adjacent to Crossways.

Councillor Gardner, in response to a question at a meeting of the recent Full District Council, indicated that 'a study had taken place concluding Upper Woodsford was not suitable and would need considerable investment'.

This is simply not the case. The Council's strategy to allocate land at North Dorchester stems directly from the current adopted Local Plan process. In the run up to the Local Plan Examination in 2014, when a new settlement at Upper Woodsford had not been promoted as an option, the Council was vehemently against growth at North Dorchester due to, amongst other things, environmental impact.

To avoid having to make a decision to plan for and allocate the required number of dwellings to support the level of required growth for the period up to 2031, the Council chose, in 2014, to reduce the Local Plan period. So, they planned to deliver the required annual number of dwellings but over a shorter period to 2028.

The Local Plan Inspector reluctantly agreed to this strategy but stipulated that the Council review the Local Plan within three years and provide a strategy to accommodate the additional long term growth. The Inspector's only guidance was that this growth needed to be 'in the vicinity' of Dorchester. Officers, and subsequently the Council, have interpreted this incorrectly. They have concluded, as a starting position, that the only way of accommodating large scale growth, as directed by the Local Plan Inspector, is through an urban extension to Dorchester - despite political and local concern about impact on the historic town.

The 'study' Councillor Gardner refers to is the 'Sustainability Appraisal' which was published with the recent Local Plan Review consultation. That study did not 'compare' the merit of a new settlement at Upper Woodsford against a North Dorchester option - there has never been such a study; which in itself is a legal flaw in the process as national planning policy requires Local Planning Authorities to 'consider all reasonable alternatives'. Instead the study only appraises Upper Woodsford against other sites

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promoted at Crossways and dismisses it on the grounds that the site is away from the settlement (of Crossways) and would require significant infrastructure. Councillor Gardner is comparing apples with pears.

Through the Local Plan consultation, Upper Woodsford has now emerged as a serious option but the District Council comes across as if it had made up its mind some time ago on its growth strategy and, despite growing opposition to it, has not so far shown the political appetite to publicly debate or consider what is a very viable and deliverable strategic site and growth option. Yes infrastructure costs will be high, but not out of proportion to the scale of the development and the housing numbers that would be provided.

All major development, including North Dorchester, have high infrastructure costs but this is only material if the costs would prevent housing delivery.

A proper political and public debate needs to be had on how housing 'in the vicinity of Dorchester' can and should be delivered.

Yours sincerely, Roger Tustain, Managing Director. 07919 045191, 0118 2149340.

Council Totally Unsupportive

Dear Editor,

I am writing to let people know about Sunny Glade and what myself and my family have been experiencing in the Purbeck area.

Some fourteen years ago, my mother died in very sad and shocking circumstances. Lots needed to be sorted out, which took a matter of years. This included some land and some animals. Only six months after her death, we received a rather aggressive letter from Purbeck District Council, whereby I was called to a meeting with the planning officer. This was over my late mother's land where some people had moved caravans, coaches (and themselves) as well as other items in the fields or the barns, without our permission.

The council were not happy; we had our knuckles wrapped, told to deal with it but that was it, no support offered. Then three years later, the same issue arose, we were in trouble with the council. Yet this time, when we had time to deal with the loss of our mother along with all that entails, our take was different; in fact we were thankful of their contact, they were right, these coaches and caravans should not have been there, we asked them to take them away, we were fully supportive in assisting them with the removal of the said vehicles.

Guess what, we didn't hear from them again. I could go on - I won't. Some years later we are still in the same situation, in fact worse. We have spent in-excess of £40,000 on legal advice, solicitor's letters, court hearings and land agents and got absolutely nowhere. The people in these coaches and caravans/ are now trying to 'claim' our inheritance, using Legal Aid of course.

In fact, one particular person is claiming that he lives there when he really doesn't - he has a barge up in London and treats his coach and our land as a second home! It is totally disgusting that this is the position the council and the legal system has left us with, particularly under such tragic circumstances.

If anyone has any useful advice or guidance it really would be gratefully received as we are now being threatened with court action due to these abhorrent individuals trying to claim ownership and we believe, in order to develop the land; this is an outrage.

Please forward any helpful contacts or advice through to the Purbeck Gazette at 17b Commercial Road, Swanage, Dorset, email: ed@purbeckgazette.co.uk as we currently wish to keep our details private due to the nature of the problems we are facing. The Gazette office will pass any contact details directly on to me.

Kind regards, Name and address supplied, withheld on request.



Square & Compass

Worth Matravers. 01929 439229

LIVE ACTS FOR MARCH

Sat	2	8pm	Ranagri
Sun	3	2pm	Sarah Jane Scouten
Sat	9	8pm	Junco Shakers
Sat	16	8pm	Thunder and Rain
Fri	22	8pm	Porchlight Smokers
Sat	23	8pm	Medicine Creek
Sun	31	2pm	Askew Sisters

Regulating Water

Dear Editor,

Water Rates Hogwash

The unsigned article in the February Gazette (Wessex Water '100% owned overseas') is sufficiently selective and misleading as to demand a response. All the Water companies are strictly regulated by OFWAT which limits the profits that can be made stringently.

As a private company, Wessex shares are traded on the London Stock Market. Anyone can buy them, their nationality and personal wealth have no bearing on the cost of water and sewerage services provided by the company to us consumers. The remuneration of their employees is set by market forces, as in any other company, or indeed among Government and Trade Union Employees.

It should be self-evident that the cost of maintaining the constantly expanding services demanded by OFWAT will be much higher in a thinly populated area such as Purbeck than in a city. We enjoy the countryside we live in and must accept that the fixed costs of these services will be spread over fewer households.

Perhaps the answer is nationalisation? The Trade Unions would love that: it enormously increases their bargaining power if they can hold the whole country to ransom at once. And the 'responsible minister' is always a softer touch for excessive wage demands than a chief executive. The latter may be fired by his shareholders if he concedes a settlement liable to bankrupt the company. A government minister knows he can always pass on the extra costs to his captive clientele.

Older people tend to be less dazzled by the Corbynista vision of nationalisation of everything than the young, who have never experienced what it brings. Some of us can well remember that nationalised industries could charge their customers whatever the wage settlements with their Trade Unions demanded; that safety of workers and the public was not greater; that service standards and civility were foreign concepts; and working practices were laughable and corrupt. I can well remember when it was commonly understood that Gas Board fitters only worked for the Board in the morning, generally identifying faults to set up cash-in-hand jobs for themselves in the afternoon.

Private enterprise, to paraphrase Churchill, is the worst form of business practice apart from every other system that has been tried. As well as anything else, it was private enterprise that built most of the services we take for granted today: water and sewerage services are just one example.

Richard Cottrell, Langton Matravers, by email

Dysfunctional Basket Case?

Dear Editor,

Britain was once regarded as a model for democracy and common sense, but increasingly it seems to have become a basket case. A visitor to these shores could be forgiven for thinking that the country is being run by a dysfunctional government and where the main opposition party is woefully inadequate.

Regarding Brexit, if Theresa May had been prepared to sit down with all the opposition parties shortly after becoming Prime Minister, a compromise might well have been found which would have been acceptable to the majority. Instead, she completely ignored those who had voted Remain and tried to appease the far right ideologues in her own party, which she

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still seems to be doing. She is now in the absurd position of having voted against her own withdrawal agreement by backing the Brady amendment, which risks putting the peace process in Northern Ireland in jeopardy. Moreover, a responsible leader and government should have ruled out a no deal Brexit from the start.

The attitude of the right-wing elements in the Conservative Party frankly beggars belief. Everything, it seems, can be sacrificed providing their precious version of Brexit goes ahead. Never mind business (Boris Johnson's view of business was expressed in a four letter word), the Good Friday agreement, the under-funding and daily crisis in the NHS, a prison service where the criminals virtually run the prisons, drug dealing and knife crime out of control, schools where parents have to buy the books, councils unable to provide local services because of stringent cuts, a railway network not fit for purpose, food banks everywhere and homelessness on the rise. The Conservative government has failed this country on so many issues, and it is an even greater dereliction of duty that so much is being wasted on Brexit. If there is rioting on the streets, as some predict, it will surely be directed at those responsible for this mess.

Unfortunately, the position of the leader of the main opposition party, Jeremy Corbyn, is almost equally puerile. Corbyn has refused to clearly endorse a second referendum, despite the overwhelming backing for this from the Labour membership. Like May, Corbyn is intransigent and lacks the imagination and vision to reach out, preferring instead to stick to his left-wing ideology. Meanwhile, the country is crying out for leadership.

It seems clear that what is needed is a new political party of the centre, which would draw its support from moderate elements in both the Conservative and Labour parties as well as the Liberal Democrats and Greens. This 'Centre Alliance' could then field one candidate in an election rather than several and would have a very good chance of defeating those standing on a right-wing or left-wing agenda.

The Tory MP for South Dorset, Richard Drax, for instance, apparently supports leaving the EU without a deal and trading under WTO rules. I do not believe his views reflect either the majority of his constituents or local businesses and the best way of ousting him at the next general election would be for one progressive candidate representing the moderate, centre ground to stand against him. It is time to return the country to moderation and common sense.

Yours sincerely, David Leadbetter, Swanage, by email.

We Are All Equal!

Dear Editor,

What point is David Hollister making by using a quotation from *Animal Farm* in his column 'Telling it like it is...' (February 2019)? The quotation: "Some animals are more equal than others" is, after all, a deliberate corruption of the seventh (and most important) Commandment of Animalism: "All animals are equal".

Is he suggesting that the "hard-up working people" are the animals and the "authorities" are the pigs who have re-written the commandments to excuse their (increasingly human) behaviour? If so, it's a cheap shot and a lazy use of a quotation. I worked for DCC from 2003 to 2016 and although I was not a very senior 'officer' I can assure him that DCC employees are hard-up working people too who were, and are, trying to do their best in the face of extraordinary funding cuts.

He may not believe in the ballot box but, to me, it's very much better than the system (Stalinist Russia, Hitler's Europe - take your pick) that Orwell was describing in *Animal Farm*. David Hollister asks: "Do you recall ever being asked if you wanted the plastic fivers and tenners that have been foisted on us?" Of course not, but we might have been asked if we wanted our bank notes to be more durable and more difficult to fake. I think by adopting the persona of the 'little guy against the uncaring behemoths' your columnist is able to sneer from the sidelines instead of really telling it like it is.

Richard Jacobs, Swanage, by email

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Festival Needs Your Support

Dear Gazette,

Swanage Fish Festival June 8th & 9th 2019.

For the fifth year in succession we are holding the Swanage Fish Festival on the weekend of June 8th-9th this year. Our main aim is to raise funds for three local charities: - The Swanage Lifeboat, The Fisherman's Mission and The Coastwatch as well as raise awareness of the importance of the sea to the local community and worldwide.

We cannot meet our goal without the help of local businesses and members of the public and that is why I am writing to you.

We have set up two sponsorship packages that would enable us to give you as much publicity as possible but to also maximise any potential donation.

Package A - £300

We will supply a banner, 2m x 600mm, with your artwork for display on the Swanage Fish Festival site;

A presence on the Swanage Fish Festival website;

Social media coverage on our Swanage Fish Festival pages;

Your logo featuring in the new edition of the PurbeXperience magazine with a publication run of more than 29,000 copies.

Package B - from £100

For £100 per square metre, your own banner will be displayed on the Swanage Fish Festival Site.

Social media coverage on our Swanage Fish Festival pages.

If you would like to help us stage this superb event and take advantage of either package then please do not hesitate to contact us at either of the emails below.

Alternatively, if you wish to speak to one of us face to face, we would be happy to come and see you.

Please be advised that all logos need to be provided to us for publication in the PurbeXperience magazine before the 13th February 2019.

All the very best and thank you for your time, Swanage Fish Festival
 emma@fishfestival.uk or julian@fishfestival.uk

Join The Choir!

Dear Readers,

Something to sing about?

At St George's Church in Langton we have a small choir which sings on two Sundays each month. We now wish to enlarge our number which will enable us to support the congregation and its worship through the offering of choral music more effectively.

As the new Director of Music at the church, I am seeking people who may be willing to consider this as an activity they could join, from March, on just two Sundays a month, primarily at the 9.30am service, plus a rehearsal during the week preceding each service at a time to suit, and to be decided.

We would welcome anyone who could bring enthusiasm and a basic ability to sing in tune. Previous experience of choral singing is not essential and all voices, high, low and in-between, male and female would be valued equally. Those without experience will learn quickly from those with, and the more people we have, the less exposed anyone will feel and the wider variety and quality of music we can create.

Singing in a choir is enjoyable, absorbing and thoroughly worthwhile. Should you have an ounce of interest or curiosity as you read this, do not hesitate to have a chat with me, by phone, email, or in person at church. It may not be for you but please give it a try, and then make up your mind! I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who may find this of interest.

Richard Earl, 01929 475822, choir@langtonstgeorge.org.uk

Hazardous 'Improvements'

Dear Editor

RE: Improvements and safety issues for the Junction A351 & B3069, Langton Matravers to Swanage road.

We must be realistic. This junction was planned to be a deterrent to prevent large vehicles coming into and out of Langton by this road. Sadly, nobody has told every large vehicle driver about the plan. The junction is now a bigger hazard than the vehicles.

Starting from the left as you approach from Langton, remove the pedestrian refuge. Virtually nobody walks down from Langton in order to turn left. They will usually be heading towards Swanage, so the refuge would be better sited on the Swanage side of the junction. There is already a footway provided.

Remove the 'bulge' on the left-hand side; it forces the bus, and other large vehicles, to cross over to the wrong side and then block the road whilst waiting to turn back on itself to get to Swanage.

Remove the centre 'island'. It is an obstruction not an assistance. Possibly replace by a painted one which would offer guidance without adding a hazard. Remove the right hand 'bulge'. This makes the turn from Swanage into Langton difficult for all vehicles, but especially so for the bus and other large vehicles.

Bill Wilson, by email

Theatre Lovers Wanted

Dear Readers,

Can I make an appeal through the letters page of the Gazette with regards to the Dorset Theatre Goers Club - Purbeck?

This very well-loved organisation which arranges trips from the Purbeck area to provincial theatres (generally monthly) is in desperate need of new committee members to continue the smooth running of the club.

Following resignations from longstanding committee members, we urgently need new people from the membership to come forward. Computer literacy would be a most helpful asset.

The Committee meets every other month to look at future shows coming up in the region and decide which ones to see, and the work is shared between the whole committee.

Without any replacement help, it is likely that the club will have to stop running, so please consider if you can help in any way.

To make contact, please email Carol Payne at pearcepayne@talktalk.net or call 01929 425458.

Sincerely, Roza Aldridge

An Amazing Response

Dear Editor,

A big thank you to the new volunteers to continue Wareham's Credit Union Service Point

The Wareham Service Point, of Wyvern Savings & Loans Credit Union, opens on Thursday 10am - 12 noon in Not Just Sundaes Café South Street, Wareham.

After a letter advertising the plight of our Wareham branch closing through lack of volunteers, we have been pleasantly surprised at the number of local folk who have volunteered. Having been accepted, they are attending training in February. The response was so positive that we may be able to open another branch, in Swanage or Wool, in the near future.

We really appreciate the local response to our call and hope we may be able

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to retain, and even grow our service, for the local folk to ensure that loan sharks are avoided. We also signpost services available to those in need. Anyone who may be interested in joining us; it entails about three hours per week on a rota basis, so involves usually two sessions a month. Yours sincerely, Beryl Ezzard, Teller – Wyvern Savings & Loans, Wareham Branch.

01929 550138 / 07860 503944 for more info.

Year Of The Pig

Dear Editor,

New year's greetings to our Chinese residents in the year of the pig. This has however caused some problems since Peppa has now been banned back home for being workshy and degenerate.

Regimes often sight fantasies as a threat, where Peppa pig has a target market, somewhere between three and six-year olds, or when Stalin proffered a death threat on John Wayne.

Some readers may recall a summer afternoon when Peppa Pig opened the St Mary's summer fete, looking resplendent in her pink. A caring single mother down at the local food bank.

Yours sincerely, MJK Hamilton by hand.

Brexit Battle

Dear Editor,

Calm is broken as a distant chain saw dissolves morning dew...

This Brexit that is tirelessly on our lips is primarily spiritual in nature. (We know it but should not utter it!)

The battle that rages daily is, in reality, against powers of darkness that seek to diminish and dull the will of the individual, i.e., common law, and cloak the inner light of common sense.

But there are voices, amongst us, that speak out strongly.

Indeed, who wants to be governed by unelected bureaucrats over the English Channel

And so, thank you for your much-needed coverage.

From David Barsley, Swanage, by hand

Join Santa's Helpers!

Dear Readers,

Ever fancied being involved in one of Wareham's long-standing traditions? If so, come and join Santa's Helpers! We are a very small friendly group of local people who meet monthly in the Red Lion Hotel and arrange Santa's yearly visit to Wareham.

We have just celebrated our 60th anniversary and had an amazing evening, bringing everyone in Wareham together.

We need new volunteers to help organise this event and assist with putting up the Christmas tree lights in Wareham. Help is also needed with building the grotto, staging, road closures, marshalling and the parade.

If you would like to be a part of something special and help keep this event going in the future, please come along to the Red Lion at 7.30pm on the last Monday of any month or contact our Chairman, Colin Appleton on 552110. Everyone will be warmly welcomed.

Sadly, without new volunteers the 2019 Santa event may not take place. We can no longer run this event with only eight committee members.

Kind regards, Anya, by email

Such Caring Friends

Dear Readers,

I have been in Poole Hospital and Swanage Hospital, where I got excellent care. I had a fall and fractured the Humerus bone in my left arm and it's not funny. I was helped by my neighbours, Colin and Sue and Magdalena, to get an ambulance. It was dark and I tripped over our step and could not get up, I lay there for fifteen minutes.

I want to thank them all for their help. I especially want to thank my neighbour next door, Charlotte Robinson, who got on the internet and told everyone of my plight. She also phoned Dorset Reclaim and when I eventually got home, I did not know my own house.

There was a new bed, new carpet, two reclining chairs and so on. Neighbours had come in and painted too. I can't believe there are so many caring people in this world.

I want to remember them all, God bless them.

Marie Neilson by hand

A Democratic Myth

Dear Readers,

Did Mr Leadbetter waste as much ink when Blair was elected by less than 25% of the electorate or when the rail unions called a strike with only 8% of voting membership in favour?

Does he not realise that corporations run countries now not governments? Iraq was only invaded because Hussein was going to drop the petro dollar.

Iraq is now an American state run entirely for the benefit of the corporations. Libya was destroyed because Gaddafi was going to start a Pan African bank so African countries did not have to go to the IMF. The President of Chile was going to nationalise the copper mines. The corporate world would not tolerate that. So an elected head of state was eliminated.

The democratic world is just a myth. Who elected Junker and his cohorts? Did you?

William Makenzie, by hand

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TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

Hello? Anybody Out There?

by David Hollister

Regular readers will know that I hold Dorset County Council and its offshoots in poor regard. This is partly due to the astonishingly high salaries paid to the astonishing number of senior executives, and partly due to the fact that so many departments – Dorset Highways and Dorset Waste Partnership to name but two – seem to be incapable of doing the jobs for which their officers, if not their staff, are being well paid out of our Council Tax.

New year – new council – new officers. New attitudes? I think not. My friend Judith Price from the Wareham Town Trust is a tireless campaigner on the Wareham footbridge issue. Judith wrote a really friendly welcoming letter to the new Chief Executive of Dorset, Matt Prosser, who takes up office on 1st April when the Unitary Authority comes into being.

She explained succinctly what the problems were and what has been done to date; she asked for fifteen minutes of his time and submitted a full dossier of documents dating back to the time when the Public Rights appertaining to the crossing were unlawfully removed and the cost of maintenance and staffing of the crossing were passed from Network Rail to DCC.

I have studied that dossier and it seems to me that someone at that time was totally clueless as to the implications of that decision, which appears to have put a substantial financial burden on to the ratepayer. Judith explained that the only way around the problem now seems to be a Judicial Review challenging that decision.

By way of reply, Prosser's secretary simply told Judith that the matter was being referred to Matthew Piles, who is Service Director for Environment, Infrastructure and Economy. Clearly such a small and insignificant issue as the Wareham crossing did not even merit the attention of the Chief.

A formal appointment was made in mid-January for Piles and Daryl Turner, the Cabinet Member for Natural and Built Environment. Judith and her colleagues turned up on time. Piles and Turner didn't. Instead they sent a new man, Wayne Sayers, the Transport Planning Team Leader at Dorset County Council, who Judith describes as a 'nice young man'.

So now we know where we stand as regards the new Unitary Council. Wareham? Hardly worth a look. Do we know whether they'll continue to reject Network Rail's attempts to foist this horrible bridge on us? Will they be cowed by Network Rail's thinly veiled threats to close the pedestrian crossing on 'health and safety' grounds?

Network Rail must have been rubbing their hands in glee after the recent 'near miss' on the crossing; two young lads were almost involved in a potentially fatal collision. This actually made the BBC news which alleged that: "A rail worker has been suspended after a number of near misses at a level crossing, which was closed on multiple occasions due to staff sickness and the apparent inability of STM, the company contracted to supply crossing attendants, to provide staff to cover the vacant shifts left by the suspended member of staff."

The BBC goes on to say "the level crossing, once branded one of the most dangerous in the country, is due to be shut as part of a national programme of closures over safety concerns". Huh? Do they know something that we don't? Or is the BBC just taking its information from Network Rail? Guards working on the gate have suggested to me that

they have been trying for some time to get existing safety equipment either repaired or replaced, and that at one stage they were relying on an iPad to tell them when the train was coming! MP Michael Tomlinson says he has taken this up with Network Rail and with DCC and it is "being investigated". Come on, Michael, finger out! Write to me c/o Purbeck Gazette and let us all know the result of your investigations.

A reader advised me that "Bovington School is going to be knocked down at a cost of £10.million to the Council Taxpayer! Only built in 1953, it could be modified or extended as there is plenty of land to the side of the school for them to do this. Portacabins are to be built for the children while they build another school!"

I took this up with local Councillor and prospective Unitary Candidate Laura Miller who assures me that they had a: "really positive open public meeting there before Christmas. The school will be run by Delta Academy, who run amongst others, the Quay School in Poole.

"It's more cost effective to rebuild; asbestos and lack of accessibility mean that it would be way more expensive to revamp. The school will be a specialist SEN school and will combine mainstream curriculum with vocational courses, there are links already being made with the engineering department at the Tank Museum and plans to link in with the Purbeck School 6th Form.

"There's a massive need for this kind of provision – it will actually save money on taxis for students who currently need to be taken quite some distance to access suitable education, sometimes out of County. The school board are actively seeking local input and have had interest from residents about running extracurricular clubs.

"It's not surprising, but a bit sad, that there are negative comments flying about; but we will organize further open meetings, and everyone is welcome, so hopefully anybody with concerns or questions can come along".

I do hope that Laura's assurances will put your minds at rest that this particular sow's ear will end up as a much-needed silk purse, but nevertheless I'd be interested to see the asbestos survey when they eventually knock it down.....

You may not realize it but only three area planning committees will cover the new Dorset Council when it takes over in April. Apparently, the problem is making sure that each committee has enough members as the number of councillors in the area is being reduced from 170 to 82. Cllr Peter Wharf (Purbeck) has expressed concern that fewer committees would mean less of a connection with local people. I hate to say "I told you so" but I told you so!

I had to laugh when I read that Facebook has objected to the shadow authority using the name "Dorset Council" because "Dorset Council" is already in use by an authority in Tasmania. The issue was revealed recently at a meeting for the new authority. Jennifer Lewis, the Strategic Communications and Engagement Manager at Dorset County Council said: "the situation is not ideal". She said "trying to talk to a human being from Facebook has so far proved impossible." now she knows how we feel about Dorset Council.

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Drax Calls For Police Support

Give Police What They Need To Keep Our People Safe

Richard Drax, MP for South Dorset, has called for more money for the Police, saying that without increased funding, "more frontline officers might have to go and this is unacceptable to me and my constituents." Speaking during the Parliamentary debate on the Police Grant, Drax said, "the police force is a force, not a service. Its job is to prevent crime and catch criminals. Let's cut out the waffle, give it the assets and money to get on with the job and keep our people safe."

After stressing his gratitude to Dorset police and their leaders, Drax said that Dorset Police faced three main problems; the continued reduction of government core funding, the increasing complexity and volume of demand and the unavoidable but continued financial pressure, including police pensions. "The police work for longer, retire older and no longer have a final salary scheme, which reduces pensions bills, but the Treasury is still attempting to pass pension costs on to police budgets," said Drax. He added that while Dorset police were grateful for the £3 million given this year by the Treasury towards pensions, it still left them £500,000 short and there was no guarantee of future assistance.

Drax also pointed out that while the increased capital grant from government is set at £67.3 million for 2019/20, an increase of 2.1% over last year, it represents £87.30 per person, down from £91.70 eight years ago. The figure is "the second lowest nationally," he added. "While we are grateful for this increase, pressures for the next year are even greater," said Drax. "The bottom line, even with a continued and relentless drive on efficiencies, is that there will still be a need to increase the precept for 2019/20. The Secretary of State has given permission for PCCs to raise the precept by £24 but this is a delicate matter...and household budgets are already under strain."

Saying that in Dorset "we have no more than fifty officers at night on duty at any one time," Drax also said the "biggest single cost to police resources has been welfare-related calls, with more repeat calls from the vulnerable, including those with mental health issues. Dorset's population has increased by 20,000—by about 3%—this year, with changes to demographics and diversity, but there is absolutely no national recognition of this financially."

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National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast

View from the Lookout

March is a particularly interesting time of year. The days begin to draw out and at the end of the month we see the clocks going forward (I always remember what to do by little phrase "Spring forward, Fall back"!).

Spring officially starts on the day of the Spring Equinox, which this year is on Wednesday, March 20. The word equinox comes from Latin and means "equality of night and day." So, the equinox occurs at two specific moments in time when the sun is exactly above the equator. From a watchkeeper's point of view the Equinox often marks a period of large spring tides.

As with any period of change we often get great variation in the weather. One day can be sunny and calm, another day windy and rough. Watching these changing seascapes is one of the joys of being a watchkeeper. The second verse of John Masefield's "Sea Fever" poem could have been written with a watch keeper in mind!

"I must go down to the seas again, for the call of the running tide
Is a wild call and a clear call that may not be denied;
And all I ask is a windy day with the white clouds flying,
And the flung spray and the blown spume, and the sea-gulls crying."

Moving through the month we see the bird migration beginning. As we scan the horizon at this time of year, we often see a stream of gannets flying past. The size of a goose, the gannet is the largest of our seabirds. Bright white with a black-tipped six-foot wingspan, a creamy orange head and a long dagger-like bill, they are mesmerising to watch.

In rough weather they often hug the coastline and can be seen plunge,

diving off Peveril Point. We see them hovering over a shoal of fish, before turning and folding their wings and plummeting head first into the water.

At times they can reach a speed of over sixty miles per hour and have air sacs under the skin in their face and chest. These cushion the blow when they hit the water. The name gannet comes from an old English word meaning "strong". It is meant to refer to their flying ability and it is easy to see why, as they soar effortlessly over the waves.

As well as the variation in the seascape and wildlife changes our coastline is constantly changing, being shaped by the erosive forces of wind, rain and the sea. The geology at Peveril Point is particularly vulnerable to these forces and we regularly see evidence of cliff falls when we do our morning check.

The rocks are a mixture of solid Purbeck limestone and layers of more easily eroded sands and clays. Just recently we have seen the remains of a World War Two gun base slide down the cliff. These cliff falls occur episodically and can often happen without warning.

We have one of the most amazing coastlines in the world and love people coming to see it. However, it's worth remembering a few simple rules to make sure any visit is enjoyable and safe.

Take care on the Coast Path - it's rugged, natural terrain.

Keep away from cliff edges and overhangs.

Always supervise children, especially near cliff edges.

Cliff-top walking can be dangerous in high winds.

Beware of taking shortcuts across beaches - you may be cut off by the tide.

Do not sit under cliffs or climb them.

Keep dogs under close control.

Visit Dorset have worked with the Dorset Coast Forum to produce a really amusing video to help get over the safety message. It's great for children especially. The link is

<https://www.visit-dorset.com/explore/coast/be-coastwise>.

Be safe, be coastwise.

Two Couples Share Secret To Long-Lasting Happiness



Not all couples can look back on their lives and proudly say that they discovered the secret to long lasting happiness with their partners. However, two couples in a Poole Care Home provided their experience and knowledge on getting through the ups and downs of a long-lasting relationship.

Residents David and Ruth Cole along with Dennis and Kathleen Langdon were treated to a romantic Valentine's Day lunch at The Links Bupa care home, on Golf Links Road, in Broadstone. Reflecting on their many years together, both couples said that "trusting each other" and "sharing everything equally" are vital to a happy and successful marriage.

David and Ruth Cole who have been together for an impressive fifty-four years, agreed that they had "been fortunate" and "there's no magic formula."

"We enjoy the same things and share many hobbies and interests. In time, our children joined in with our hobbies and interests too. Share everything equally, as one family", they said.

Dennis who has been married to Kathleen for forty-five years, said, "I'm still



in love with [Kathleen] even now. My advice for a successful marriage is not to run to a solicitor at every argument! Trust each other."

Equally, Kathleen said, "My advice is to have a mind of your own, and to also love yourself!"

Sarah Tolley, Resident Experience Manager at The Links, said: "David, Ruth, Kay and Den have truly mastered the art of a happy marriage."

"Everyone can all learn something from these remarkable people. So, we wanted to do something special to mark the occasion - we even cracked open a bottle of Prosecco!"



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Wareham Town Council Update

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



Why was the Planning and Transport Committee considering planning applications before the deadline for submissions from the public, asked Ann Hewitt.

Because of the tight deadline imposed on the Town Council by Purbeck District Council (PDC), was the answer from the Town Clerk's office. The public can attend the Committee's meetings and the applications to be

discussed are advertised on the notice board outside the Town Hall and on the Town Council's website.

PDC and Poole Council are collaborating on a Poole Harbour Recreation Supplementary Planning Document which will seek to mitigate the effects of people on the habitat of protected birds. Developments around the harbour will incur a charge to be used for wardening, for example.

You can support the Youth Centre in two ways: come along to a Curry Evening on Saturday 2nd March and if you are over 50 play table tennis, pool, cards or Scrabble at the Not So Youth Club from 10 to 12 on Thursday mornings term time. For more information about these events at the Youth Centre, phone 552934.

Councilor Critchley expressed his anger at the reduced level crossing opening times. County Council Ezzard said that she was having meetings about the crossing and trying at the very least to get advance notices about the closures displayed. It is not true that there will definitely be lifts at the station. Only in April will the result of a funding bid be known and then the planning application would have to be approved.

There will be a service at Lady St Mary Church to mark the end of PDC and to look forward to Dorset Council. Purbeck District Council assets will transfer to Dorset Council. Westport House will stay for one year, possibly longer, and will be providing services to the public.

The Carnival Committee was hoping to regenerate local interest in community by organising Carnival events before the Carnival Week. The Mayor was certainly impressed by Elvis!

Now is the time to consider whether you would like to stand for election as a Wareham Town Councillor. Find out more from the Town Clerk's office on 01929 553006 or the website at www.wareham-tc.gov.uk, where you can also see minutes of meetings though not up-to-date and not of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The last meetings of this Town Council will be on Tuesdays 5th March and 16th April at 7 pm in the Town Hall (enter by the side door), public welcome.

On 4th April the list of candidates for election to Dorset Council will be published on the dorsetforyou website. Election day is 2nd May with Dorset Council votes counted on 3rd May and Town and Parish Council votes counted on 4th May.



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Little Birds Donate



Dear Readers

In the picture above (from left to right) is Jude French, Deputy Leader, Derek Evans handing over a cheque (on behalf of Anglebury Lodge and of Mark Masons), with Jodie Edmunds, Leader of Little Birds Preschool.

Little Birds preschool is a small charity run preschool in Swanage. We support vulnerable families whose children are in attendance at Little Birds; and as a charity and with government funding frozen until 2020 funds available to us to provide the 'outstanding' care for these children are stretched.

We approached the Masonic lodge asking for support to enable us to provide the children with extra resources and for support with a substantial project in the pipeline that will support the children's learning and benefit our families.

They have been extremely generous and presented the preschool with a cheque for £1000 after masonic members attended the preschool's nativity on Tuesday 15th January.

They have also donated several other generous cheques from masonic events they have had in aid of the preschool. People may not be aware that they support local causes in our community and are involved in numerous projects.

The masonic lodge have been amazing in supporting us and we are extremely grateful for their donations and look forward to continuing working with them.

Many Thanks, Jodie Edmunds, Leader, and Jude French, Deputy Leader

Swanage Area Forum

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING

DEVELOPING A COAST DEFENCE PLAN FOR SWANAGE



WEDNESDAY 13TH MARCH - 7PM

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Swanage Bay View, 30th March, 10am - 4pm

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THE GREAT ESCAPE:

Intrepid teams, dressed as convicts, will leave Swanage at approx 7.30am to be taken to a police station at a town within 100 miles of Swanage. After escaping from the police station, they have to find their way back to Swanage using their initiative - no money or bank cards are allowed to be used on transport.

THE MAIN FUNCTION ROAD:

A selection of fantastic stalls, raffle, tombola, games, entertainment with Kelp! and Karl Lattimer, teas, coffees and light refreshments, with the bar open for those who like a tippie or two!

'2 Wish Upon A Star' table - this was one of Dani and Dan Elm's chosen charities at Darcy's funeral and we are pleased to be able to sell their Star pins at this special event.

MARQUEE - THE KID'S ZONE:

Activities with Swanage Bay View Entertainers, games, stalls, raffle, tombola and refreshments. Plus, our amazing local heroes, the Fire Fighters, along with their fire engine. Our Police and Coastguards will also be there to meet and mix with the kiddies - an experience not to be missed! (All '999' members will be attending subject to operational duties on the day).

PLEASE ALL JOIN US FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT!



THE RATPACK
SWANAGE BAY VIEW
The Big Double D
Charity Event
Saturday 30th March
Tickets at £15 are
available at
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TEL 01929 422130

Community Involvement In Purbeck's Railway

Community involvement in Purbeck's heritage and main line railways – for the benefit of residents, visitors and the environment – is being given an important boost with the appointment of the area's first Community Rail Partnership Officer. Employed by the Swanage Railway, and funded by the South Western Railway through the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership (PCRP), Kelly Marshall will be working with communities across the Purbeck area as well as with members of the PCRP.

The Partnership's first officer, Kelly's geographical 'patch' is the Swanage Railway heritage line from Swanage to Corfe Castle and Norden as well as the South Western Railway main line between Holton Heath, Wareham, Wool and Moreton.

A delighted Kelly said: "I am looking forward to the challenge of my new role as Purbeck's first Community Rail Partnership Officer which includes a wide range of projects such as re-instating a regular train service from the Swanage Railway to the main line at Wareham, improving social inclusion and promoting Purbeck's railways with the aim of enhancing education, employment, leisure and tourism across the area.

"I am also looking forward to working with the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership's steering and stakeholder groups as well as the South Western Railway, Network Rail, local councils and the Association of Community Rail Partnerships," she added.

A married mother of two children who lives in Wareham, Kelly enjoyed a successful 17-year career with Dorset Police – working as a building surveyor and then as a contracts manager before becoming a project surveyor and then the force's asset planning and facilities manager.

Purbeck Community Rail Partnership chairman, Councillor Bill Trite, said: "I warmly welcome our new Community Rail Partnership Officer Kelly Marshall. She has much to familiarise herself with in the coming weeks but has already demonstrated the ability to learn quickly and understand the essentials of the Rail Partnership. "Kelly's role is central to the achievement of the Partnership's objectives. I wish her every success in the job and I hope that she enjoys it too."



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Out Of The Blue



Since the last article, the temperatures have fallen dramatically, resulting in freezing fog and icy roads. This has caught a number of drivers out and kept us busy dealing with Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs).

Remember; in these conditions it is vital to ensure your windows are clear before starting your journey, no matter how short, and remember to adjust your speed accordingly, allowing extra stopping distance between cars, don't forget to use your lights, and fog lights if you have them fitted. If you are unclear of the requirements of driving in these conditions - advice can be found in the Highway Code (Icye and Snowy Weather rules 228 - 231 and Fog rules 234-236).

www.dorsetforyou.com/travel-dorset/roads-and-driving/road-information
<http://www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk/>

The other consequence of the cold weather is the effects it is having on the road surfaces, there have been a number of very large pot holes appearing not only in the towns but also on the rural roads. We have been called to a number of incidents where drivers have unfortunately been caught out. They are not always easy to see especially in the dark or when they are filled with water and they can cause considerable damage if hit at speed, so please be vigilant. If you do see a pot hole don't take for granted someone else will have reported it, report it to the local authorities as soon as you can. Your action could prevent a RTC or serious damage occurring to someone's vehicle.

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

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

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

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

Panel Approves £2 Monthly Council Tax Rise To Fund Policing

Police and Crime Panel members have approved plans to raise the amount of money households pay to fund Dorset's police service by £2 a month. Martyn Underhill, Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Dorset, held a six-week consultation into proposals to raise the precept - the part of a council tax bill which funds policing - by £24 a year following on from the advice of the Home Secretary to raise the precept to the maximum permitted.

Now, after just under 70% of those surveyed supported the idea, members of the Dorset Police and Crime Panel - which scrutinises the PCC - gave it their backing at Dorchester's County Hall on Thursday February 7. All fifteen members of the seventeen-strong panel who were present during the meeting voted unanimously to approve the plans. Two members were not in attendance.

Martyn Underhill said: "I'm extremely grateful to all of those people who took the time to respond to my survey, and to panel members for supporting the proposals. I'm well aware that many households in the county are struggling financially, and the fact so many have said they would be prepared to pay this extra amount demonstrates how important an effective police service is to them."

The results of the consultation were presented at the panel meeting. A total of 4,829 people responded - either online, via social media or face-to-face at a series of public events - with 69.31% saying they would be prepared to pay the additional amount. As well as consulting on the proposed precept

increase, residents were also asked if they felt that Dorset Police needed more money. 85% agreed that it did. The enhancement will amount to £7.8m in extra income for Dorset Police, going some way to offset cuts in central funding.

The panel also heard how a £1m Innovation Fund will be set up - funded by a combination of recurring efficiencies in the Force's budget and from a surplus of previously uncollected council tax receipts - which will pay for initiatives such as extra officers in the rural and marine crime units, improving road safety and providing more help to homeless people.

Martyn Underhill said: "I've had a lot of conversations with Dorset residents over the last few weeks and something I've heard time and time again is 'we shouldn't be paying for this - the government should!' I couldn't agree more - central government have adopted a policy of public sector funding being devolved to local taxpayers for several years now, something I inherently disagree with, as over time, it disadvantages poorer communities."

This consultation was launched following real terms cuts of more than £25m over the last eight years, while Dorset Police's budget has had to absorb growing inflation and an unfunded pay increase for officers.

This meeting concludes the consultation process and the Commissioner's decision to raise the policing precept stands. The change will come into effect from 1 April 2019.

SWANAGE RAILWAY

The nations favourite locomotive 'FLYING SCOTSMAN' returns to Swanage for the first time in 25 years and will be reunited with Pullman Observation Car 14 for the first time in nearly 50 years.

Friday 22nd – Tuesday 26th March - Flying Scotsman will operate five services a day each way between Swanage and Norden non-stop. Flying Scotsman can only be boarded at Swanage station and tickets are round trip only.

A steam hauled "feeder service" will operate between Norden and Swanage calling at Corfe Castle and Harmans Cross. This service can be used by those booked to travel on Flying Scotsman as well as those wishing to see Flying Scotsman in action (but not travel on it).

Fares: £40 Flying Scotsman Return (includes Feeder Return if required and access to stations). £20 Feeder Return and access to stations only.

Access to Swanage, Harmans Cross, Corfe Castle and Norden Stations and associated viewing areas will be only permitted to those in possession of a valid travel ticket as above. Advance booking essential.

Wednesday 27th March – Wednesday 10th April (including Spring Steam Up Friday 29th – Sunday 31st March)

Flying Scotsman will be on static display at Corfe Castle Station with Pullman Observation Car 14.

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£15 Swanage <-> Corfe Castle / Norden

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Remembering My Gerry

Jane Turner, Gerry's wife, writes about Gerry going missing from their home in Swanage last March, and the struggle they faced together in dealing with his diagnosis of Lewy body dementia prior to his disappearance



It will be a year ago that in the early hours of the 4th March, a devastating, cold Sunday morning while the snow was still melting, my wonderful husband, Gerry, let himself out of the back door. He climbed over two 6ft walls to make his way up into the Purbeck hills – and disappeared.

Gerry (Turner) not only had Lewy body dementia but also had type 1 diabetes from the age of four. When he went missing, it was so vital to find Gerry in those immediate forty-eight hours or poor Gerry had no chance as he left without his medication.

I feel that the services and voluntary groups did their best, but as we all know, they were unable to find Gerry. As Gerry was not himself, he would not have thought of or even understood what his actions would or could have resulted in, and being a very private, caring man, he would not have wanted to cause the unbelievable nightmare and the tremendous efforts that were put into place to find him.

I and the family wish to thank everybody involved from the bottom of our hearts. If there was anyone with knowledge needed of that difficult terrain and conditions at that time to help us find Gerry, it would have been Gerry himself. He lived and grew up in those hills and knew those hills, cliffs and caves better than anyone I know.

Gerry was diagnosed with early onset Lewy body dementia (with Parkinsonism), a devastating illness. L.B.D. comes under the umbrella of the dementias, of which there are over a hundred forms. When people ask me about Gerry and what Gerry had, they say they haven't heard of Lewy body dementia, even though it is a common form of dementia.

To be honest, I hadn't heard of it before Gerry was diagnosed. Dementia is a terrible disease for anyone to be a victim of, or for a carer seeing that person they know, love and care about, watching their personality and character, slowly, painfully and frighteningly disappearing before their eyes. With Lewy body dementia, the memory and awareness remains till the very end, when everything else has sadly deteriorated. Victims of L.B.D, like Gerry, suffer terrifying dreams and hallucinations, and extreme anxiety. They can also find that their walking is affected, as well as many other personal and physical problems. This causes even more anxiety and frustration, as they are so aware of the illness and the deterioration, whilst they also remember how life once was.

Gerry loved life, he loved Purbeck, so much so that he gave up his career at Kew Gardens because he was homesick for the Purbeck hills and the people. He was always been physically active, full of fun with a great sense of humour and was fun to be with. He was young at heart and also in years, and before this diagnosis, even though he suffered with his brittle diabetes, for years since we were together, we worked hard at it to keep it stable - most of the time with success.

With the L.B.D. we tried alternative solutions with some success, then anti-depressants were prescribed to try and help the anxiety. Different types were tried. There are no licensed drugs for L.B.D. for Gerry at that time and those that are used have to be used with caution as people with L.B.D. are very sensitive to medications. Gerry changed. Anti-depressants have side effects. One side effect can be suicidal thoughts.

Gerry's personality was not the same.

I miss him so much, as do family and friends, and many, kind people in this town of ours, who still ask if there is any news of Gerry. It is a great thing to have such support in a time of such crisis and it's so nice that he is still in people's thoughts. I do feel now, a year on, it is time to let Gerry rest in peace and to not wonder where he is any longer. I still am finding it very difficult to talk about my lovely Gerry. I miss him more than words can express and life will never be the same without him.

But sadly, I am too aware as I was a first-hand witness to how Gerry was tortured by this terrible disease, and I'm still there, I don't think I will ever recover. Losing Gerry this way, I would like others to be aware that it was so devastating for Gerry to live with this disease, night and day, as well as with the side effects of the anti-depressants he was taking. We pray that Gerry has found everlasting peace.

The Gerry or Gerald as some people knew him (before he was diagnosed with Lewy body) was always there to help anyone in need. He had such a big, kind, caring heart for everyone; animals and the environment alike. He was like that from a young age, as many people who knew and loved Gerry will know. We now need to help people like Gerry to make the journey with Lewy body dementia and other dementias a kinder journey, for the victims and for their exhausted, isolated and heartbroken carers. It's sadly too late for Gerry, but he would be proud that, in some way, I can use our tragic experience through our personal journey to help others.

Just a bit of insight into: The way things are for people with Lewy bodies and their carers.

I became aware while caring for Gerry that there was, and is, a lack of facilities for people with Lewy body dementia. There are only places shared with other dementia patients, which is really hard on the L.B.D. sufferer. Gerry, as many would be aware, could still hold a conversation down, follow football games etc, so being treated as if he had no judgement, choice, memory or something to say was frustrating and demoralising for him, as it is for others with Lewy body dementia whom I have had contact with.

I would like to say that The Swanage Day Centre staff and cooking staff were fantastic with Gerry, and I will be ever thankful for their great efforts with Gerry to keep him well looked after when he was able to go. Thanks also to Jean Gibbs and her singing group which helped us so much.

As we all know carers groups are for carers to meet-up and have a few hours to themselves and converse with others in a similar situation. I was unaware, and maybe you're too, that mostly it's not open to the person who is being cared for, so, a sitter has to be found to sit with the person so the carer can go to a meeting, which is usually in the morning say, at 10am.

After being disturbed through the night, up a lot of it yourself with the person who needs caring for, it's exhausting. Then, as they are tired, it is a job to get somebody up and washed/shaved/brushed teeth and hair etc (most likely shower or bath that person, because they are likely to be incontinent, and most likely to have to strip a wet bed). Also to try

and comfort and calm them down, as the dreams have caused all sorts of extreme anxieties. If that doesn't work, then you go on to administer calming down medication and wait to see if that helps. Sometimes it does, sometimes it doesn't.

While this is going on, some victims of Lewy body dementia (like other dementias) can be verbally or physically violent to the carer. Then you have to try and encourage them to get dressed or dress them. There may be issues for them which take mega time to resolve, from a chair placed in the wrong place to the room not being the 'right way round' to them or they may constantly want to visit the bathroom, thinking they haven't been, but actually have a dozen times. Then to try and encourage the eating of breakfast, which, as in Gerry's case, was vital as he was a type 1 diabetic (and he refused to eat most of the time).

Now, do you see why 10am is not great timing for a meeting for a carer who looks after someone suffering with dementia?! To top it all off, carers I have spoken to and have experienced myself, using some of the agencies available for sitters, a different person being sent each time (if they turn up) L.B.D. sufferers need to feel familiarity to a situation. So, before the carer leaves to go to a carer's meeting or to get vital supplies or do some banking, every time then needs to explain the issues that affect that person's care and anxieties.

With this, the person with Lewy body gets even more upset and anxious. Result, the carer has just taken up 10-15 mins of their supposed respite time just getting out of the door (worrying if the care is going to be enough, and also that they are going to be late).

This is just the start, then if you manage to get to the meeting, when you get back, it's time to deal with the anxiety it has caused by leaving them with somebody they haven't seen before, who doesn't understand L.B.D. or who isn't trained enough to understand. Just the fact that you have left them for a couple of hours can be enough to cause upset without all those other factors coming into play. It is no two hours 'rest' for the primary carer at all and is not worth the effort, the upset and the worry for both concerned in this dreadful situation.

Then isolation become another problem on top of everything else, apart from doctors appointments, social workers and so on, there is nothing to look forward to. Think of the situation of trying to get your loved one with L.B.D. ready for a doctor's appointment. A lady I know whose husband has L.B.D. and was physically disabled was trying to get her husband to the doctors' surgery. Her husband can be verbally and sometimes physically aggressive to her. She managed to get him there but was five minutes late. She was told off by the doctor they saw, she ended up in tears on the phone to me. She then had to get her husband back home again, after many attempts trying to persuade him back into the car to take him home. It is a major disgrace and heartbreaking to say the least! I must say it wasn't in Swanage, but it was in Dorset!

I and our son, Charlie, are starting a project in the memory of my husband, Gerry Turner. Also helping will be Sue Manson-Chub. The project is called B.O.L.D. (Beholders Of Lewy body Dementia) colour and sound. The project is to create a place where people with Lewy body dementia and their carers can met up with other sufferers. To be able to relax for a few hours with help on hand and also activities to do if so wished; crafts, artistic projects and to create music/songs/sounds or just to have a chat and pass on information that might help others, and so on. No need to find a sitter as one can take the person they are caring for with them.

No need to worry if they are being looked after, as they are there too, enjoying the activities.

No need for there to be an uncomfortable situation as everybody is rowing the same boat!

Yes, I believe this is a workable project, and so many want it to be there, or rather, need it to be there. The people of this area, in fact, of every area, need to see a project like this to work (there are 140,000 cases in the UK today with L.B.D. - for now and all our tomorrows).

****MUSIC HAUL****

There will be a "MUSIC HAUL" of a variety of wonderfully talented and generous artists from around Dorset donating their time and their music to this event, organised to help raise awareness and much-needed funds to get B.O.L.D. to materialise. There will be a range of different types of music: 'The Doolally's', formed to raise money for this project, playing and singing 60s and 70s hits, great stuff! 'Chimneyfish', a talented original songwriter, singing and playing jazzabilly, you know what that is! 'Inner City Smugglers', a gifted duo playing popular covers to dance to! 'Charlie Goodwin' on his accordion, 'Audrey' playing accordion music with a difference, must be seen to be believed! Also, 'The Darwins' with original songs in a jazzy, 'French cafe' style (put on your dancing shoes you'll need them), 'Phil Jobs' with guitar and songs, an absolute joy to listen to! And much more besides!

It is all happening on 10th of March, at the lovely Harmans Cross Hall, with parking outside the hall or across the lane (£1 in the collection tin

Sunday 10th March 2019
2:30 - 4:30 / 5:00 - 7:30
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on site). The event starts at 2.30pm until 4.30pm. There'll be an interlude, breaking for a chance to buy a cup of tea and a cake or biscuit, nice things to eat and drink, commencing at 5pm to 7.30pm - 8pm. There will be the 'Paddock Master' bar on-site, happily supporting our cause and ensuring all those attending are watered with beers, lager and wine!

Look out for the posters where tickets are kindly being sold for us by Nationwide Building Society, Station Rd, Swanage, Going for Bust Charity shop (Swanage), Foleys Garage (Valley Rd, Harmans Cross) and Centaur Financial Services (Yorkshire Building Society), also in Station Rd, Swanage.

The early bird tickets will be £5 from these outlets, and with each ticket, a free raffle ticket for the chance to win a *Guitar and lessons with Mark Patrick worth £500*. There are only '120' tickets, so there's a good chance to win! Ticket price on the door will be £6.50. There will be other raffles on the day with lovely prizes!

James Smith Supporting Dementia Friends



Every year, we pick a new charity that is close to our hearts to raise money and awareness for the charity. This year, we have chosen Dementia Friends. We are working closely with eight local Dementia Friends groups, including Swanage Dementia Friends, and Dementia Friendly Purbeck, helping them raise awareness of their cause in their local community, and collatively fundraising throughout 2019.

The money will be divided between the eight groups at the end of the year. There are around 850,000 people living with dementia in the UK, and the Alzheimer's Society Dementia Friends initiative works hard to educate and change what people think they know about the illness.

By doing this, people learn how they can help those living with dementia. Many of our staff throughout our eight branches are 'Dementia Friends'.

We are very pleased to announce that if you take out a 'Dorset Funeral Plan' before 1st April 2019 not only will we offer you £75 reduction from your plan, but we will make a donation of £50 to Dementia Friends.

Look out for your leaflet through the door or contact your local Douch Family branch for further details.

James Smith, 60A Kings Road, Swanage. BH19 1HR. Albert Marsh, St. Michaels Road, Wareham. BH20 4QU

The Story of the Buddy Scheme

Who are the Buddies? The Buddies are volunteers interested in working with people with dementia in a one-to-one situation.

Why? Because they want to help carers to have some free time for themselves without worry.

How did the volunteers get the confidence to take-on this special job?

We organised a good deal of training to prepare our volunteers for success; this is what was arranged:

All six volunteers had three in-depth sessions with a professional trainer, explaining different types of dementia and medication, and explaining different aspects of behaviours so they would understand how clients might vary. We also had input from our Admiral Nurse. Next, we had input from a professional first aid trainer and were also given a session on suitable activities, using a special reference handbook written by Rachel Johnson, who has helped us from the beginning of this whole process.

All volunteers are fully insured and are DBS registered. All expenses are paid from monies raised specifically for this venture and no charges are levied from any client/family.

Placements and Support

All placements are monitored for suitability between client and buddy by the leader, Jean Gibbs. She is responsible for any concerns or changes that may be needed. Buddies will meet every month as appropriate to discuss progress, concerns and ideas. All information is subject to complete confidentiality. Clients will come through to us via the Admiral Nurse/Social Services/family members and could also have sessions at singing and reminiscence, or be escorted to appointments as appropriate. There will be no charge for users of this service, this is because we have good friends who have arranged specific funding.

We are still looking for free or reduced-cost transport!

Jean Gibbs, Group Organiser, Swanage Area Dementia Friendly Community

Pictured, right: Russell Leach raised £1075.55 by walking for a year to help fund the Buddy scheme. He lost 3st in weight and a big toe nail in the process! Thanks Russell!



Gala Dinner For Rape Crisis Support Centre

Jeff Mostyn, chairman of AFC Bournemouth, launches Dorset Rape Crisis Support Centre's Gala Dinner and encourages the public to help support the charity.

Dorset Rape Crisis is holding a Gala Dinner at The Marriott Hotel in Bournemouth on Saturday 16th March to help raise funds for its vital work with children and young people across the county. Dorset Rape Crisis Support Centre is a pan - Dorset charity that offers free one to one support for anyone who lives, works and studies in Dorset and has been affected by any form of sexual violence.

Jeff Mostyn said 'It's an honour and a privilege for me to support Dorset Rape Crisis Support Centre and their Gala Dinner. This is an organisation that opens its arms to support individuals who have experienced many forms of abuse. It is our responsibility to support their incredible work and ensure our community is safe for one and all. Thank you all for your support.'

Dorset Rape Crisis Gala Dinner event will include a three-course dinner, a casino, raffle, auction and disco. Tickets cost £50 per person. Alongside the sale of tickets to the event the charity are also keen for any raffle or auction prizes from Dorset businesses for the event or donations to help support their work. This year their Gala Dinner will hope to raise £10,000 for their work with children and young people who have been affected by sexual violence. Demand for this service is continuing to grow and the charity is in need of vital funds to support its services which are free to all of its clients.

The charity's service include: a helpline listening service, a face-to-face counselling service, wellbeing workshops and an Independent Sexual Violence Advisor service. Dorset Rape Crisis Support Centre is the only specialist service of its kind in Dorset and all its services are offered for free thanks to public donations, funding and the work of their volunteers.

Those interested in purchasing tickets or for further information for the event can contact Rose Hunter by either emailing rose.hunter@dorsetrapecrisis.org or call 01202 308850. Anyone who has been affected by sexual violence and would like confidential advice and support can call 01202 308855 or visit their website www.dorsetrapecrisis.org.

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Project Providing Online Support For Youngsters

Vulnerable children and young people who have come from traumatic backgrounds are being given information about staying safe online thanks to a unique project.

Families For Children – the only voluntary adoption agency in the South West – have started running the project after receiving funding from the Officer of the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Dorset Fund.

The charity specialises in placing vulnerable children from across the UK – many of whom have experienced abuse or neglect or who may suffer from foetal alcohol disorder – into safe and secure families in the South West.

The organisation has now begun providing internet and social media safety sessions to these young people and their adoptive families, as part of their package of post adoption support.

The courses, run by internet safety experts in different locations across Dorset, are taught differently depending on the age groups of the young people involved, but cover everything from exposure to unsuitable online content and using privacy settings to coping with cyberbullying. Some of the children have been adopted as a result of care proceedings and so the courses also deal with the threats of harm by being contacted by other people involved in those proceedings.

Older children who may want to find their birth parents will learn about the dangers of trying to do this through social media or commercial websites, and will find out about better supported methods provided by social workers.

Adoptive parents will also be taught about what children are able to access online, managing the threat of online grooming and radicalisation, and how to have positive conversations with young people about the internet.

Antonia Poole, from Families for Children, said: "Children are growing up in the online world and learning how to stay safe is now an essential life skill for young people and families. However, because of the trauma many of these children have been through, they are more vulnerable than most and so it's really important they are given specialist advice about internet safety."



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Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

The front cover of the March 2009 edition featured a snowy and frozen seafront at Swanage, with a picture taken by local, Steve Diamond.

As usual, our letters' pages were full of readers' opinions on a wide variety of subjects, including a letter written by Mike Hobson on the subject of the UK's membership in the EU. Mike asked: 'what hope have future generations now? Huge debts piling into the future for our children and grandchildren, caused by the EU in taking our fishing industry, our farming industry, our manufacturing industry, our power supplies and now our oil and gas supplies....'

Mike suggested that: 'To vote for the Tory party will not be the answer; they will endorse staying in the EU..... Ted Heath, by lies and deception, took us into a Common Market, but he later admitted that a full political union was his goal – that is no less than treason. Wake up English, before it is too late! The majority of people would vote to get out if given the chance of a referendum.' Interesting words, when viewed a decade down the line.

Discussions were still in full swing amongst the residents of Swanage with regards to the local schools' review. A meeting had been held at Swanage Bay View at the end of January, where a range of opinions were shared by locals. Some felt that Dorset County Council had 'closed down full and informed debate' during the 'consultation' period.

At the meeting, DCC had ruled out either keeping the Swanage Middle School, or building a new secondary school. It would be 'uneconomic', they said. However, retaining the middle school or building a new secondary school seemed to be a preferred option to many of those attending the meeting. At the meeting, council officers were asked what the social, environmental and economic impacts of leaving Swanage with only a primary tier of schooling would be. The officers did not know the answer to this question.

Then-Minister for Schools, Jim Knight, mooted the idea that both St Mary's and St Mark's primary schools relocate to the middle school site. Article-writer, Roger Seaman, reported that below the surface (at the meeting) was tension between the different Swanage school communities – whose school would have to close or move?

Eventually, changes went ahead, with a two-tier system being introduced, replacing the previous three-tier system. Local parents and interested parties went on to fight long and hard to ensure the children of Swanage continued to have the option of a secondary education in Swanage and today we bear witness to their dedication every time we leave Swanage and pass 'The Swanage School', built-for-purpose on the edge of the old middle school site.

Dorchester columnist, Claire Tozer, wrote from the west of our region and reported on a fun day in the snow and ice with her children. Her family gathered together in light of closed schools and took the children out for a day of rare fun in the snowy conditions.

Claire's mother shared memories of the snows of February 1977, when in labour, she had to travel to hospital whilst holding the car door shut as it was frozen solid and would not close properly. She recounted that as a young girl, she remembered the three-mile walk home from school sometimes made in fog so thick that she couldn't see the hand in front of her face. Her father-in-law remembered the Boxing Day snow of 1963, when they awoke the following morning to three or four feet of snowfall. He was forced to take ten weeks off work as the roof thatch was still frozen solid and snow remained under the hedgerows until April.



Lulworth Rangers (above) reported on sightings of flocks of Redwings,



visiting the green in front of the Heritage Centre, as well as hundreds of Starlings being regularly sighted over West Lulworth, offering stunning aerial displays to those lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time. At the time, starlings were still a fairly common garden bird, but were declining overall in Britain and were specified as a 'Red List' species.

Local farmer, David Eyles, wrote in to thank Keith and Steve Bower and all those at various council depots for working so hard to keep our roads clear, enabling him to travel to market in Sturminster Newton with a trailer full of lambs early one morning whilst the icy conditions remained. David reminded readers that while we're all still comfortably in bed of a morning, the gritter lorry has already quietly passed our door to make our journey to work possible.

The team at Durlston Country Park updated readers on the progress up at the castle. The construction work due to be carried out was being put out to tender, so much time was being spent on the specifications for the building, displays, IT equipment, networks and so on. It was hoped that actual building work would begin by the end of 2009.

Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve at Kimmeridge encouraged locals down to the shore to see sea wash balls and more, inviting everyone to attend their Great Eggcase hunt in April to see what could be found.... (below).





Spring has sprung in Purbeck! Bulbs are out in force, showcasing their fantastic display of vibrant colours and heralding in the beginning of summer to come....

With spring in the air, we're feeling more open to getting out and about this month, enjoying the steadily warming air and the promise of hazy, sunny days, just over the horizon. Over the following few pages, we've brought together a selection of local businesses and services who'd like to see you this month!

Don't forget Mother's Day is coming up and Easter is not far away, so start making plans to take mum somewhere lovely and book-in for some Easter delights!



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Mothering Sunday Carvery

Sunday 31st March

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Easter Sunday Carvery

Sunday 21st April

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Main Course: Lamb Bhuna, Murgh Makhani Chicken, Beef Madras, with Pilau Rice, Chota Naan Bread and Bombay Potatoes

Desserts -A choice of: Khajur Ka Halwa, Date & Walnut Fudge, served with Vanilla Bean Ice Cream, Mango Sorbet Fruit Salad, Coffee to finish

MOTHER'S DAY - MARCH 31st
MOTHERING SUNDAY ROAST LUNCH
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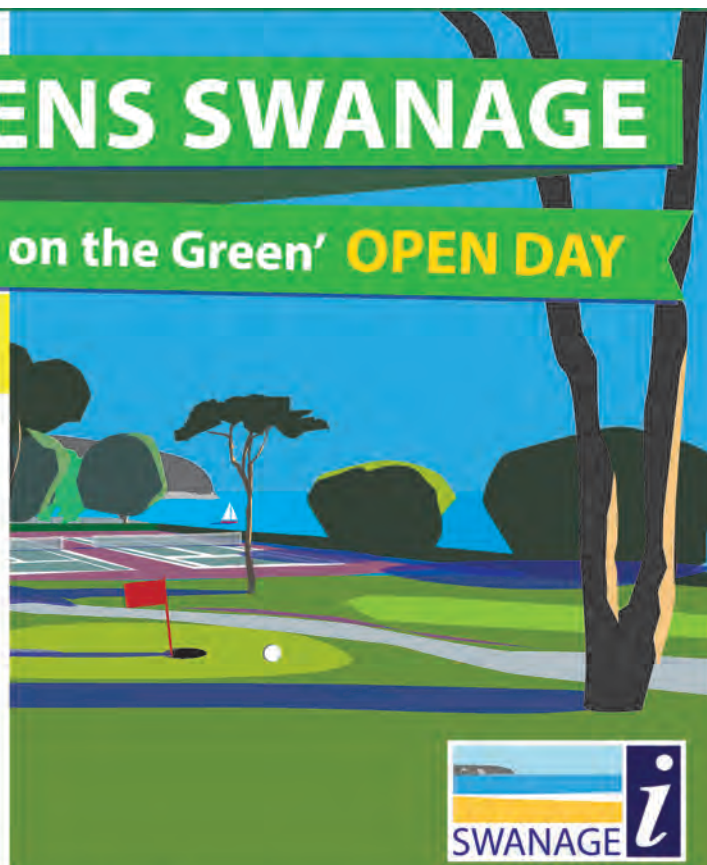
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for details on how to get involved.



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CIRCUMNAVIGATE THE ISLE OF PURBECK MARCH 30/31 2019

This project is set to take place the day after Brexit and also the day after Purbeck District Council comes to an end, to be replaced by the new Dorset Council, operating from Dorchester.

To commemorate the good work of Purbeck District Council and to help raise the profile of our local area, a group of hardy walkers, led by Swanage Town Crier, will attempt to mark out the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck and note the interesting features along the route.

Presently, plans are being made for the group to complete the task, whatever the weather.

The basic programme is as follows:

Saturday 30th March:

- 9am - Depart from Swanage Tourist Information Office, heading north along the coast path
- 11am - Arrive at Studland/Sandbanks Ferry, the walk to Greenland junction, Wytch Farm, Ridge
- 1pm - Arrive at Wareham Bridge to exchange words of friendship with Wareham Town
- 2.30pm - Arrive at Holme Bridge, then follow western boundary to Holme Nursery at 3pm for tea! Then continue to finish the day at East Lulworth.

Sunday 31st March

- 9am (or earlier) - Culvin Milmer, Swanage Tourist Information Officer, will set out to complete the whole circumnavigation (over 50 miles) as a ultra-marathon in one day
 - 9am - Walking group depart East Lulworth for Arish Mell, then eastwards along coastpath
 - 11am - Arrive at Kimmeridge (then either to Chapman's Pool or to Swyre Head) - a motorised group will tour Purbeck villages to display the new Isle of Purbeck flag.
 - 2pm - Depart St Alban's Head - any walkers invited to join at this point - on to Winspit and Durlston
 - 5pm - Return to Swanage Tourist Information Centre and meet-up with Culvin.
- Any public are welcome to join at Ferry, Wareham Bridge or Holme Nursery for short, level, 1-mile walk.

Monday 1st April

- 11am - Meeting at Prince Albert Gardens by Swanage Pier, led by Swanage Town Crier for the Declaration of Independence for the Isle of Purbeck. Public signing of Declaration.
- 12 noon - End of Independence and we welcome the new Dorset Council Authority!

**THIS WILL BE AN HISTORIC WEEKEND
PURBECK DECLARES INDEPENDENCE!!
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**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED,
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flemingswanage@yahoo.co.uk**



Motoring

A Few Words Of Warning

by David Hollister

For many months the ongoing repair work to the 'Twin Sails Bridge' in Poole has prevented this marvellous multi-million pound white elephant from being used for its intended purpose.

This thing cost £37 million and has been out of operation on many occasions since opening in 2012. I heard that high winds prevented the 'twin sails' bridge from being opened in inclement weather, and that the winds were damaging it in the upright position. Maybe a clue is in the name.... "Twin Sails" How odd that they actually caught the wind and sustained damage!

The Poole Lifting bridge, constructed in 1927, has managed to stay in operation most of the time apart from scheduled service closures, despite being raised and lowered an estimate six thousand times a year. Must say something about the quality of pre-war engineering compared with the sad efforts of today's "engineers", both on the Twin Sails Bridge and on the ferry.

Having reached Poole, make sure you know what's going on at the Wessex Retail Park (McDonalds, PC world, Pets At Home, etc) because the car park operators have installed ANPR cameras and imposed a three hour limit between 8.00 am and 8.00 pm, and a one-hour limit overnight. The fine for exceeding these times is £100.00.

Not unreasonable, you may say. But look at the notices carefully. They prevent a return within two hours; if you go back to return something, or grab some food, then it's £100. And be assured that the signage is exactly in accordance with the law.

If this happened to me – and it would have been inadvertently because until researching for this article I was blissfully unaware of this practice – I would never visit either retail park again. All I can hope is that as the news spreads, people will desert these places in droves and go back to shopping in our local independent shops. Who regrettably aren't always able to offer the same range of goods as Currys PC World. But who are always worth a try nevertheless.

Some car parks in Swanage and Wareham already offer 'online payment' services; I've registered for them; it took about five minutes on my phone. And if I can get a signal in the car park, and if I can be bothered, then I'll use them. So much simpler to put coins in a machine and honestly, most people of my age just prefer to use coinage.

But be warned – certain car parks in Bournemouth and Poole have now installed new cashless parking machines, claiming that this is necessary following vandalism which left some of their machines beyond repair. It also assumes that everyone has a modern 'smart phone' and the eyesight, dexterity and technical ability to use them. I've heard tales of elderly people just giving up and going home.

My long-lived and much loved Mazda 323 'dump car' is up for MOT in March. I'm not sure that it'll pass! Will yours?

There are many aspects of the MOT test that you can't look at beforehand, but here are a few things you can do to give your car a fighting chance of passing. An MOT tester will examine the body, structure and general condition of the car. Odd bodywork rust holes won't fail it, but structural rust certainly will.

UK law requires that your vehicle is fitted with the correct tyre size and type, and that there's a minimum tyre tread of 1.6mm, in a continuous band around the central three-quarters of the tyre. And make sure they're all

at the right pressure! So, check the tread yourself with a 20p coin; insert it into the grooves on the tyre. You shouldn't be able to see the outer band of the coin if your tyres are within the legal limit. If you can see that section of the coin, your tyres could be unsafe, so best get them checked and changed by a professional before your MOT.

That's if all the other aspects of the MOT are covered; no point in putting new tyres on a car that's going to fail on emissions or rust.....

Check your brake fluid; stop on a flat surface, open the bonnet and find the master cylinder. Its markings that say 'min' and 'max'; the fluid within the container needs to be between these two instructions. If yours is below, top it up with the right fluid for your make and model; look for this information in your manual.

Your obligatory mirrors must be intact; one interior and one offside mirror at the very least. Check for cracks. Make sure they're clean.

All Warning Lights must be working properly. If the tester turns on the ignition and warning lights come on, you'll fail and probably find yourself with an additional charge for the garage to investigate and diagnose what the light means. It's called a 'warning light' for a reason. Get it fixed.

Be sure to check the horn because the tester will, and no horn means a fail.

Front and rear lamps are obligatory and need to be working to pass your MOT: best check that both lamps are working, not obstructed and in good condition. Check headlights, side lights, indicator bulbs, brake lights, and reversing lights.

Check your oil; without the right amount of oil, the garage won't be able to test emission levels. Do this with the engine off and cool and the car parked on a flat, even surface. The oil level should be between the 'min' and 'max' marking on the dipstick. If it isn't, it's time to top it up.

Some windscreen marks will pass an MOT, others won't. If the mark or chip isn't over 10mm and isn't obstructing the driver's view or on the driver's side of the windscreen, or if the mark is under 40mm on the rest of the windscreen, then you're okay. These marks include chips, cracks or significant scratches.

Whilst checking your windscreen, don't forget to check that your wash reservoir has enough liquid in it and that wipers are in good working order. Change wiper blades if in doubt.

Clean it! You won't fail with a dirty car, other than dirty lights or number plates, but I was once told by a tester "more likely to pass if the car looks loved than if it looks like it's just come off the scrap heap".

Your car might fail its MOT if it has either dangerous or major faults. It can't be driven until dangerous faults have been repaired. Major faults must be fixed as soon as possible.

If it fails within the existing MOT period, i.e. you're getting your new MOT before the old one has expired, you can drive it away to get major faults repaired, but not if it's failed with dangerous faults.

Don't forget - driving without an MOT breaks the law and will invalidate your insurance.



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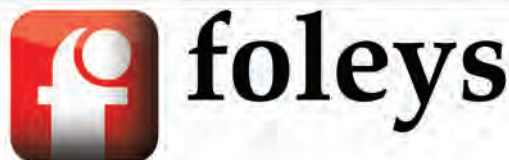
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Service Leads On National Road Safety Campaign

Survive the Drive, a new road safety programme aimed specifically at defence personnel, has been seen by senior military personnel and Government officials in recent weeks.

The scheme has been developed by Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service in partnership with the Ministry of Defence's Movement and Transport Safety Regulator, Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service, SAFE South West, Devon County Council and the University of Plymouth.

In the last month, shows have been held at Army Headquarters in Andover, the Ministry of Defence at Abbey Wood in Bristol, the MoD main building in Whitehall, and Naval Command at Whaling Island, Portsmouth. A further show for senior officers within the Royal Air Force is also planned.

Statistics show that vehicle-related collisions are the second largest cause of non-operational fatalities and injuries across the Ministry of Defence, only exceeded by training incidents.

Survive the Drive, which is part-funded by a grant from the Armed Forces Covenant Fund, is based on the established, and highly successful, Safe Drive Stay Alive scheme. The aim is that all military personnel, including civil servants, will get a greater understanding of the risks on our roads, and the impact that a road traffic collision can have on them, their families and the wider community.

As with Safe Drive Stay Alive, the presentation includes testimonies from

a police officer, a paramedic, a firefighter, someone who has caused a road traffic collision, the victim of a road traffic collision, and someone who has lost a family member in a road traffic collision.

Ian Hopkins, prevention delivery manager for Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service, said: "We have been taking our Safe Drive Stay Alive roadshow to local military bases for the past ten years, but Survive the Drive is designed specifically for its audience and is now being rolled out across the country. We use the strapline 'tomorrow is decided today' as these are people who can relate to the impact of a split-second decision. We want them to recognise the parallels between the decisions they make while operational, and those they make at home when driving, and to adjust their actions accordingly."

Presentations held at Tidworth before Christmas were recorded, and all military bases under the auspices of the Ministry of Defence will now be using Survive the Drive as part of their training programmes. Where local speakers aren't available, the filmed show will be used instead.

Ian said: "It is a massive honour for our scheme to be adopted at a national level like this, and we are very grateful to everyone involved in getting us to this stage. We know from the feedback that we've received from past military interventions that the programme does work, so hopefully it will play its part in bringing down the number of military personnel killed or seriously injured while driving."

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Business

CHARLES STANLEY

Wealth Managers

Navigating Your Way Through Financial Jargon

While on the surface many investing terms may be familiar to many, they are all too often misunderstood. Local investment manager, Kate Spurling of Swanage, takes a moment to look at some of the more common investing terms, providing an explanation, along with some helpful tips.

Yield

The yield generally refers to the income return that an investor makes on an investment. Strictly speaking it is the income expressed as a percentage of the current value of the capital. If you are quoted a yield it will therefore be based on current prices, and most valuations provided by your investment manager will show the yield based on the current price. However, as an investor you may wish to base your yield calculation on your original purchase cost instead.

Dividends

Dividends on UK equities are paid to shareholders with no income tax deductions. Tax is potentially payable by shareholders if their total dividend income exceeds the annual Dividend Allowance of £2,000. However, dividend income from assets held in ISAs is tax free.

Interest payments

Income payments that are paid as interest (i.e. from cash deposits and holdings such as fixed-interest investments and collective investments in which the majority of holdings are fixed-interest) are taxed in a different way. They are subject to the Savings Allowance which is £1,000 for a Basic Rate taxpayer, £500 for a Higher Rate taxpayer and nil for an Additional Rate taxpayer. Again, interest income received in an ISA (Cash or Stocks & Shares) is free of tax.

Dividends and interest payments are often paid six monthly, although there are a number of dividends paid quarterly and income payments from some collective investments which are paid monthly.

Ex-Dividend

A shareholder has to be on the share register i.e. they must own the shares on the specific ex-dividend date for that share in order to receive the next dividend payment. (The ex-dividend date or "ex-date" is the day the stock starts trading without the value of its next dividend payment).

Although investments paying out income to investors as interest do have a specific ex-dividend date and a pay date like shares, those which relate to a cash deposit or a single fixed interest holding are slightly different as interest accrues on a daily basis. This is therefore taken into account when a fixed interest holding is purchased or sold and when a cash deposit is closed.

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

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

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Could you claim the Marriage Allowance?

If you or your partner are a low earner or not working, then you may be eligible for the Marriage Allowance (MA). The MA allows lower earning couples to share part of their personal tax-free allowance. The MA is available to married couples and those in a civil partnership where a spouse or civil partner doesn't pay tax or who has an income below the personal allowance (for 2018-19 this amounts to £11,850).

The MA allows the lower earning partner to transfer up to £1,190 (increasing to £1,250 in 2019-20) of their personal tax-free allowance to their spouse or civil partner. The MA can only be used when the recipient of the transfer doesn't pay more than the basic 20% rate of Income Tax. This would usually mean that their partner's income is between £11,851 and £46,350 (£12,500 to £50,000 in 2019-20).

Couples that have not yet claimed the allowance can backdate their claim as far back as 6 April 2015 if they meet the eligibility requirements. This could result in a total tax break of up to £900 for 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and the current 2018-19 tax year. Couples have up to four years to claim backdated annual allowances.

An application for the MA can be made online or by telephone. The application must be made by the non-taxpayer who is transferring their allowance.

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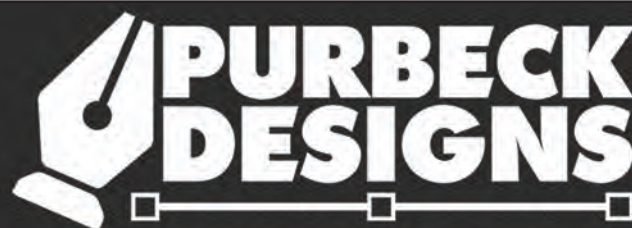
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Changing Councils, But Trading Standards Contacts Remain The Same

Councils in Dorset are changing, but how you seek consumer advice or report something to trading standards remains the same.

You may have heard that local government in Dorset is going through some big changes. On 1 April 2019 nine councils will be replaced by two entirely new organisations: Dorset Council; and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

The new Dorset Council will replace the existing district and borough councils (East Dorset, North Dorset, Purbeck, West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland) and Dorset County Council. All of these current councils will cease to exist.

As its name suggests the new Bournemouth Christchurch Poole Council will replace the three existing councils of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole into one new council.

There are good reasons why councils are coming together and these include: protecting important services for residents including bins, housing, road maintenance, schools and social care; reducing costs and give better value for money while cutting duplication; and giving councils a stronger voice nationally which will help attract business investment and government funding and support local economic growth.

Although it sounds like a big change, in the new Dorset Council for example you shouldn't notice any major changes to the council services you get from 1 April. For example, your bin day will stay the same, you'll be able to park in the same car parks and roads, and public spaces will be maintained as normal. More information about the changes including frequently asked questions can be found at www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk

Importantly too, asking for consumer advice and reporting something to trading standards won't change either, as now, please call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 040506, or visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer

Trading Standards, whether in the new Dorset Council or in the new Bournemouth Christchurch and Poole Council, will continue to receive referrals from Citizens Advice and investigate problem traders.



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Facing Brexit With Confidence



Businesses are being urged to attend a top-level conference to help them prepare for the impact of Brexit in Dorset. Dorset Chamber of Commerce and Industry is holding the major event with the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership and Bournemouth University.

Expert speakers will be on a panel at the Business Brexit Conference at the Hallmark Carlton Hotel in Bournemouth on Friday March 1. The non-political event is aimed at giving businesses vital support as the clock ticks down towards the UK's departure on March 29.

Speakers will include Bournemouth West MP Conor Burns, economist Professor Nigel Jump from Bournemouth University, HSBC regional director Dave Ford, Helen Stacey of Aspire Jobs, REIDsteel managing director Simon Boyd and Matthew Elliott, who is a political strategist and was chief executive of the Vote Leave campaign.

Dorset Chamber chief executive Ian Girling said: "The British Chambers

of Commerce is deeply concerned about a number of critical issues and as an accredited chamber we fully endorse their position about the lack of clarity at this late stage. Dorset Chamber has been pushing for politicians to come together to do everything they can to secure the exit deal we need.

"We have also been offering support to help businesses prepare for some time and we are stepping this up with the Brexit conference. It is not a political event and we will not be debating the merits of leaving or remaining. We will be giving expert advice for businesses about how to best prepare for Brexit and information about how the economic landscape is likely to look after Brexit."

The Purple HR sponsored event starts at 10.30am and continues until 1pm. It will include an overview of the economy with challenges and opportunities from Bournemouth University strategic and analytical economist Professor Nigel Jump plus a Parliamentary update from Conor Burns. There will also be advice and guidance from the EU Exit Business Intelligence and Readiness Directorate before the panel discussion.

Nicola Newman, who is chief executive of Ansbury Guidance, will chair the expert panel as they answer questions from the floor. They will cover such subjects as international trade, exporting and employment law as well as the general economic outlook.

It is free to attend for members and non-members of the Dorset Chamber, but delegates must register online. They are also asked to fill in a questionnaire about Brexit as part of their joining instructions online to help inform the discussion at the conference.

Visit <https://www.dorsetchamber.co.uk/event/brexit-business-conference-1834/> for more details, to register and fill out the Brexit questionnaire.

Pictured: Ian Girling, Dorset Chamber Chief Executive

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The **Purbeck**
Gazette

From The Kitchen Garden...



By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

Brioche in Clay Flower Pots

Although it often doesn't feel like it spring is here! The chickens and the ducks are laying well, and the geese started laying in the second week of February. During late autumn, winter and into spring I let all the birds roam freely all over the Market Garden while I'm working there.

The chickens and ducks do a fantastic job clearing the land of all sorts of molluscs and other unwanted invertebrates and the geese graze the grass down beautifully and they all manure as they go along. Every now and again I have to cover a crop to protect it from the hungry squad but in general it all works well.

More often than not the eggs are laid first thing in the morning but every now and again one of the geese feels the need to lay throughout the day and off she waddles with the gander in tow, disappears into her hut, while he waits patiently outside, guarding the girl and God help anything or anyone just wandering by a bit too close! Mr Gander will nip and give anyone a loud and very clear ticking off!

The seeds are germinating well and every morning when I check the trays and modules there a more and more little seedlings emerging. This is such a positive and hopeful time in the growing year, and I get a thrill from starting my crops from seeds! I could just buy in the seedlings to grow on, but I would not have the wonderful choice of different types as I get with starting from scratch.

Many of the seeds I use are from heritage vegetables, flavoursome crops but definitely not uniform! This year I'll be trialling an old type beetroot with rough skin resembling tree bark and the best flavour ever! Soon the time will come when I shall be sowing, pricking out, planting out, weeding, watering, tying up and harvesting all in the same day...!

This means to have the strength and stamina to do all this I need lots of food at the ready.... what would be better than to fuel up with a buttery, fluffy, homemade brioche and a mug of hot tea? I've baked this batch in clay flower pots as I haven't got fluted brioche moulds - I think it worked, hurrah!

Brioche in clay flower pots (makes 3 portions, 9cm pots)

Ingredients:

1 sachet dried yeast
5ml lukewarm milk
50 g strong bread flour
200g strong bread flour

3 eggs, beaten
80g sugar
1 tea spoon salt
1 lemon, grated zest
150g soft butter
120 g strong bread flour

Method:

Mix yeast and milk and add the 50g of strong bread flour. Sieve the 200g of strong bread flour onto the starter mix, then just leave alone at room temperature for roughly 20 minutes, when cracks should appear on the surface. Add the rest of the ingredients and work well into the mix with a wooden spoon.

Line the flower pots with baking paper, then divide dough into 3 portions. 2/3 of each portion throw into clay pot and make little ball with 1/3 and stick on top.

Again, leave to prove in their pots for at least 2 hours at room temperature while covered with a damp tea towel.

Brush tops with a little beaten egg, then bake for 35-40 minutes in a 180 C preheated oven. Voila!

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Saturday 13th April 2019

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Mothers Day Lunch Menu SUNDAY 31st MARCH

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toasted brioche and dressed mixed leaves.

Butternut Squash and Sweet Potato Soup served with crusty bread.

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

Salad of Goat's Cheese beetroot and candied walnuts.

Main Courses

Roast Topside of Kimmeridge Farm Beef with Yorkshire puddings.

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

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

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

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

Desserts

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Natural Matters

The Unnatural Navigator

by John Garner

A few years ago I went walking in the hills. I had no plan whatsoever other than to wear the dog out. This in itself was optimistic as it was not a dog that wore out easily. It was the type of dog designed not to be worn out. A good description of the breed would be 'the almost impossible to wear out' breed of dog. Still, that was my sole aim.

It was a beautiful day in late winter. The sky was as blue as you like and whilst I didn't know the area very well, I was pretty sure I could find my way and return to the car some hours later with a dog ready to snore the rest of the day away. And possibly to do the same myself.

An hour into the walk it started to get a bit grey. I have no idea where the clouds came from. It didn't look possible at the start of the day and as such I hadn't even consulted a weather forecast. After another thirty minutes the wind started to get up and by about two hours in, a misty drizzle had settled into the hills and you couldn't see twenty feet in front of you.

The deliriously happy dog disappeared and reappeared through the fog, at full tilt the whole time and in a state of ecstasy. As the dog was showing no signs of fatigue, I pressed on and after very short time was hopelessly lost. My map (yes, I took a map) was hopeless as there were no distinguishing features to latch on to and identify. I worked out a rough idea of where I was based on direction and time travelled and then panicked when it seemed I was in the next county.

I decided the best thing to do was compound my problems by using my instincts. Now, my directional instincts are notoriously crap. I have spent twenty minutes before now walking round average sized car parks looking for my car only to find that I was in the wrong car park. Someone with such a poor sense of direction should not be relying on their instincts to get them out of trouble. Using the force didn't work and before long I was more lost than when I was lost the first time. The dog cantered along without a care.

My next thought was to utilise the dog's natural homing instincts to find the route back. The problem was that the dog was bursting with talent in terms of chasing things and running after things and pretending to be busy, but was not over talented in the brain department. I explained to

him what was needed. He cocked his head to one side, barked a few times and hurtled off into the mist, all ears and tongue.

To be fair, he didn't think he was lost and going home would just be to cut short his walk. Also, he didn't understand the vocabulary even though I kept it to key words like 'car', 'back' and 'now'. Some animals are untrainable.

Eventually, I happened upon a church. I am not a religious man, but should I have been susceptible to epiphanies this might have been one. Because I remembered one thing from the distant past. That is, that churches and gravestone are aligned east to west.

So what, I hear you say? Well, by checking the map and looking at the direction of the church I could work out where I was and how to get back. Ingenious? Sort of. It also happened that the drizzle and mist lifted and I found myself on the edge of a village that had a signpost and a map of the area.

But I almost wish the weather would have stayed the same so that I could have tested my theory. Except, we all know that I would still be pottering about trying to find some direction if it had stayed the same. Perhaps by now the dog might be worn out, but I would have definitely starved to death.

Anyway, I happened upon a book the other day that has transformed my walks. It's called 'The Natural Navigator Pocket Guide' by Tristan Gooley and is full of all sorts of navigating tips to help you find your way round. From the moss on trees, to the movement of the clouds and birds flying and everything in between.

With this book you can get to where you need to be. I aim to assimilate all his ideas and head out with a renewed sense of ease knowing that I will always be able to find my back. I'll take it with me just in case. Along with my phone, map and distress flare. He even suggests ways of finding your way round cities. Unfortunately he's not so good at finding your car when you're in the wrong car park. Or can't remember whether or not you came in your car or your wife's. Still.

No-one's got all the answers, have they?

Oil Rig Is Unacceptable Risk



Despite secrecy over its operations, the Corallian Colter Exploratory oil rig has arrived in Dorset to commence thirty-eight days of drilling for oil. DWT has been a consultee to the proposal for the drilling in Poole Bay since February 2018 and has led the call for the protection of this highly sensitive and valuable area of Dorset's sea.

DWT has made numerous comments on concerns over impacts to our important habitats and wildlife. Whilst our main concerns have been considered and the Environmental Statement has been revised accordingly, drilling is still going ahead. Our first response can be found here:

www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/poolebay_drilling_response

Following DWT's calls for changes to the drilling operation, the most contaminated cuttings will now be disposed of onshore and the 38 days of exploratory drilling will now occur during the winter to reduce impacts on migratory species, spring and summer spawning of fish and on foraging seabirds.

Another concern DWT has is that the drilling may over-run as the recommended 38 days of drilling between 1st November 2018 to 28th February 2019 will have passed by the time the drilling starts in the coming days and weeks.

Emma Rance, DWT's Marine Conservation Officer said, "Despite our requests, DWT continue to be worried about the remaining drill cuttings that will be discharged onto the seabed with the potential to impact species within the vicinity. Studland Bay, which is only 4km away from the drill

site, is a known breeding ground for seahorses. Short-snouted seahorses (protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981) are recorded within the licenced drilling area in Poole Bay."

Dr Simon Cripps, Chief Executive of Dorset Wildlife Trust said, "We worry about the potential risk of pollution to wildlife, people and local businesses from a range of chemicals that will purportedly be discharged into the sea, in such a highly sensitive and valuable natural environment. Poole Bay is not the place for such activities. The time, effort, money and research necessary to conduct such a project would be better used on renewable energy alternatives and not drilling in such a sensitive area."

For more information on the Environmental Statement, please visit:

The Environmental Statement Summary:

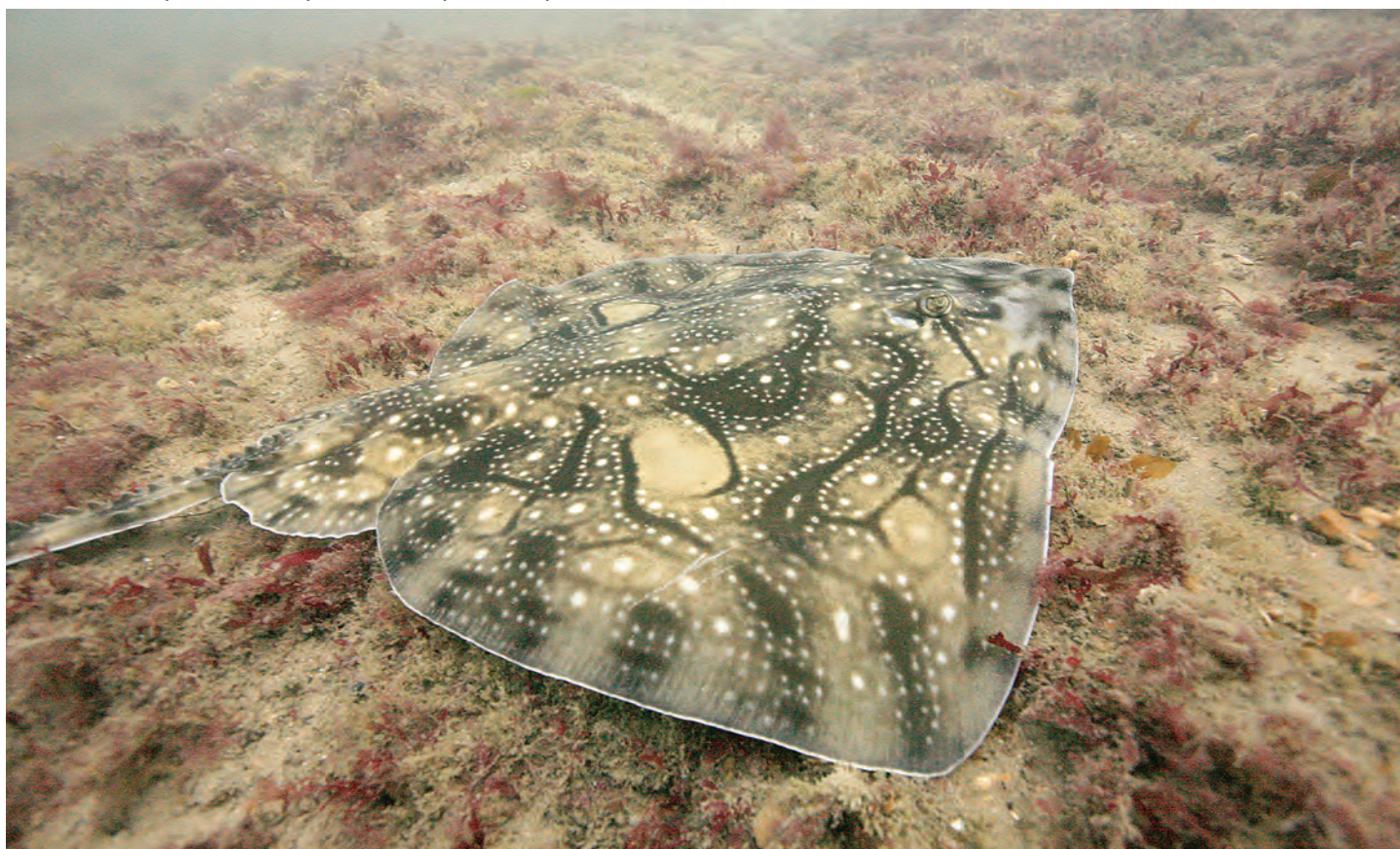
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/751204/2018.10.23_-_WV-4207-2017_-_Corallian_-_Colter_Appraisal_Well_-_98_II-E_-_OPRED_ES_Summary.pdf

Information on key concerns:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/751205/Corallian_Colter_Appraisal_Well_Information_on_Key_Concerns.pdf

Image, above left: Oil rig as viewed from Swanage Bay shoreline - zoomed in. Above, right - oil rig from Swanage Bay shoreline, not zoomed in.

Image, below: Undulate ray © Peter Tinsley



DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



Pleasure Grounds Project Preview Day

If you would like to find out more about work to be carried out as part of the 'Durlston Pleasure Grounds' Project over the next few years, on Saturday 16th March we will be holding a special preview day at the Learning Centre.

Project Leader Ali will be on hand, along with our Landscape Architect, Project Officer Marie and Catherine (Chair of Friends of Durlston) to answer questions, hear your thoughts and explain what happens next. There will also be the opportunity to preview drawings and plans for how the project will enhance views and viewpoints, path improvements, habitat management and more...

Just pop in any time between 10.30 and 2.30 to find out more...

Wildlife

As spring commences early flowering plants add a splash of colour with yellow from Lesser Celandine; white Early Scurvy Grass and purple Hairy Violets. Towards the end of March Cowslips will be peeping up through the sward.

Cherry Plum will display white blossom, Bay Trees show their fine yellow sprays of flowers whilst the Sallow is first to show its fluffy catkins. On sunny days Adders may be out basking. Amphibians should have emerged, with Smooth Newts returning to the ponds to prepare for breeding. Common Toads waking from hibernation remain docile and thus possibly easier to see. A small brown ball with a short tail

running along the edge of a dry-stone wall could be a Bank Vole. Warmth might tempt Brimstone and Small Tortoiseshell butterflies to flight. The first Sandwich Terns, Swallows and Sand Martins can be spotted returning to our shores from their winter in Africa.

Events

The Fine Foundation Gallery features our Miracle of Migration Exhibition for those whom wish to learn about those creatures that are seasonal visitors to the park. The gallery will also host a performance by the Wareham Whalers, celebrating the life and works of the poet Cicely Fox-Smith (still with a sea shanty focus).

Ranger Doug will be leading a Durlston poetry walk and inviting you to share in that which inspires his regular poetry in the daily Ranger Diary. Of course, we have our ever-popular Gentle Stroll, along with a Wildlife Wander to seek out signs of spring. There will be another opportunity to attend a Nordic walking taster, while Julian Sawyer will lead one of his Purbeck Footprints: Wildlife and Photography Walks. It is that time of year again to think ahead and perhaps some of you might benefit from attending the Durlston Castle Wedding Fair organised by Blue Bay Events. For more details, please pick up a leaflet or visit:

<https://www.durlston.co.uk/events.aspx>

Canine Activity Day At Margaret Green!




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Join us at Lincoln Farm for the MGAR Canine Activity Day on 31st March 2019 from 10am until 4pm.

To whet your appetite, you and your dog will be able to take part in taster sessions in Agility, Hoopers, Flyball and Rally. So far, we have Moonlight Dog Agility Club, Nightsabre Dog Training, Purbeck Agility Group

and Wessex Dash Hounds joining us on the day.

This brand new MGAR event aims to give everyday dog owners the opportunity to have a taster session of different popular canine pursuits without having to pay for or commit to a block of sessions.

Our workshops are open to owners with dogs of all abilities, you don't need to have any previous experience in the activities or even a well-trained dog!

The up to one-hour long group workshops provide the opportunity to receive a lesson in your chosen activity run by a local canine club and there is also no limit on the number of workshops you can attend on the day.

There will also be time in-between workshops to 'have a go'. Please note that workshops are not open to dogs under the age of six months or to females in season and dogs under twelve months old cannot take part in the Agility workshop.

Workshops are £5 for each session if booked in advance by calling Lincoln Farm on 01929 471340.

You can pay on the day at a cost of £8. In addition, to the workshops there will be tons of pre-loved doggie items available, so grab your four-legged friend a bargain!

Refreshments and hot food will also be available throughout the day. Come along, join in the fun and help raise money for our rescue animals. www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk



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Early orchids at Durlston (2018), by Mike Walshaw



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Gazette Gardening

with Simon Goldsack

Lovely Lupins and Fantastic Foxgloves!

March and April are great months to plant out young herbaceous perennials (plants that die back down to the ground in Autumn and emerge again in spring). There are hundreds if not thousands of varieties to choose from. Here are a few of my favourite forms:



Daylilies flower for a long time each summer.

They are easy to grow in most soils, sun or part shade and come in red, orange pink or yellow.



Foxgloves are a native British plant so are well suited to our soils and climate.

Nowadays there is a gorgeous array of different flower colours to choose from.

Lupins (right) have been a favourite of English Gardens for centuries and now there are some super seed strains. Deadhead to prolong flowering.



Hollyhocks (middle right) are some of the tallest herbaceous plants available to the gardener.

They like a hot, sunny well drained soil and if they like you then you will be rewarded with a spectacular show each year and they will often seed themselves around the garden.

True Geraniums or Cranesbills (bottom right) are mostly low growing perennials ideal for rockeries, path edging and the front of borders and come in pink, crimson, blue and white.

A few varieties are taller reaching 3 ft to 4 ft



Planting Early is good for the pocket

As the planting season progresses cottage garden plants gradually get sold in larger pots which means that the prices go up the longer you leave it.

This is not a ploy by garden centres to maximise profits, it is simply that plants in small pots run out of steam if they are not planted out.

So, it pays to buy early when there is plenty of choice and prices are low. The plants make up really quickly and you should get a fantastic show this year.

Through March and April Holme for Gardens will have hundreds of varieties to choose from, and plants start at £3.00 or buy five for just £12.

We look forward to seeing you soon at Holme!



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Helpful Tips For Puppy Training



The season for knitted layers is well under way and many of us are tempted to stay indoors with a steaming cuppa! But if you've recently welcomed a new pup into the family, it's important to stay active and start instilling the right behaviours in your new pet. And after all, winter is a fantastic season to strap on your boots and take your new pup on strolls across crisp, sometimes misty wintery fields.

Whilst a puppy's company can be great fun, their energetic behaviour can be a real challenge when taking them on walks – especially in these colder months. To help you on the journey of training your new dog, leading dog training and behaviour expert, Company of Animals has pulled together some useful top tips – available in an engaging video format as well – to help with puppy walking.

Pulling on the lead

A lot of younger dogs can pull on the lead when being walked – they just can't wait to get out and explore the world! But depending on the strength of the dog, this could pull you or somebody else over. So, be sure to only walk when there is slack on the lead and remember to stop if your dog pulls at any time. The reality that you work 9-5, will often mean that you are stepping out with your pup in less daylight during the winter months, so make sure you have your dog on a reflective lead to stay visible in the dark.

If your dog carries on pulling, try to change the direction of your walk and reinforce that they need to follow you and not vice versa. Using a front control harness such as the Halti Walking Harness will help teach your puppy that they shouldn't pull the lead whilst giving you maximum control. Rewarding good walking with a little treat is a great way to reinforce this behaviour for the future.

It's fun to chew

If your dog is a chewer and enjoys a cheeky bite on the lead whilst out walking, try distracting them with a toy and encourage them to chew that instead. If he does chew the lead, then make sure you don't pull as this could be perceived as an invitation to a game of 'Tug of War'. Instead stop walking and hold on to your dog's collar until he is relaxed. Again, rewarding positive behaviour teaches your puppy to see the lead as a cue for relaxation, rather than as a trigger for excitable mouthing.

Perfect your pups' manners

Some puppies can struggle with their manners and understandably so – they haven't had chance to learn any yet! Getting good manners in early will keep your puppy safe, and aid other training.

Remember to not let your dog charge ahead of you when walking out. The sudden pull on your arm can cause damage and even result in you slipping on wet leaves or ice. What's more, you don't know what's around the corner so it's best to be safe. Have your puppy stay still and reward him

when waiting for you to lead him out.

Moreover, our four-legged friends – especially the young ones – can get very excited when meeting new people. A Halti Walking harness will help deter them from charging ahead or jumping all without restricting their movements – making it easier to encourage better manners when out walking. Or using the Halti Double Ended Lead will allow for your dog to have freedom to explore the (possibly!) snowy ground, whilst you also maintain control and ensure they don't hurt themselves while doing so.

Stay safe!

Take all the necessary precautions to ensure that you and your dog are safe when walking outside during these colder, darker months. Carry a torch with you and make sure your dog is wearing a harness and lead made with reflective fabric to make sure traffic can see you and your pup in the dark!

For those days when it's too cold for a long walk outdoors make sure you stimulate your puppy with some fun indoor training games. You can hide some toys/treats around the house and have them look for it. Make sure you use commands such as stay which will help reinforce those words when you come to use them whilst walking. Whether it's sit, stay, or lie down – being indoors provides an easy and stress free location to learn some new tricks.

For more helpful tips on training your puppy, Company of Animals created a series of helpful videos which demonstrate these points and more, available to view at: <https://www.companyofanimals.co.uk/brands/halti-walking>

For more information please visit www.companyofanimals.co.uk





A Shaftesbury farmer has been fined for illegally moving cattle to and from his farm while under a movement restriction and for falsifying records relating to the identity of calves.

Identification of cattle and movement restrictions are in place to help prevent disease spread in livestock and to provide traceability for animals entering the food chain.

Brian Garrett, aged 76, of Fernbrook Farm, Gillingham Road was prosecuted following an investigation by trading standards officers from Dorset County Council. Officers visited Mr Garrett's farm on 4 July 2017 to inspect his cattle. When they returned to the farm three days later, they noted that several of these cattle were no longer on the farm. When questioned, Garrett declined to say where the cattle had gone.

Officers also used DNA tests to check the identity of two of the calves, revealing them to be false. It was found that Garrett had ordered replacement ear tags for these calves to change their identity.

Mr Garrett appeared before Weymouth Magistrates' Court on Monday 4 February and pleaded guilty to six offences under the Cattle Identification Regulations 2007.

The Court heard that Mr Garrett's farm was inspected by the Rural Payment Agency in 2014 who found some serious discrepancies in his calf record keeping. As a result of this they requested the return of a number of calf passports.

Mr Garrett continually refused and so in 2016 he was served a notice restricting the movement of all cattle onto or off the farm. Since that date the court heard Mr Garrett had moved cattle on numerous occasions up to January 2019. He was prosecuted in relation to sixteen of the illegally moved cattle.

Cllr Andrew Parry, Cabinet member with lead responsibility for Trading Standards, said: "Intervention by our trading standards officers is an important part of providing protection for the food chain. There are long established rules on recording the identity of cattle to provide traceability, confidence and reduce the spread of disease."

Mr Garrett was fined a total of £1250 plus a £135 victim surcharge and ordered to pay £2600 in costs to the county council.

Image shows some of the cattle from Mr Garrett's farm.

Growing Places Fund Loan For Kingston Maurward



Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has approved loan funding of £250,000 towards improving a popular tourist attraction at Kingston Maurward College.

Kingston Maurward College is a specialist college which delivers skills and training in land-based studies including agriculture, environment, animal welfare, conservation and construction for students from the ages of 16. It is Dorset's only land-based provider and also entails a country estate of some 750 acres which generates commercial revenue through tourism and events management.

The college was successful in securing one of Dorset LEP's 'Growing Places Fund' loans which will be used for the replacement of an existing poor quality polytunnel at its Animal Park. The new permanent wooden barn structure will offer undercover play and learning space, along with potential catering facilities expansion. This will allow the Animal Park

to become a more sustainable and growth-oriented year-round venue, increasing revenue and profile as well as long term sustainability for a venue close to the County Town.

When complete, the project will allow Kingston Maurward to increase the length of their operating season in terms of wet weather accessibility and activity. Consequently, offering an improved range of activities and higher quality visitor experience.

Lorna Carver, Director of Dorset LEP, said: "We are delighted to welcome Kingston Maurward College Animal Park to the growing list of funded projects in Dorset. With the financial support from the 'Growing Places Fund', Kingston Maurward can further expand and continue its contribution to the success of our economy".

Kingston Maurward Principal and CEO, Luke Rake, said: "Kingston Maurward is more than just a College, and this investment loan from the LEP allows us to further develop our wider activity. We are vibrant country estate with a growing need for visitor capacity and facilities for both locals and tourists with young children.

"We also wish to support the growing number of school groups and home educators visiting the animal park and historic gardens as part of their learning. This facility puts visitors at the heart of the development with significantly improved undercover space."

The Dorset LEP 'Growing Places Fund' has been provided with £9.7m from central government as a revolving loan scheme to support innovation, productivity and the creation of jobs and housing in Dorset. It is a repayable loan that encourages local economic growth in Dorset through unlocking capital projects which have a significant economic future and can deliver tangible economic outcomes.

Arts & Entertainment

Tea Anyone? Social History Of English Afternoon Tea



"There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea" – Henry James, novelist

This fascinating and mouth-watering illustrated talk covers how tea drinking was first introduced into England, how it was popularised and how afternoon tea became a social institution

Using vibrant on-screen displays, it will include the introduction of delicious

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tea menu items; the customs and etiquette surrounding afternoon tea; examples of the finest silver and porcelain tea ware; the surprisingly risqué connotation of afternoon tea gowns; the rise of public tea rooms and tea dances; the ancient symbolism of birthday celebrations and the current nostalgic popularity of vintage afternoon teas.

The talk is given by Gillian Walnes Perry MBE, writer, speaker and lecturer, recently retired from her full-time role as Co-Founder and Executive Director of the Anne Frank Trust UK, while remaining its Honorary Vice President. She has many years' experience of speaking and broadcasting in the UK and around the world.

"Punctuated with illustrations and surprising facts, the talk is so interesting it made me realise how little I know about our customs, and I would like to find out more on this fascinating part of English life."

Laura Reynolds, Head of Year, Purbeck School

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The Jazzmen have their own sound brought about by the unique style of John's clarinet playing, though his musical range includes alto and tenor saxophones.

Sinead hails from Bristol and is a very recent arrival on the national jazz scene. Her range includes many of the blues songs associated with famous jazz singers like Bessie Smith and Billie Holiday.

*Harmans Cross Village Hall is in Haycrafts Lane, BH19 3EB, 2 miles outside Swanage. If coming from Corfe Castle, take a right turn opp. garage in centre of Harmans Cross village

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Opening Times & Prices:

Friday 19th & Saturday 20th	11am to 3pm	£10
	7pm to 11pm	£10





Swanage Blues Festival



A big thank you to everybody local who will be involved with the 31st Swanage Blues Festival, from the 28th of February to the 3rd of March.

All the staff at venues, restaurants, takeaways, accommodation providers, shops, the ferry, residents and anybody else I've not thought of – you all help to make the Blues fans feel so welcome they keep coming back for more, and say this is the friendliest Blues festival they know, and amazingly good value too.

The support wristbands have stayed the same price – only a tenner – since 2012 and everybody who's wearing one has paid for it – none are given away. It's a way for you to show your appreciation and that you personally support the festival and want it to continue. Thank you.

The usual fifteen venues have swelled to eighteen this time. Welcome back to the Greyhound, Corfe Castle; first timer Harry Ramsden's for giving a new home to the Buskers; and Salt Pig Too for making Geoff's Jam official.

What about the bands appearing in the Showcase Slots during Stan's Blues Jamboree on Saturday afternoon Live At The Legion?! There's Laurie McVay & The High Rollers with blues, funk and southern soul, The Bullfrogs (Swansea) with some country rock, and Firedogz, an eight-piece rhythm and blues ensemble led by legendary frontman Eddie Goodall.

Late additions to the festival programme include; Frees Company at the White Horse, a tribute to Free and Bad Company; In The Dog House at the White Swan; and an extra slot for Dawg 'n' Bonez on Sunday afternoon at Swanage Bay View Holiday Park, with a jam session to follow their show.

I was particularly pleased to hear that Mark Harrison, singer/songwriter appearing at the Grand Hotel, was featured on BBC Radio 2's Pick Of The Week alongside Abba, Westlife, Take That, and Madonna. Party On!

Support Wristbands and Programmes are available locally from venues, some retailers and Swanage Information Centre on Shore Road.

Donations can be made via the website www.swanage-blues.org



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Grand Hotel 2 Mar Saturday 2pm Steve Brookes
Grand Hotel 2 Mar Saturday 3pm The Baroness & The Bear
Grand Hotel 2 Mar Saturday 4pm Hugh Budden and friends
Grand Hotel 2 Mar Saturday 8pm Robert Hokum / David Stone Band
Grand Hotel 3 Mar Sunday 2pm Mark Harrison
Grand Hotel 3 Mar Sunday 4pm Robert Hokum
Grand Hotel 3 Mar Sunday 8pm Hugh Budden and the Blue Chords - Festival Finale with Muddy Manninen
Greyhound 2 Mar Saturday 3pm Lewis Cohen
Greyhound 3 Mar Sunday 3pm Steve Brookes
Red Lion 28 Feb a Thursday 9pm Pete Harris & Ray Drury
Red Lion 1 Mar Friday 2pm Open Mic
Red Lion 1 Mar Friday 9pm Tommy Allen & Jon Vaughan
Red Lion 2 Mar Saturday 2pm Open Mic
Red Lion 2 Mar Saturday 9pm Fabulous Fezheads
Red Lion 3 Mar Sunday 1pm Open Mic
Red Lion 3 Mar Sunday 8pm Pete Harris & Jon Vaughan
The Legion 28 Feb a Thursday 8pm Robert Hokum, Hugh Budden and Steve Darrington
The Legion 28 Feb a Thursday 9pm Hugh Budden & the Blue Chords unplugged
The Legion 1 Mar Friday 3pm Back Porch
The Legion 1 Mar Friday 6pm Robert Hokum
The Legion 1 Mar Friday 6pm Stompin' Dave
The Legion 1 Mar Friday 9pm The Tim Staffell / Paul Stewart Band
The Legion 2 Mar Saturday 1pm Stan's Blues Jamboree
The Legion 2 Mar Saturday 9pm Robin Bibi Band
The Legion 3 Mar Sunday 12pm Robin Bibi Band Jam Session
The Legion 3 Mar Sunday 5pm Luke Doherty Band
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Health & Beauty

St Ann's Mother And Baby Unit Gets Green Light

Care for women dealing with mental health issues before and after childbirth is set to improve significantly thanks to a state-of-the-art perinatal mother and baby unit planned for Poole.

The unit, at St Ann's Hospital near Sandbanks, is one step closer after Borough of Poole councillors approved Dorset HealthCare's planning application.

The site will house eight beds for women suffering severe mental illness such as depression, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Bipolar and post-partum psychosis after giving birth.

Dorset HealthCare will fund the development at a cost of around £6.95million, with work due to be completed in the summer of 2020.

Jagoda Banovic, Perinatal Service Manager, said: "We're absolutely delighted that work can now start, and the new unit will help ensure Dorset women and their new-borns receive the very best specialised care and stay close to their support networks.

"It will also help them recover quicker, and be easier for fathers to visit and spend time with their family while the mother receives treatment."

Dorset HealthCare currently runs a five-bedded mother and baby unit at its Alumhurst Road site in Westbourne. This has been operating for more than seven years, but can no longer meet demand.

Dorset HealthCare Chief Executive Eugene Yafele said: "It's unacceptable that Dorset women might be sent for specialist care miles out of the area, and this new development will hopefully stop that happening.

"I am extremely grateful to Poole councillors for recognising the importance of this development. It will allow us to provide first class care for more families in their local area, which we know will improve their recovery."

The plans give careful consideration to the impact the new development will have on the hospital site, environment and neighbouring properties.


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

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LiveWellDorset

Hello From Swanage Medical Practice

January and February can be a tricky time for some with a descent into the 'winter blues' an annual event. Feeling gloomier in winter isn't unusual but there are ways to counteract this.

We suggest getting outdoors in natural daylight as much as possible. Healthy eating can help stave off illnesses and doing nice activities however small with friends and family will all help to boost your immune system and mood.

It's a good time to embrace the Nordic lifestyle trend of 'hygge' - meaning perfecting the art of creating a warm atmosphere or cosiness through experiences and paying attention to each other.

Staff Update

Dr Clark, after thirty years at the practice, is cutting his hours pre-retirement to Mon, Tues and Wed mornings each week and will phase that down further over the next few years.

Dr Watson is also reducing half a day on 1st April. In all cases where a GP is cutting down, in order to achieve manageable patient lists, some of their patients will be transferred in an even spread, to other GPs in the practice. If you are one of those patients, you will receive a letter advising you of your new Doctor.

Huge thanks to Dr Gwinnet's patients for your patience. We are very pleased to tell you that we have recruited a new GP, Dr Sarah Basham, who will start seeing patients in early March.

GP recruitment is in crisis nationally, Dorset is no exception. In the next five years several of our longstanding GPs are retiring and despite our best efforts, it is unlikely that we will be able to recruit the necessary replacement Doctors. Therefore, we are currently looking at the clinical skill mix at the surgery.

Two of our nurses Jane and Ali have already completed enhanced training and are working hard towards their prescribing qualification. We are also looking at employing an Advanced Nurse Practitioner and a Paramedic. Working as part of the GP team their excellent clinical skills will be put to

good use. This is a path that other surgeries have taken with much success.

We welcome Anna Prewer and Wendy Roberts to the Reception team and Zoe Hannant has joined us as a Practice Nurse.

Women's Health

Take up of cervical screening has hit a twenty-year low. Disappointingly, despite our best efforts, many of you are avoiding the test. Are you aware that every year in the UK, around 3,000 women will be diagnosed with cervical cancer and it is the most common cancer in women aged 35 and under.

This brilliant screening programme can save your life. You will know if you are due because you'll have received several letters and texts from us asking you to book an appointment. Don't delay...book your appointment today!

Communications

Effective communication with patients is a key strategy and making the most of technology is the way forward. You'll already be aware of our website, that you can register online to request prescriptions and view your record, and the text appointment reminder and cancellation service.

Well, watch this space because we are planning a practice Facebook page to bring you timely information about our services, including for instance, letting you know if the Sit and Wait is very busy, information about health initiatives and publishing our newsletter to a wider audience.

We'll let you know when you can sign up.

Remember your opinions are important and can lead to change at the practice.

Please use our 'Friends and Family' touch screen in reception to tell us what you think.

For more information about our services view www.swanagemedical.org.uk

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Matron's Round

Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column

Hello everyone,

I have been working closely with my team in Day surgery and Outpatients whilst we prepare for our endoscopy service JAG (Joint Advisory Group) accreditation. This is a national assessment that we were the first community hospital to achieve.

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

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

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

We have a very committed and helpful team within the appointments department and I am always impressed with their telephone skills and listen to them often rebooking appointments so it is with a heartfelt plea that I ask everyone if you cannot make your appointment at either

Swanage or Wareham hospital that you let us know as soon as possible to enable us to offer that appointment to someone else.

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

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

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

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

Matron Donna



Swanage Hospital Minor Injuries Unit - Open 7 days a week from 8am - 8pm

If you have an injury, we're here to treat it!

Call us on 01929 421329.

We're here for YOU, so use our services!

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Guy Ryder
Registered Osteopath

www.purbeck-osteopathy.co.uk

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TO REGISTER FOR THE TASTER: Contact Naomi at: naomi.h.duffield@gmail.com

Website: www.swanageretreats.co.uk Telephone: 01929 422562

Sport

Swanage Football Club

We have two teams that compete in the Dorset "mini soccer" leagues. An under-9 team managed by Chris Kersey with help from Jim Sanderson plus an under-10 team (see photo) managed by Graham Biles with help from Robert Hill & Matthew Coggins. The U10s have been playing some magnificent football.

All the boys are really working together and have had some good results against some of the bigger clubs in Dorset; Weymouth, Dorchester, Poole, etc. This all bodes well for the future of the club. You find good players even at this tender young age very often turn out to be good at senior level. In this day and age there are so many distractions for the players it can be a struggle to keep them interested from the age of 8 up to senior football but as with anything a winning team is a happy team, and this will help keep them focused. Graham would like to thank Bredon Construction for sponsoring the home kit and Richardson Budgens for sponsoring the away kit. The U10s have put something back into the local community. During their home matches they sell hot drinks and snacks. All money raised is donated to Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership. This money helped in locating the defibrillator at King George's and also helps in the continuing maintenance payments which are needed to keep the unit in working order. This is an ideal location for such a unit as all our youth teams have regular games there and the skate park is very well used.

We are in the process of setting up a couple of new teams, one being an under-11 team. If you know of anyone interested in joining this team, please contact either Club Sec. Alison Newell or the new manager, Frank, on 07542 545221. Alternatively, just come to training at 5pm on Monday evenings at the Club.

The other team we are looking to create is an Under-8 team. This is where the players who have attended our mini kickers (Saturday mornings 09:30 - 10:30) over the years are now ready to start in their own team and play friendly games against other teams from across the County. We are always looking for helpers and managers. If you are interested contact the club and we will put you through the necessary FA coaching courses to ensure our youngsters have the best possible coaching.

We have started our fund-raising campaign where we are generating funds towards the new development and the day to day running of the Club. Last month we had a very successful and fun evening when we had a race night with real sit on horses.

The next date to put in your diary is Thursday 4th April for the Fashion Show. The last show back in the autumn was a huge success so make sure you get in and get your tickets early. It is billed as a "a ladies night out with a difference" There will be a live catwalk show where you can try on and buy this season's High Street and branded garments. Tickets are £7.50 and must be bought in advance. They can be purchased from club secretary Alison Newell on 07545 762401 or from any committee member.

The first team have strengthened the squad with the resigning of Aaron Atkinson from Gillingham Town and Elliot Parslow has come back to us after having a spell with Wessex Premier League side Shaftesbury. Other positive news was the selection of Jack Watson into the Dorset Premier League Representative side. They are due to play a Dorset League rep side later on this month.

The Reserves won last week away at Hamworthy to lift them off the foot of the table. Manager Andy Dunster was delighted with the performance and is confident we've turned a corner and is very hopeful results are likely to start improving.

We had some very sad news last month. Our former youth team manager Paul Brassington sadly passed away at the age of 65. Paul enjoyed coaching his son's youth team for many years. The highlight being in season 2008/09 (when they were U18s) they won the County Cup final. Paul's three sons have all played for the Swans over the years and we would like to send our heartfelt condolences to his family at this sad time.

John Peacock

The Purbeck Gazette - Proudly Supporting The Swans

Swanage Sailing Club



The new season begins...
perfect timing to join the club!



We're community based and we welcome new members. It's excellent fun, good sport and there's free training for kids and adults. Come and have a chat or check us out on the web!

Contact: swanagesailingclubmembership@gmail.com

Visit: www.swanagesailingclub.org.uk

Businesses Support Local Youth Rugby Team



Swanage and Wareham RFC U14's team are delighted to have been sponsored by S&D Scaffolding and RV Miller Thatchers for their match kit and training tops. The boys wore their new kit with pride on Sunday 10th February in a Vase match against Lytchett RFC.

The team played strong rugby throughout the match and were pleased to come away with a convincing win in front of their new sponsors. Simon Kitcatt of S&D Scaffolding and John Tozer from RV Miller Thatchers were present for the match and congratulated the boys on their success.

Swanage and Wareham rugby club have a strong mini and youth section with boys and girls starting as young as six years old.

Training and matches take place on Sundays at the clubs' ground on Bestwall Road in Wareham from 10am-12noon and new players are always welcome.

**APRIL EDITION
DEADLINE
NOON, 8th MARCH**

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 APR is noon, 8th MAR

KEY: * = Start time not known or n/a; Ffi = for further information; Sw = Swanage; Wm = Wareham; VH = Village Hall, Telephone code 01929 unless otherwise stated.

MARCH 2019

- Fri 1st
* **Swanage Blues Festival** Ffi www.swanage-blues.org
- 10:30 **Business Brexit Conference** At The Carlton Hotel, Bournemouth. Ffi: dorsetchamber.co.uk/event/brexit-business-conference-1834/
- 13:00 **The Milk Men** At The White Horse for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 14:00 **Open Mic** At The Red Lion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 14:00 **Swanage Blues** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- 15:00 **Back Porch** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 18:00 **Robert Hokum** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory classroom, Church Hill for: 'A technical evening' with David Pierce. Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841
- 20:00 **Zoe Shwarz Blue Commotion** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 20:00 **Stompin' Dave** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 21:00 **Tim Staffell/Paul Stewart Band** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 21:00 **Tommy Allen & Jon Vaughan** At The Red Lion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- Sat 2nd
* **Swanage Blues Festival** Ffi www.swanage-blues.org
- * **Curry Evening** At the Youth Centre, Wareham. Ffi: 01929 552934
- 13:00 **Stan's Blues Jamboree** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 13:00 **The Mustangs** At The White Horse for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 13:00 **Swanage Blues** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- 14:00 **Open Mic** At The Red Lion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 14:00 **Steve Brookes** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 15:00 **The Baroness & The Bear** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 15:00 **Lewis Cohen** At The Greyhound for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 16:00 **Hugh Budden & Friends** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 19:30 **Quiz** At Corfe Castle Village Hall, £6 (£4 youngsters), teams up to 6. In support of Purbeck Fairtrade Group. BYOD. Ffi 480007
- 20:00 **Robert Hokum/David Stone Band** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 20:00 **Ranagri** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- 21:00 **Robin Bibi Band** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 21:00 **Fabulous Fezheads** At The Red Lion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- Sun 3rd
* **Swanage Blues Festival** Ffi www.swanage-blues.org
- 12:00 **Robin Bibi Band Jam Session** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 12:30 **Swanage Blues** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- 13:00 **Open Mic** At The Red Lion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 14:00 **Mark Harrison** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 14:00 **Sarah Jane Scouten** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- 15:00 **Steve Brookes** At The Greyhound for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 16:00 **Robert Hokum** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 17:00 **Luke Doherty** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 20:00 **Pete Harris & Jon Vaughan** At The Red Lion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 20:00 **Hugh Budden & The Blue Chords** At The Grand Hotel for Swanage Blues Festival.
- 21:00 **Tommy Allen's Trafficker** At The Legion for Swanage Blues Festival.
- Mon 4th
14:30 **Swanage Poets** Meet at the Art Workshop Commercial Road (nr Chococo). A small, friendly group where we share and discuss our poems. New members welcome. We meet monthly.
- 19:30 **Sandford Heritage Community Group** At Sandford Labour Club, Keysworth Drive, Sandford BH20 7BD. "Heathland, natural or unnatural?" a talk by Dr Nigel Webb Ffi: www.sandfordheritage.org
- Tue 5th
19:00 **Wareham Town Council** Meeting In the Town Hall. Public welcome.
- Thu 7th
19:15 **Swanage Trefoil** Meet at Guide HQ Bell St for A.G.M. new members and visitors welcome. contact tel 01929 556374
- Fri 8th
14:30 **Purbeck Society** Talks In the Community room The Mowlem. A presentation by David Gerry 'Mr Geard's Victorian Picture Show' using original equipment and 19th century slides. doors open 2pm refreshments available
- 19:00 **Swanage Pier Quiz Night** At The Conservative Club, Swanage. £5 per person. Call 01929 425806 to book a table.
- Sat 9th
20:00 **Junco Shakers** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- 20:00 **Back to the 80s** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- Sun 10th
14:30 **Funday Sunday Monthly Filmshow** At Swanage day Centre - "Paddington 2". Admission £3.50, includes refreshments and nibbles from 1.30pm.
- 15:30 **The Poptonics** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- Mon 11th
14:30 **Tea at The Grand** Talk & book signing by Gillian Walnes Perry, MBE, at The Grand Hotel, Swanage. £15pp, booking essential.
- Tue 12th
10:30 **The Purbeck Carers Group** We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in a private room, Wareham Library. On behalf of everyone you are most welcome. The groups ethos is with friendship and information to support carers with varied speakers to empower your caring role, over a cup of tea. Ffi: Marilyn Butler 01929 553826 or 07785741733
- 14:00 **Purbeck Parkinson's Meetings** At All Saints Church, Swanage. Ffi: 01929 425970 or 01929 551962.
- Wed 13th
19:00 **Swanage Area Forum** At The Emmanuel Community Church. 'Developing a Coast Defence Plan for Swanage', open public meeting.
- Thu 14th
09:30 **Love Langton Litter Pick** Meet at 9.30am at Spyway Car Park, Durnford Drove, Langton Matravers. Ffi: please see the Litter-Free Purbeck Facebook page or email litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com
- Fri 15th
09:30 **Love Langton Litter Pick** Meet at 9.30am at Spyway Car Park, Durnford Drove, Langton Matravers. Ffi: please see the Litter-Free Purbeck Facebook page or email litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com
- 19:30 **Swanage Photographic Society** Meets in the Rectory classroom, Church Hill for: The Jubilee Cup (prints) - 'open' and The Ward & Purbeck - 'Food' competition Judge: Colin Gogerty. Visitors welcome, ffi: www.swanagephotographicsociety.com or 01929 423841
- Sat 16th
* **Gala Dinner** In support of Dorset Rape Crisis at the Marriot Hotel in Bournemouth. Tickets £50 per person. Ffi: Rose Hunter on 01202 308850.
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- 09:30 **Love Langton Litter Pick** Meet at 9.30am at Spyway Car Park, Durnford Drove, Langton Matravers. Ffi: please see the Litter-Free Purbeck Facebook page or email litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com
- 10:30 **Project Preview Day** At Durlston Country Park, Learning Centre.
- 20:00 **Thunder & Rain** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sun 17th
* **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **Kingston Maurwood College Open Morning** Pre- register now at kmc.ac.uk/courseinfo/
- 15:30 **Rockin' the Joint** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- Mon 18th
* **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- Tue 19th
* **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- 14:30 **Purbeck Ass'n of the National Trust** At All Saints Church, Ulwell Rd, Sw. Illustrated talk 'An Actor's Life for Me' - Roger Martin, an actor of stage and screen for over 40 years, will tell us of his life as a 'jobbing' actor and spill some of the secrets from behind the stage door and on the film set. All welcome. £3.00 incl refreshments Ffi 01929 427300.
- Wed 20th
* **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech,

- Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- 14:30 **Studland History Group** Meets in the Village Hall for a short AGM to be followed by Cindy Parish, "Thank You Mr Hitler from Joe Parish". The story of a WW2 evacuee who came to Studland and stayed. All welcome. Ffi the Secretary 01929 439245
- 19:30 **Wareham & District Archaeology & Local History Soc** Meetings held at Wareham Town Hall. Prof. Tim Darvill - Sticks and Stones and broken bones – the first monuments along the north-west Atlantic coastlands.
- Thu 21st
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- 10:00 **Swanage Painting Club Coffee Morning** At the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. A Mini Exhibition of paintings. Come and try various media, Watercolour, Pastel, Acrylic, Pen and Wash, all materials provided. Entrance is FREE.
- 20:00 **Open Mic Night** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- Fri 22nd
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **The Flying Scotsman** At Swanage Railway. Five services each day, non-stop, tickets £40, round trip only.
- 14:00 **Corfe Castle Community Library Presents** a Talk by Peter Down of Dorchester Museum 'Tomorrows Museum for Dorset'.
- 20:00 **Porchlight Smokers** Live acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sat 23rd
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **The Flying Scotsman** At Swanage Railway. Five services each day, non-stop, tickets £40, round trip only.
- 09:30 **Swanage Landers Litter Pick** Meet at 9.30am at Main Beach Car Park, Victoria Avenue, Swanage. Ffi: please see the Litter-Free Purbeck Facebook page or email litterfreepurbeck@gmail.com
- 12:30 **Christian Aid Lunch** At the Parish Hall, Wareham suggested minimum donation £5 also Traidcraft stall. All welcome.
- 20:00 **Medicine Creek Live** acts at the Square & Compass, Worth Matravers. Ffi: 01929 439229
- Sun 24th
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **The Flying Scotsman** At Swanage Railway. Five services each day, non-stop, tickets £40, round trip only.
- * **Dorset Countryside Volunteers** At Upton Wood (at the Purbeck-Poole border) where we will be removing scrub to maintain open areas in the woodland. 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 **Mutter Slater Band** At The Legion, Swanage. Ffi 01929 422722.
- Mon 25th
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **The Flying Scotsman** At Swanage Railway. Five services each day, non-stop, tickets £40, round trip only.
- Tue 26th
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **The Flying Scotsman** At Swanage Railway. Five services each day, non-stop, tickets £40, round trip only.
- Wed 27th
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **Flying Scotsman** on static display At Corfe Castle Station.
- Thu 28th
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **Flying Scotsman** on static display At Corfe Castle Station.
- Fri 29th
- * **March Makers Event** At The Old Blacksmiths, Grange Road, Creech, Wareham. Fine art, ceramics, homeware & produce.
- * **Flying Scotsman** on static display At Corfe Castle Station.
- * **Spring Steam Up** At Swanage Railway.
- Sat 30th
- * **Flying Scotsman** on static display At Corfe Castle Station.
- * **Spring Steam Up** At Swanage Railway.
- * **The Ratpack** At Swanage Bay View. Tickets £15. Tel 01929 422130.
- * **Circumnavigate The Isle of Purbeck** To commemorate the work of Purbeck District Council, walking event to mark the boundary of Purbeck, led by the town crier. Ffi: Andrew Fleming at flemingswanage@yahoo.co.uk
- 10:00 **Double-D Fundraiser** At Swanage Bay View. Faily games, stall, tombola, entertainment, teas, coffees, bar, kids activities, all to raise money and

support Dani and Dan Elm.

Sun 31st

- * **Flying Scotsman** on static display At Corfe Castle Station.
- * **Spring Steam Up** At Swanage Railway.
- * **Circumnavigate The Isle of Purbeck** To commemorate the work of Purbeck District Council, walking event to mark the boundary of Purbeck, led by the town crier. Ffi: Andrew Fleming at flemingswanage@yahoo.co.uk

WEEKLY EVENTS

EVERY MONDAY

- 09.00 **U3A Table Tennis Group** meet at Harmans Cross VH.
- 09.30 **Under 2.5 years old group.** Till 11am. at Parish Hall, Wm.
- 09.45 **Toddler Club** URC, Sw. Till 11.15
- 10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093
- 10.30 **Flowers with Liz** at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com
- 13.00 **Play and Learn** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Till 2.45pm
- 13.00 **Under 1s and Tums** at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 3pm
- 14.00 **Pins and Needles** at Harmans Cross VH.
- 14.00 **Swanage Disabled Club** meet until 4pm. Meeting place alternates between Catholic Hall & Queensmead Hall, Sw. Transport available. Call Mrs Daphne Saville on 01929 425241 ffi.
- 16.45 **Soccer Skills** Sw FC First Sch chldn £1 Till 5.45. 425175
- 18.00 **Lesbian and Gay Friendship Group** meets every Monday evening for social events and shared interests, such as meals, walking and outings. Ffi: contact Karen via email: outinpurbeck@gmail.com
- 18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 8.30pm.
- 19.00 **Wareham Choral Society** meet URC Meeting House, Chch St, Wm. Till 9. New singers always welcome. 554229/553460
- 19.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School year 10 and upwards. Till 9.30pm
- 19.00 **Whist. Come & join us** at the Reading Room, Church Hill, Swanage. Ffi, call 07984 968733
- 19.00 **Purbeck Chess Club.** Mortons House Hotel, Corfe Castle. Ffi, call Steve Peirson on 01929 552504.
- 19.30 **Purbeck Quire** rehearse at Wm Methodist Church. New/visiting singers (no audition necessary). String & wind players also welcome. Ffi: 423505 or 480737.
- 19.30 **Wareham Art Club Workshop** at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.
- 19.30 **Wm Folk Dance Club** Stoboro' VH. All welcome. 552763/551029
- 19.30 **Swanage Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, Court Road, Sw. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 20.00 **DARTS** at the RBL Club, Sw.
- 20.00 **Herston Hall Management C'ttee Bingo**

EVERY TUESDAY

- 09.00 **First Steps Toddler's Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 10.15am. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours.
- 09.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am
- 09.30 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Painting and sketching. At the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Till 1pm. Outdoors in summer. Ffi: Gina on 421689.
- 09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 11.30am.
- 09.30 **Kiddies Corner Mother & Toddler Group** (term time only) No fee - donations welcome. Purbeck Gateway Church. 551415
- 09.30 **Wareham Art Club Workshop** at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.
- 10.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11.30am.
- 10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com
- 10.00 **Sandford Toddlers** at Sandford Community Hall, till 11.30am.
- 10.00 **Short Tennis** at Sw FC All ages & abilities £1.50 Till noon. 425175
- 10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 21 Commercial Road, Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances.
- 10.30 **Swanage Walking for Health Group** starter walks (15-30mins). Start from the Mowlem Shelter on Swanage Seafront. Get back into the swing of things gently! Ffi: 481000
- 10.30 **First Steps Toddler's Group.** Swanage Methodist Church till 11.45am. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours.
- 10.30 **Wareham Walkers.** Convivial health walks for mainly older people, of up to two hours in and around Wareham, ending with coffee at a local tea room or pub. Ffi: www.wareham-walkers.org.uk or call 552933.
- 12.00 **Nature Tots** (0-4yrs) at Bovington Memorial Hall Garden. Until 2pm
- 14.00 **Swanage Walking for Health Group.** Walks of 60-90mins, various locations. Walks are very social, for a range of abilities. Walks start from car parks at

- Studland, Corfe, Arne, Durlston, Langton, Acton, Worth and Kingston. Ffi: 481000.
- 14.00 **Harman's Cross Village Hall Art Group** Till 5
- 14.00 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Furzebrook VH. Roll-up session, all standards welcome. Ffi 401799
- 14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Girls' Night (Yr 8+)** Till 10
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 8.30pm
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club Mowlem Community Room.** 421840
- 19.00 **Wareham Air Cadets** meet at Air Training Corps HQ, St Martin's Lane, Wm. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
- 19.30 **Swanage Group of Alcoholics Anonymous** meets at Swanage Day Centre, High Street, Swanage. If you want help to stop drinking, you are welcome. Or call 01202 296000 for more details.
- 19.30 **Sw & Langton Folk Dance Club** Langton VH. Ffi: 421913
- 19.00 **Belvedere Singers** rehearsal at St Mark's CE VA Primary School, High St, Sw. Parking on-site. Till 9pm. All singers welcome! 423350.
- 20.00 **Carey Hall, Wm Bingo**
- EVERY WEDNESDAY**
- 09.00 **St Mark's Toddlers Group,** St Mark's Church, Swanage. Herston, Sw Till 11am
- 09.45 **Corfe Wool Workshop** Corfe VH, East St. Members £1.50; non-members £2.50. Till 12.00. 427067
- 10.00 **Short tennis for adults at Swanage Football Club.** All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till noon.
- 10.00 **Breast Feeding Group** at Wareham's Children Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Offering peer support and breastfeeding counsellor advice. Till 12 noon. Ffi: 552864
- 10.30 **Play and Learn at Kids of Wool (BH20 6DY)** until 12 noon.
- 13.00 **Studland Toddler Group** at Studland Village Hall until 2.30pm.
- 14.00 **Herston Senior Citizens** meet Herston Hall, Jubilee Rd, Sw. All welcome
- 14.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 3pm. With Penny at the Mowlem Community Room, Sw. Ffi 07969925502
- 14.30 **Local Historian takes you on a town walk** around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.
- 15.00 **Extend Exercise Class,** now at Morton Village Hall. To improve strength, balance and flexibility. All welcome. Donations welcome. Ffi: 471490.
- 16.15 **Swanage Football Club U-7s Training** til 5.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
- 17.15 **Swanage Football Club U-9s Training** til 6.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
- 18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Swanage Youth Club.** School years 7&8. Till 8.30pm
- 18.00 **Table Tennis** at Harmans Cross Village Hall. All ages & abilities welcome. Coaching given. Till 8pm or later. Ffi: 424591
- 18.45 **Sw Hockey Club Training** Wm Sports Centre. Till 8. 424442
- 19.00 **Wm Bridge Club** at the Library, South St. 552046
- 19.00 **Swanage Town Band** meet for our weekly practice in the Council Chamber, Swanage Town Hall. New musicians warmly welcomed. Please call David Cook (musical Director) for further information on: 01929 422909.
- 19.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at Beach Gardens Pavillion, Sw.
- 19.30 **Swanage Musical Theatre** meet Swanage Bay View Complex Rehearsal Room. All welcome. Ffi: 426161
- 20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 10
- 20.15 **Dorset Buttons Morris Practice.** URC Hall, Wm. 423234/421130
- 20.30 **Wm Swimming Club Adults.** All standards + stroke improvement. Till 10
- 22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (16+)** Till 11.59
- EVERY THURSDAY**
- 08.30 **Wm Home Producers Veg, cakes, plants, flowers, handicrafts.** URC. New producers/helpers welcome. Till 11. 553798
- 08.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 9.30am.
- 09.00 **Carey Crafters** meet every other Thursday (call to check if it's this Thursday!) at Carey Hall, Mistover Road, until 12.30pm (come anytime between). No age or gender restriction. All crafts welcome we have a wide variety!. Come along and share your craft or learn a new one! Contact Donna on 07870 993311 or Helen on 07368 352737 ffi.
- 09.00 **Swanage Painting Club.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Friendly group. New members including beginners welcome. Till 1pm. Ffi: Jane on 01929 427078
- 09.30 **Play and Learn** at Chapel Lane, Swanage, till 11am.
- 09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Streche Road, Wareham, until 12 noon.
- 09.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11am.
- 09.30 **Sensory Play** for under ones, at Bovington Centre until 10.30am
- 10.00 **Wm Parent & Toddler Group** During term Parish Hall, Quay Till 11.45. 556806
- 10.00 **Wool Country Market** D'Urville Hall. Cakes, preserves, plants, crafts, vegetables. Coffee & biscuits available.
- 10.00 **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** at Queensmead Hall, Sw. Til 11am. Adm 50p
- 10.00 **Volunteer Centre Drop-In** at Wareham Library till 12pm. Find out about volunteering to support community groups & charities.
- 10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com
- 10.15 **Chess** at the Cafe Tratt, Lower High Street, Swanage (from 8th February 2018). Call in for a friendly game of chess and a chat. All welcome.
- 10.30 **Mid-Week Market Morning Service** URC, Church St, Wm. Prayer requests to Revd. Simon Franklin 556976
- 10.30 **Woodworking** with Bernard and Terry at the Purbeck Workshop in Wool. The Workshop provides craft activities free of charge to those touched by cancer - friends and family are welcome too. Unit 6, Woolbridge Business Centre, East Burton Rd, Wool. BH20 6HG. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. Email: richris95@gmail.com
- 11.00 **Sensory Play** for 1-4yrs old at Bovington Centre, until 12 noon.
- 13.30 **Under 1 year olds** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Anti-natal mums welcome. Till 3pm. Ffi: 552864.
- 13.30 **Toddler Group.** All Saints' Church, Sw. 423937. Till 3pm (Term times)
- 14.00 **Studland Chair-based Exercise** in the Village Hall, Studland. Ffi: Julie on 558139 or email: jbrad@uwclub.net
- 14.15 **Sw Over-60s** Meet in the Rectory Classroom, Swanage, Sw. All Welcome.
- 17.45 **Swanage Youth Club.** Learning Difficulties and disability (age 11-25) night. Till 7.30pm
- 18.00 **Five High Singers,** United Reformed Church Hall, Swanage. 11 - 18 years. Till 7pm
- 18.00 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Weekly evening Art Group. Aimed at beginners, at the Youth Hostel classroom, Cluny Crescent, Swanage, till 9pm.
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 9pm
- 18.30 **Swanage Sea Rowing Club Circuit Training** at Swanage Middle School. Ffi: 07776 201455
- 19.00 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 8pm. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 19.00 **Purbeck Gateway Club** meets at Wareham Youth Centre until 9pm. Purbeck Gateway is a club for adults with learning difficulties. We meet during term time and have fun! All welcome. Ffi: Lew on 552173. Email: Lewisbell1@aol.com
- 19.15 **Wm Town Band Brass & Woodwind** players welcome. 551478/01202 242147
- 19.30 **Short Mat Bowls** in the Durbeville Hall, Wool. All standards welcome, till 9.30pm. Ffi: 552682
- 19.30 **Purbeck Arts Choir** meet for rehearsals, with conductor Jay Buckle, at St Mary's School, Northbrook Road, Swanage. Sept-May. All welcome. For more information please phone Liz Roberts 01929 481419
- 19.30 **Swanage Youth Club Youth Action** (year 7 - sixth form). Till 9.30pm
- 20.00 **Herston Hall OAP Committee Bingo** Sw
- EVERY FRIDAY**
- 09.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am
- 09.30 **Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation.** Till 10.30am. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 09.30 **Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. Term time only. Until 11.30am. Ffi: Alex on 07904 412067.
- 10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Sw FC All ages/abilities £2.50 Till noon. 480093
- 10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 21 Commercial Road, Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances.
- 11.00 **Swanage Library Rhyme Time,** ages 0-4, until 11.30am.
- 11.00 **Toddler Time** For Under 5s And Carers. Wareham Library. Stories, songs and crafts. Every Friday, including school holidays. Ffi: 01929 556146
- 14.30 **Short Mat Bowls** at Durbeville Hall, Wool. Till 4.30pm. All standards welcome. Ffi: 552682.
- 18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 8.30pm.
- 18.00 **Purbeck War-Game & Model Club.** Royal British Legion, Sw. 426096.
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club** 12-13 (Yr 7-9) Till 8
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club Mowlem Community Room.** 421840
- 19.00 **Sw Youth Centre Seniors Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 9.30pm.
- 19.30 **Short tennis** for adults at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till 9.30pm. £3.
- 20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Live Bands** (as advertised) Till 10pm.
- 22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Late Session (Yr 9+)** till 11.59pm (members free)
- EVERY SATURDAY**
- 08.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 4/5 mile run.
- 09.00 **Sw CC U11 - U15 Practice** till 10.30
- 09.30 **Sw CC U9 & U10 Practice & Kwik Cricket** till 10.30
- 10.00 **Tea, coffee and home-made cakes** in the Parish Hall on Wareham Quay during the Community Market. Til 2pm. Bric-a-Brac stall weekly. Christian bookstall most weeks. All welcome for a warm-up and a friendly chat.
- 11.00 **Lego and Megablok Mayhem** at Swanage Library, until 12 noon.
- 20.00 **Herston OAP Committee Bingo** at Herston Hall, Sw
- EVERY SUNDAY**
- 09.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 8+ mile run.
- 10.00 **Arts and Crafts Market** at the Mowlem in Swanage. A wide range of local art for sale, including pottery, glass, cards, fabric and much more! To book your table, or for more information, call Tony on 01929 421321.
- 10.30 **Stoborough Emmanuel Baptist Church** meet at Stoborough First School, Stoborough. All very welcome.
- 13.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 2.30pm
- 14.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 4.30pm.

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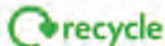
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