

The Purbeck Gazette



December 2021
Issue no. 263

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Ilay Talks Of Dunshay Manor Pg 22-23



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We Will Remember Them. Pg 16



Aniseed & Almond Slice. Pg 31



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Merry Christmas
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We look forward to working with
you all in 2022!

Editor's note...



Welcome to the December edition of your Purbeck Gazette! At the time of writing, the weather is unusually mild and outside the office, we have crocuses and daffodil bulbs pushing their way up in the planters already. Strange times indeed. Long range forecasts for December currently give variable weather, with mild and colder spells alternating throughout December. We shall see!

Well - it's Christmas! It's the most wonderful time of the year...! We hope that everyone is intending to relax for a couple of days over Christmas this year and spend a little time with family or friends. It's been a weird year or two, has it not? As of right now, there seems to be little likelihood of another lockdown, which is somewhat heartening - although this is, of course, not guaranteed. Talk of further lockdowns are rumbling across Europe, so let's keep it safe and sensible folks and hopefully we'll keep working our way out of the pandemic, together.

Our Christmas edition features advertising from cover to cover, with local businesses reaching out to encourage you to utilise their services and support them. It's been a really tough year and with stock prices rising and availability slipping, it's vital to support local businesses this winter. They employ local staff and keep our economy turning. Without a wide range of local shops and services, we'll head into a localised recession - which will not be good for anyone.

Make the effort - wrap up warm, take a wander around our stunning towns and villages, shop locally this Christmas and purchase inspired, locally-made gifts for all those you love. Be part of the community which keeps Purbeck strong! Have a great Christmas!

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

The **JANUARY 2022** edition has a **deadline** of 8th Dec.

Public Notices & Information



Compiled for the Purbeck Gazette by
National Coastwatch Institution, Swanage



Solar & Tidal Predictions - Dec '21

Peveril Ledge, Swanage

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

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

All times are local

edoc

Swanage Town Council Meetings - DEC 2021

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Wareham Town Council Meetings - DEC 2021

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

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

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Remembrance Day, Swanage, 2021. Church attendees at St Mary's Parish Church. Poppies on lawn by The Veterans' Forge. By Tim Crabb

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DEADLINE FOR THE JANUARY EDITION IS NOON, 8th DEC

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.

JANUARY deadline: noon, 8th DEC

Surely We Can Do Better?

Dear Editor,

I've always appreciated the Purbeck Gazette's intelligent and thoughtful content, so I was very sad to see, in the last issue, an article promoting the 'pheasant shooting season'.

Despite the article's somewhat defensive listing, by the BASC, of the so-called benefits of shooting, there's no denying that shooting birds is a blood sport, with the victims suffering an agonising death.

Every year, millions of pheasants and partridges are bred in intensive confinement for the purpose of releasing them to be shot. If they're not killed during the shoot, their necks are wrung, with many left to bleed to death.

Those who claim the birds are 'just dumb animals and feel nothing' are trying to justify the inhumanity of this cruelty. As the birds have nearly identical neurological systems to ours, any creature trapped and shot would experience the same pain and panic as a human.

Additionally, any creature seen as a threat to the birds as shooting targets - including stoats, weasels and raptors such as hen harriers, red kites and golden eagles - are often trapped with illegally-set traps, snared or poisoned. The toxic lead shot can pollute waterways and cause sickness, death and reproductive failure in raptors. It's hard to see how any of this wildlife crime be described as 'conservation'.

While the social and health benefits listed are great, there are so many outdoor pursuits available, other than killing for sport, which offer fresh air, exercise and meeting new friends. A few which come to mind are hiking, wildlife photography, bird watching, dog walking, camping or volunteering for (genuine) conservation projects.

For those who really want to shoot, clay pigeon shooting provides the excitement and challenge of trying to hit a moving target, without the blood.

The tragedy is that most of the UK's major habitats are in decline, with 90 million birds lost since 1970. A feature on p 33 speaks of 'working with nature, not against it'. Surely, with all humanity's gone through recently, and the current environmental crises, we can do better than this?

Please let's start by refusing to persecute our wildlife for entertainment. Jay Sparkle, Wareham, by email.

Blood Sport Is Abhorrent

Dear Editor,

In an article in the November Gazette BASC's head of game assures us that game shooting has "a positive impact on people's wellbeing".

On the contrary, for those of us who find blood sports abhorrent the sounds and sights of slaughter ruin a walk in the countryside and negatively impact our physical and mental wellbeing for the rest of the day.

G. Yeomans, by email

Remembering Animal Heroes

Dear Editor,

As Remembrance Day fell recently (on Sunday 14th November), I thought it might be a good idea to mention some of the animals who also served with our armed forces.

In more modern times, the messenger pigeon has been used to great effect during wartime. In both the first and the second world wars, the pigeon saved thousands of human lives by carrying important messages across enemy lines. Pigeons were used on ships, aircraft and by ground forces around the globe.

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At the outbreak of WWII, 7,000 of Britain's pigeon fanciers gave their pigeons to the war effort to act as message carriers and so it was that the National Pigeon Service was formed. Pigeons were decorated and even buried with military honour.

The Dickin Medal was instituted in 1943 to honour the work of animals in war, recognised for their outstanding act of bravery and devotion to duty. It soon became the animals' Victoria Cross and was awarded fifty-four times between 1943-1949. Thirty-two pigeons received the medal, eighteen dogs, three horses and a cat called Simon, who served on HMS Amethyst during the Yangtze incident. The cat was wounded but continued to defend the ship's stores from rats.

Messenger pigeon, Winkie, was the first Dickin's medal recipient. On February 28 1942, a British Beaufort bomber was forced down in the North Sea. Winkie was thrown free of her on-board container, wings clogged by oily water, she flew to the Scottish coast, 129 miles away. Meanwhile, the bomber crew huddled in a dinghy shivering from the cold. Shortly before dawn, Winkie arrived in Scotland and a code tied to her leg helped lead the rescue team to the downed plane.

The crew later gave a dinner in London to Winkie and her owner in appreciation of her life saving flight.

I remain Editor, yours faithfully.

Mike Fry, by email.

Dismayed By MIU Comments

Dear Editor

As a regular visitor to Purbeck, I was dismayed by the unpleasant tone and insulting language in several of the letters in the November edition.

I very much doubt that doctors and nurses in Swanage are 'avoiding a proper day's work' or 'cowering in their homes' as Mrs Wellstead seems to think. I too have used the MIU in the past, and needed to use it again this week, so it was frustrating to be turned away, and have to phone 111 to book an appointment.

However, when we did so, the service was courteous, professional and thorough and we were able to book an appointment for later that day.

I would very much prefer to be able to go to a drop-in service, but I understand that putting lots of sick people in the same room creates ideal conditions for viruses to spread, and I don't want to be responsible for inadvertently infecting with Covid-19 a pregnant woman or someone with a compromised immune system.

We have one of the highest infection rates in Europe, and 100 people a day are still dying of Covid, so unfortunately, we have to put up with inconveniences for a little longer, and we may as well do so with good grace.

There are also compensations, an NHS therapist friend of mine tells me that she's now able to see more patients remotely than she did when all her sessions were face to face. At our home GP practice, it's much easier to get an urgent appointment with a GP (by phone) than it was before Covid, and the GPs will always see people face to face if they think it's necessary.

It's perfectly reasonable to think that Swanage MIU and some GPs have got the balance wrong; and it's good that people can vent their frustration in the local newspaper. However, it ought to be possible to disagree with someone's decision without calling them lazy or cowardly. Anger, unfortunately, is infectious too.

Bruce Calderwood, by email

A Wonderful Place Indeed!

Dear Gazette,

What a wonderful place to live - in Swanage.....especially when one needs help because they can't get out and about to do it themselves. We hadn't realised what a difficult situation this was to be in before, being so used to doing everything ourselves.



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A very merry Christmas to one and all!

But because of such good friends and neighbours around, plus the helpful Health Centre and Well Pharmacy, the weekly market and local shops and even Holme Nurseries 'saving' our points for us, we have been able to live with/through our rather nasty attack of Covid.

Can't believe we had been through eighteen months, two jabs plus a flu jab, went away for a few days to Torquay and came back with the wretched 'curse'. Thankfully now we are much better - or should be by the time you read this letter. The main reason for this is to THANK Swanage for its caring friendship during these difficult times.

Hope no one else gets Covid, but rest assured you know you are not alone here, there are some very special people who live here. Our grateful thanks to you all.

Daphne and Vic Saville, by email.

Ambulance Car Update

Dear Gazette Readers

Looking back to February last year, when we first heard that the Ambulance Car was going to be withdrawn, I think we can be very proud of the way our community has stood together, with support from Swanage Town Council, to oppose the loss of this life saving service. The Ambulance Car attends almost 1000 emergency calls a year in Swanage alone, including over 400 where there is risk to life. Keeping the Ambulance Car over the last 20 months will have saved the lives of many local people and given their friends and family more time with their loved ones. This is priceless.

When we started campaigning, little did we know that one of our core members, Thelma, would be needing the Car herself this Autumn. Seeing Thelma very disorientated, her husband Andrew called 999, and was so relieved to see Martin Prouten arrive promptly in the Ambulance Car. Thelma was quickly assessed as having red flag stroke symptoms and needing to get to hospital. An ambulance was called, however the ambulance had to come from Shaftesbury.

Thelma says "I was frightened, disorientated and lost my memory for at least ten minutes. When Martin walked through the door the feelings of comfort and relief were quite overwhelming to myself and my very distressed husband, for him it was like time had stood still whilst he was waiting for help to come. Martin immediately put me at ease, and, as I knew I was in safe hands, his thorough assessment allowed the fear to disappear. Saying thanks is not enough and words cannot really express how this is very much more than a service, it's vital, and it would be criminal if it were removed."

So, what is happening with the Ambulance Car? We are waiting for health bosses Dorset CCG to engage with our community about their plans. We continue to gather signatures on Thelma's petition to Dorset Council. Dorset Council could try to enforce Dorset CCGs promise to fully maintain Swanage based ambulances and have statutory powers to



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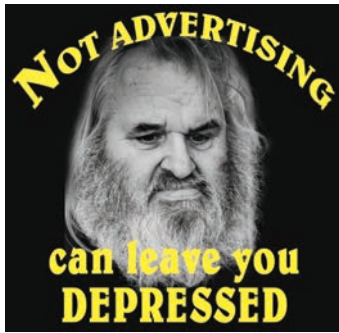
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send any plan to withdraw the Car back to the Secretary of State. We need 5,000 signatures to get the petition to full council, so please sign and share! The petition can be found by clicking on the green bar near the top of every page of our website <https://saveswanageambulancecar.org/> by googling 'Dorset Council Save Swanage Ambulance Car' or by scanning the QR code on our leaflets and posters.

Christmas is a time to give thanks, and our thanks go to the core Ambulance Car staff Martin Prouten and Russell Fox, who have been with so many of us through the most difficult times - saving lives, helping prevent long term disability, and offering care and compassion. We all wish you both a very Merry Christmas.

Cllr Debby Monkhouse, co ordinator, Save Our Ambulance Car

Be Aware Of Sundowning

Dear Editor,

As the nights begin to draw in, many of us exclaim our surprise, despite the fact it happens every year!

But for people with dementia when the clocks changed and went back an hour on 31st October, it may well have caused more than just surprise. People with dementia can find themselves particularly disorientated by the change.

People's responses will vary – some people with dementia may find this upsetting and become tearful, whereas others may become angry or agitated, and still others might respond in a more light-hearted way. Others may not even notice that much. It will of course depend on the individual.

The main difficulty that people with dementia might experience when the days get shorter is of an increase in 'sundowning'. This can be seen as changes in the person's behaviour in the later afternoon or towards the end of the day.

During this time the person may become intensely distressed or confused or have hallucinations or delusions. This may continue into the night, making it hard for them to get enough sleep.

The fact that the mornings are darker may well have an effect too, as someone with dementia may find it difficult to differentiate between, say, 6am and 6pm. The use of clocks that show both the time and also whether it is evening or morning may help here.

Having a routine during the day and at bedtime can help when a person's body clock doesn't work as well as it should. Doing regular activities at the same time each day – for example, going out for a walk after breakfast, playing a game after lunch or listening to the radio together in the afternoon can help make sense of the time.

Going outside in the daytime, ideally in the morning, can help to set the person's body clock too, making them feel sleepy during the evening. If the person can't go outside in the daytime, you could use a lamp or lightbox that creates a bright indoor light. These devices have a similar effect to natural light on the person's body clock.

If you're affected by dementia, call Alzheimer's Society's Dementia Connect support line on: 0333 150 3456 for information, advice and support, or visit alzheimers.org.uk

Kelly Inwood, Alzheimer's Society Area Manager, by email

Accolades From Ealing!

Good afternoon, Nico,

On Saturday just gone, I picked up a copy of The Purbeck Gazette (October 2021) from a shop in Swanage, an area that my wife and I know well from very long-standing connections with Bournemouth.

I glanced through the Gazette over lunch on the day and have just finished reading through it more carefully.

I found it to be extremely well produced, laid out and presented. Many of the articles were very interesting and well written and the publication must be a great resource for your regular readership.

For a local magazine and a 'freebie' I was very pleasantly surprised. Well done!

Best wishes, Nigel Bewley, Ealing, London, by email

228 Years Of Life Experience!



Hello Editor!

We're a male voice trio and we love to entertain. We boast 228 years of life experience and rehearse in Stoborough. We wondered if you might like to introduce us to your Purbeck Gazette readers?

We've been mates for getting on for ten years, and, having formed our trio, got through two rounds of auditions for Britain's Got Talent, so not too disheartening.

The Stoborough resident in our band is the only trained musician. David (Marshall), who concluded his military career as Director of Music of the Coldstream Guards, having travelled at home and abroad serving HM the Queen and our country. What he thinks he's doing singing alongside Bob (Lloyd) and me I can't imagine, as we're just interested journeymen, but it seems to work.

Anyway, do visit our website: crocksalive.com

Thanks and good wishes.

Ian Catley, Crocks Alive (just), by email.

Fireworks And King Canute

Dear Gazette,

MORONS OR HYPOCRITES OR BOTH?

As an ex-firefighter for many years, it still baffles me as to what to call people on 5th November? I bet over 90% of people, especially those under 15, were ooooo and ahhhh at the fireworks last month?

Yet, these same people hate any form of racism, go protesting about climate change, say thank you to service veterans (which I am one, by the way) and go all soft when they see nice cuddly animals!

In my basic training as a firefighter, we are taught that smoke is "carbonaceous particles of burnt and unburnt gasses". I think the "carbonaceous" bit tells it all really! Every firework emits CO2 into the atmosphere. Hypocrites!

Bonfire night, as it's now called, is a celebration of the capture of Guy Fawkes and his gang who were a Catholic band hell bent on blowing up Parliament and the Protestant King. Therefore, anyone celebrating this event is, by definition, sectarian, and racist! Hypocrite!

How many animals, wild or pet die each year because they are scared stiff of fireworks? Morons!

Service veterans with PTSD cower under tables, under blankets, under anything, to get away from the memories of war, which fireworks bring back to them! Morons! Sorry to upset probably most people in Purbeck, but for once, look at the truth!

Oh, by the way, climate change as you wish to call it, better known as global warming, is a natural phenomenon and I can assure you, has absolutely nothing to do with CO2 emissions, plus no one is going to stop it! Fact!

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King Canute tried to force nature to do what nature does, by attempting to send back the waves. He failed. Now politicians around the world and of course, Greta Thunberg and her followers are hell bent on telling us a mass of lies, which, is in fact a natural event which happens every 47,000 years.

So, instead of moaning at my letter, look into the mirror and ask yourself (and your family):

Do we support climate change, (which isn't happening as they say it is)? If so, stop using fireworks which emit CO2 and get behind banning them. Stop supporting a sectarian event which was over 400 years ago and is considered a racist event. Stop killing wildlife and people's pets by scaring them to death. Stop bringing back horrific memories for service veterans.

I'm sure you are all picking up a pen or signing into your computers to write a nasty letter to the editor moaning about my letter. If so, I rest my case!

Thank you, C. Butler, Wareham, by email.

A Poker Game For Poor Nations

Dear Editor,

When Bill Anders took that iconic "Earthrise" photograph on a simple shutter camera from an Apollo capsule, we saw the beauty of our place in space. Fast forward to the present day - or should we rewind to that moment and assess Cop26? Nationalism within our history has never solved any of our problems, and as climate change goes mainstream to lessen attention, we can't allow to ignore problems. Our children proclaim this on the streets of Glasgow, where world leaders (747 in with 53 limos in tow) attend a climate meeting. Was there a vegetarian option on the menu, with Baked Alaska for dessert?

Forestry is promoted as our saviour as it always has been and our technology, as the coal train rolls on like some Trumpian Corporation control, when the major emitters of CO2 don't show up, or sign up. Wrangling over the temperature of the planet we all live upon in time-lines and numbers, where net zero becomes the holy grail. If we were there, tomorrow, would solar investment, with our energy hunger, assuage the damage we have already done?

Although there were many positive pledges at Cop 26, it came across as if it were a poker game for poorer nations, with 130 trillion dollars worth of chips on the casino table. With no mention of the methane held in the permafrost of the Arboreal Crown of planet Earth, and no contingency plans to nurture climate refugees. We cannot buy our way back into nature, but we can rebalance what we do day-to-day, like the prophecy of the First Nation's Hopi stone in the Nevada desert.

Hopefully, Cop 27 will be Skyped, to lessen the previous carbon footprint. The Industrial Revolution didn't start in Glasgow; It began in Ironbridge, Telford - I've been to the museum.

Yours Sincerely, Myk Hamilton, by email.

Sing Away The Blues!

Dear Editor,

So many people have had a miserable time in recent months. I'm sure a lot of your readers have heard that singing has been shown to be the perfect antidote to the blues!

Many in Swanage and the surrounding area will have heard of the Belvedere Singers and I wanted to let everyone know that following a (far too-long) break we have started to meet again.

I have been a member of this amateur choir for over twenty years and so I feel well qualified to thoroughly recommend it. We are a group of mixed voices, ages and abilities who rehearse and perform a very wide range of music- from classical, folk and opera to secular and pop, with everything in between - sometimes even in languages we do not understand. We have a fantastic professional Music Director, Clive, who teaches us every piece, plus our superb accompanist, Isabelle.

If you have always thought you might like to try us out, or if you are new to the area and looking for an outlet for your musical talents, then why not give us a go?

An ability to read music is useful but by no means essential, and Clive's

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weekly instruction has helped many of us to make sense of the 'squiggles on the page'. We meet on Tuesday evenings at the Emmanuel Baptist Church on Victoria Avenue, Swanage from 7.30pm to 9.30pm.

The venue is accessible to all and we have good safety procedures in place. I can guarantee you a warm welcome if you come along when we start up again on 4th January 2022.

We will be working towards a full concert in May; we are a registered charity and retiring collections at our concerts have help raise much needed funds for a variety of good causes over the years.

If you'd like to know more about us, our website is www.belvederesingers.org.uk or you can call our secretary on 425074 for a friendly chat. We also now have a Facebook page!

I really hope to see some new faces at our rehearsals in January. I promise you will have a great time and leave with a big smile and a wonderful feeling of wellbeing!

Sue Eady, by email.

A Feeling Of Inertia

Dear Gazette,

Lib Dem Councillors tell me that there is a lack of money and staff to even maintain current levels of service from the Dorset Council. So, when David Hollister complains about delays in the planning system or lack of new road markings, etc., that seems to be at the root of it.

This state of affairs is very dangerous because it leads to a feeling of inertia – that nothing can change.

You would think that our Conservative M.P.s would do something about this lack of money but maybe they calculate that Dorset voters will always support them, regardless of the services they get and the taxes they pay.

With regard to next year's Council Tax, it seems that the rise will be limited to 2% but with yet another Adult Social Care precept added again despite the additional 3% over two years added last year. This is all being discussed at the moment.

Meanwhile, I note that there is a Library Consultation going on. This could be a positive matter but, in the current climate, it seems that we need to be alert to fight again for the preservation of Swanage Library. I would urge your readers to participate in the online consultation.

Liberal Democrats say: 'Do better, or elect someone else who can do so.'

Peter Clark, Chair of South Dorset Liberal Democrats.

A Heart-felt Plea For Help

We've covered a range of topics over the years in your Gazette, suicide and depression being some of the topics we've focused on previously - due to the significantly high suicide rate here in the South West. This month, we received an anonymous letter from a reader, clearly reaching out for help.

We're including the majority of this letter, despite being anonymous, due to the seriousness of the feelings of the writer and our wish to try and improve their situation - whoever they are. Some of the detail has been removed from the letter, but the basic facts remain. What may seem like 'insignificant' actions by neighbours can, in fact, have a very real and serious impact on others.

Kindness means absolutely everything and a lack of understanding of the impact of your actions on others can have serious repercussions. Please think and act responsibly and realise that your actions can be detrimental to others..... be kind!!

Dear Nico and Gazette Readers,

I doubt this will be published but I need to share with you what we are going through. I have to spill out what is making our otherwise happy retirement a misery - and these are merely a few of the incidents.

Our house is compact, our garden deliberately small, but we were happy until close neighbours moved their daughter, partner and children in with them. Something which sounds like a generator has been installed in their double garage, which seems to run for an hour, before cutting in and out at ten minute intervals - right next to where we sit in our



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garden. During the lockdowns there were continual comings and goings with much door slamming, including from the two cars and van at the property. We mentioned the generator noise being an issue, yet nothing changed and it continues.

The van is always parked on our side, under our window or along our frontage. The driver seems to continually drive it in and out or he just sits in the van, chain smoking. The public turning area in our road is now filled with their vehicles, causing issues for the waste and recycling teams who are unable to back up and turn. This situation is now worse as the family has acquired yet another car.

We are woken late at night by the van driver slamming doors or mistakenly leaning on the horn, waking us whilst chain smoking in his van. At times we have resigned ourselves to sleeping in the back bedroom, but apart from the sheer inconvenience - as other neighbours have pointed out - why should we?

The van driver has loud conversations (we know he was denied a bank loan as we heard the entire conversation), has the van speaker up loud and continually leaves the engine running. I am asthmatic and the fumes coming directly into our property and garden are a real and serious issue.

The van also parks outside our back gates, meaning we now have difficulties in getting our rubbish and recycling bins out. We also have problems getting shopping inside - grocery bags now have to be carried, bag by bag, through the house to the kitchen. We are used to this now, but it was an ordeal through the lockdowns. There's so much more, but this gives some idea of what we go through.

As a couple, we are not in the best of health or strength. I realise that writing to you anonymously is not good practice and won't bring help, but getting it down on paper has been somewhat cathartic as, after yet another disturbed night, my husband is worried and upset. We see no light at the end of the tunnel and I feel suicidal.

Hand delivered to the Gazette offices, November 2021. LETTER WRITER: please provide Nico at the Gazette with your address/telephone number as we have the ability to sort this situation out for you in a confidential, stress free and positive way! Please allow us to help....

Battle Of Britain Witnesses?

Dear Editor,

Thank you for publishing my letter in September's Gazette regarding the Polish pilot, Antoni Ostowicz, who was killed over Swanage Bay on 11th August 1940, during the Battle of Britain (Jul - Oct 1940).

Of the 510 allied pilots killed in this battle, another four were killed over Swanage.

These were: F/O G.Branch of 145 squadron, killed on 11th August 1940.

- Sgt J Christie of 152 squadron, killed on 26th September 1940.
- Sgt C Parkinson of 238 squadron, killed on 20 July 1940.
- P/O E Posener (South African) of 152 squadron, killed on 20 July 1940.

I wonder whether there is anyone still living in Swanage who would have witnessed the action over Swanage and the Bay during the Battle of Britain?

Yours sincerely, Michael Olizar, by hand.

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Community Matters

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS...

Open Mouthed At Arrogance....Or Is It Stupidity?

by David Hollister

I'm open-mouthed at the arrogance – or is it stupidity – of the millions of people who refuse to be vaccinated against Covid 19, especially those who had the first two jabs and are refusing the booster. Probably being made no easier by the fact that following the hugely successful and efficient local roll-out of the first two jabs, handled by our excellent local surgeries and hospitals, the organisation for the 'booster' appears to have been taken over by the Government.

Its scandalous 119 'service' seems to be resulting in people being directed all across the south of England, whilst people from far away are being directed to Wareham.

Open-mouthed also at the number of NHS and Care Home staff who refuse to protect themselves and the people in their care. Actually somewhat grateful to the Government for taking the stance to make full vaccination a condition of their continued employment.

Yes, it's 'freedom of choice' but I'd rather you didn't have the Freedom Of Choice to infect me whilst I am vulnerable. Yes, there are 'exemptions' and always will be. But if your health or medical condition prevents you wearing a mask or having a preventative vaccination, perhaps you should ask yourself if it's safe for you to be out anyway. Or looking after my granny.

We've beaten so many diseases by vaccination; Polio, Hepatitis B, Diphtheria, Mumps, Measles, and so forth; most of us were vaccinated at primary school with no ill-effect and with the approval and encouragement of our parents who fortunately were not harangued by keyboard warriors on social media because at the time, there was no social media.

But if you're seriously worried about what you put into your body, what about cigarettes, alcohol or beefburgers?

I think the thing that bothers me most about anti-vaxxers and indeed, non-maskers, is that if they're right, we're all OK. If they're wrong, I might die due to their decision. They won't die due to mine.

Plaudits to the Wareham Vaccination clinic who are doing their very best and attempting to hold batches of vaccine for locals, and as the recipient of all three jabs at Wareham without any difficulty or fuss whatsoever, I'm truly grateful. They have enough to do without having to argue with the NHS.

At the moment, surgeries are experiencing a lack of plastic bottles for blood samples. NHS England has ordered an unprecedented cut in blood testing, which is actually a fundamental part of patient care. This is 2021 and with the 111 and 119 systems, the closed wards, the absent ambulances, the huge A&E queues, the 100,000 missing nurses – you're dragging us inexorably back to the dark ages. NHS England? Bah Humbug!

But 119 is just another tip of an iceberg the size of which will eventually cause an irreparable hole in the side of the doomed ship HMS Great Britain. Can't make a doctor's appointment? Can't get through to a real Police Officer? Can't even get through to 999? Well, I was brought up in an era when all these things were possible – nay, easy – without automated switchboards and call centres staffed by poorly-trained 'advisors'.

When I phone the Police to report an issue, I don't expect to be asked 'where is Corfe Castle' or to be told ten times that it's easier to 'do it

online'. If I witness a traffic accident, how the hell am I supposed to 'do it online', especially when using my mobile phone in my car is an offence?

The offence in my book is being constantly told to make it 'easier' on the website. When we phone up, we don't want to talk to or be given instructions by a machine, we want to talk to a Real Human Being!

Most of us over 50s don't actually find it 'easier online'; many of my generation are still not computer-literate and actually have no wish to be. But in today's era of 'online' everything, we're being disrespected and discarded like so much old rubbish.

Thanks, Dorset Council for explaining that you are having difficulties with ticket machines and asking us to pay using our cards or our mobile phones. Cllr Ray Bryan, portfolio holder for Highways, Travel and Environment, says: 'this is very much a temporary measure and we're working hard to re-instate cash payment, which we know is the preferred option for many of our residents.'

Sorry, Ray, I just don't believe your suggestion that so many ticket machines across Dorset have spontaneously developed problems. Nothing, I trust, to do with the Council trying to push everyone into stopping using cash and then suddenly discovering how unpopular this proposal was?

I believe that this was a hidden 'pilot scheme' for going cashless and maybe I should remind you, Ray, that we elderly motorists will not be bullied and disenfranchised in the manner and that we have Very Long Memories. If it isn't, then come out and say so.

I try not to use the Dorset Council car parks, especially since the last savage increases in fees. The minimum charge of £1 will make it totally impractical to park for ten minutes and pop into the newsagent for a paper and a packet of polos. Or to run round to a cash machine and draw out the housekeeping for the week!

Yes, some of us prefer to have a pocketful of cash and we are the people who now refuse to patronise any local shops who don't accept what is still – or was, at the time of writing – legal tender. You know who you are.

What of 'legal action'; another phrase for legalised theft of your money; lack of properly trained magistrates, lack of prison accommodation, but a glut of solicitors all too ready to take up cudgels on behalf of the big firms or indeed the Government, and bring them down on the heads of us little people. It was the late Irish Judge Sir James Matthew, who in the 19th century coined the phrase 'justice is open to us all, like the Ritz'. Not a lot changed, then!

Finally, congratulations to Rosalind Suttle and her team who have formed 'Swanage Community Housing' in an attempt to enable local people and key workers to live in Swanage by developing beautiful housing they can afford.

I attended the Zoom launch of this group on 10th November and was impressed by the keen and positive attitude of most of the attendees, although perhaps disappointed by the fact that few of them appeared to be of the age group who would really benefit from the group.

So come on Swanage, homeless, hard up, young and middle aged, get behind them! More info on: www.swanagecommunityhousing.org

Thank you all so much for your encouragement and positive comments this year; have a very Merry Christmas and keep reading into 2022!

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Out Of The Blue

Dorset Police



December, from the Latin word decem meaning ten because it was the tenth month of the year in the calendar of Romulus (nothing to do with Star Trek for you Trekkies out there) and was known by the Anglo-Saxons as the Yule month. I know yule keep helping us out by continuing to send us your comments, if you can spare

5 minutes please use this link and have your say!

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/PurbeckEmail> By listening and acting upon what you have to say enables us to target both our resources and patrol.

So, what have we been up to? Well, during the period October 06 2021 – November 06 2021, we dealt with a total of 566 occurrences in Purbeck, of which 177 were recorded crimes and resulted in 77 arrests. There were also 106 occurrences of road traffic collisions.

You may have also noticed a little scuffle outside McColls in Swanage. This was a joint endeavour between specialist police officers on the ground and the local Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT). By using the town's CCTV they were able to track down and arrest a male wanted for crimes committed in another county. A very successful team effort with an outstanding result.

As Christmas is fast approaching, we like to reiterate our crime reduction advice around burglaries both residential and shed/beach huts. Burglaries traditionally rise around Christmas with crooks on the lookout for those expensive items bought as presents or festive treats, TVs, tablets, phones, bikes, etc. We would also strongly recommend that those with heating oil tanks review their security as we tend to see this type of theft rise at this time of year, as people fill their tanks ready for winter.

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

https://www.dorset.police.uk/media/1484/shededucation_2012.pdf

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



Partners And Communities Together

property-belongings/protect-your-home/

Christmas | Dorset Police - On a lighter note, Dorset Police wish you all a Merry and Safe Christmas!

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

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

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

Purbeck Neighbourhood Policing Team

DC Wins Funding To Improve Poorly Insulated Rented Homes

Dorset Council has been awarded £98,000 of Government funding, after applying to a national competition, to improve the most poorly insulated rented homes in Dorset.

In the last five years over seven hundred properties in Dorset have been rented with an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) that is in the lowest two bands (F and G).

The council Housing Standards Team entered the competition with a plan to provide help for landlords to improve their energy efficiency and, where necessary, increase enforcement.

In the next few months all landlords with properties with low EPCs will be contacted. Grants will be available for improvements such as loft and cavity wall insulation, more efficient boilers and solar panels.

Cllr Graham Carr-Jones, Dorset Council Housing Portfolio Holder for Housing and Community Safety said: "This funding will help us improve

some of the worst energy performing properties in Dorset, making sure that all properties provide safe and legal accommodation for residents. We already have a good relationship with landlords, and we want to develop more tools to help them decide how to improve their properties.

"Over the next few months landlords with a property with a low EPC score will be contacted by our Housing Standards officers. We will offer help and advice, but at the end of the day, we will also take enforcement action if that is what is necessary to improve these homes."

Dorset Council is also looking to launch ways that help landlords get free expert advice and check for grants from the council's Healthy Homes Dorset scheme run by Ridgewater Energy.

This will also help to identify the works necessary to improve their properties, how much they will cost and how much their EPC score will increase.

BOOK YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE COLLECTION

Our fantastic volunteers will be collecting
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Visit lewis-manning.org.uk to arrange a collection and
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Closing date for registrations is 8th January 2022 and collections will take place between 8th – 14th January 2022



Charity Registration No. 1120193

Tree Collection And Recycling With Lewis-Manning

Lewis-Manning Hospice Care's Christmas tree collection and recycling service is back by popular demand, and this year it's supported by Poole estate agents Leader Fox.

Lewis-Manning Hospice Care has launched its Christmas tree collection service. The successful and popular service is in its fourth year and the community are urged to support the hospice once again by registering for their real Christmas tree collection online.

All Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch postcodes are covered, from BH1 – BH23, and collections will take place between 8th – 14th January 2022.

Area Fundraiser Ruth Wright advised, "Remember to book early as there are only a set number of places available, so please register your tree today to ensure you're not left with a car boot full of needles and twigs! Bookings close on 8th January 2021.

"We are delighted to be able to help the local community again, as well as doing our bit for the environment by running the Christmas tree collection service. Registration online is simple, make a donation to Lewis-Manning Hospice Care on our website and then leave your tree outside the front of your home on the day of collection and we will take care of the rest!"

Lewis-Manning Patron Harry Redknapp said, "Sarn and I know what we're doing with our Christmas tree this year thanks to Lewis-Manning. I hope lots of other people in the local community also make a donation for their tree to be collected too!"

"They're such a worthy cause that help so many people in Dorset. It's fantastic to know that after Boxing Day we don't have to worry about what to do with the tree."

Ruth Wright continued, "We are also very kindly supported by Eco Sustainable Solutions who will be recycling all the trees that we collect and many other local businesses who have offered their help and support again this year."

To register your tree for collection, visit <https://lewis-manning.org.uk/christmas-tree-collection/> and make a real difference to someone's life in your local community.

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FROM ALL THE TEAM





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A Massive Thank You To A VERY Special Lady Indeed....

After six years working with Swanage Dementia Friendly, Jean Gibbs, has decided to step down from the committee. She really deserves to be recognised for the good she has done over the past years for those not as fortunate as others.

From her work with Purbeck Good Neighbours, it became obvious that the Swanage area had an above average number of older people which in turn meant a significant number of people with dementia.

In 2015 Jean then set about setting up the Swanage Area Dementia Friendly Community (SADFC). Very soon, she had enthused enough people to join her and fundraising commenced.

After a talk by Dementia UK about specialist dementia Admiral Nurses, Jean was determined to raise enough funds to put one into the Purbeck area. Despite the very daunting task of having to raise £50,000 (one third of the total amount for employing a nurse for three years) Jean was adamant that it could be done. In May 2016, she started campaigning to complete the task.

By getting the local Swanage Dementia Friendly group fired up, they were able to get local residents, businesses, Swanage Council, and the mayor involved and the money started to roll in. Jean never tired of telling local groups, clubs and more about the advantages of an Admiral Nurse for the area. An empty shop was used as a Pop-Up shop which raised £3000.

Within eighteen months the sum was raised – a truly fantastic achievement. Jean was able to put Dorset Healthcare in contact with Dementia UK and the deal was done.

In August 2017, the first Community Admiral Nurse in Dorset (and the country) was in place. She is now on the permanent NHS staff. With a significant number of our residents in desperate need of support, Jean and the group literally made the impossible happen. Many have been helped and supported as a direct result of the simply staggering fundraising efforts and Jean's unstoppable spirit. A true reflection of just how far hard work and a dedicated will to succeed can take you.

Thank you, Jean, for all the support, hard work and hours you have devoted to Swanage Dementia Friendly Community.

Pictured: Jean at a Swanage Dementia Friendly event in Swanage, pictured with our Town Crier, Andrew Fleming.





Christmas and New Year recycling and rubbish

With Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day all falling on the weekend this year, your recycling and rubbish collections over the festive period will be on your usual day of the week.

Refer to your calendar or visit:

 www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/check-your-bin-day to check your collection days.



 Dorset recycles

Dorset Council Launches Consultation To Shape Future Of Our Library Service - Have Your Say!!



Dorset Council has launched a public consultation to inform how they develop and deliver their library service in the future. Library users and non-users are being asked to share their views. The consultation opened on 25 October and runs until 7 January 2022 – it is available at: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lets-talk-libraries.

Libraries are at the heart of Dorset's communities and provide highly valued services, including book lending, activities and events, reading groups, skills and learning, health and wellbeing, information provision, digital access and support, and art and cultural exhibitions. People of all ages can enjoy all of this and more, within a safe and welcoming environment. There are twenty-three council-run and eight community-managed libraries in the Dorset Council area.

The current library strategy is eleven years old. Over those eleven years, there have been significant changes in public behaviour and digital technology, and the impacts of the Covid pandemic have been felt. This consultation seeks to look to the future of Dorset's libraries – how can

they best meet the needs of local residents and communities, now and over the next ten years?

Cllr Laura Miller, Dorset Council's Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services, said: "This is an exciting time: we are calling on all residents to help us shape the future of Dorset's library service. Since the previous library review in 2010, we've seen big changes in both public behaviour and digital technology, and it is now time to look to the future of our libraries. "This initial consultation period will be a conversation with our communities, employees, and partners, to better understand what they need from the service, now and in the future.

"So, whether you are an active library user, if you have visited our libraries in the past, or if you have not visited one of our libraries before – we want to hear from you. Your views will help us to provide a modern relevant and sustainable service, and I encourage everyone to have their say."

The survey will run for eleven weeks and will close on Friday 7 January 2022. The survey responses will be brought together with evidence around local needs and responses from our partners. A draft strategy will then be produced which will be the focus of a second consultation, to be held in summer 2022.

In addition to our main survey, there is a dedicated children's survey for ages 5-15 years. To find all the surveys head to: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lets-talk-libraries

Support is also available via customer services where an officer can help to fill in the survey over the phone. Call 01305 221 000.

Those who need paper copies of the survey can access these by visiting their local library.

To say thank you to those who complete the survey, there will be the option to be entered into a prize draw to win one of two prizes, either a Kindle Paperwhite (8GB) or an Amazon Echo Dot, for the main survey.

Children who complete the survey could win a £25 Amazon Voucher (three vouchers will be awarded). Employees of Dorset Council are not eligible to enter the prize draw. Full T&Cs can be viewed online.

Changes To Recycling Centre's Opening Hours

Dorset Council has announced it has changed the opening hours of all ten of its Household Recycling Centres (HRCs, or "the tip").

To 30 March, HRCs would usually be open from 10am to 4pm. Since 1st October, all HRCs are now open an hour earlier at 9am. From next year, 1 April to 30 September, HRCs will still open at 9am but close at 5pm.

The revised times will bring Dorset Council's HRCs in line with those in the BCP Council area and better reflect the demand for these services.

Average daily traffic data shows there is far more demand for HRCs between 9am and 10am (around 427 vehicles per hour) than there is between 5pm and 6pm (227 vehicles per hour). To reflect this behaviour and make things simpler for customers, our HRCs will now open at 9am all year round but keep the earlier 4pm closing time in the winter to address site safety as it gets darker earlier.

The move to open earlier will especially help during March, as we experienced higher numbers of visitors dropping off garden waste due to the early onset of warmer spring weather this year. Services struggled to cope as HRCs didn't open until 10am but visitors had started arriving much earlier, and the facilities were only operating for six hours each day.

It is hoped the earlier opening times in winter will smooth demand throughout the day, matching visitors' travelling patterns and reducing morning queue times.

As the move essentially involves moving one hour of daily operational time in summer to winter, the change of hours is cost neutral, with no amendments to existing management arrangements (provided by our contractors, W&S Recycling) or employee terms and conditions.

Cllr Jill Haynes, Dorset Council's Portfolio Holder for Customer and Community Services, said: "It's important that, wherever possible, we tailor our services to the needs and behaviours of the public that we serve. In this instance, we've looked at the data and it's clear that people would much rather drop their waste at an HRC at 9am in the winter than between 5pm and 6pm in the summer, so we're changing operating hours accordingly."

"This change makes our messaging easier; all HRCs in Dorset are open from 9am daily all year round (except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day). It will also address the historic issues we've had in March - and across the winter months generally - when some visitors want to drop their waste off first thing in the morning before carrying on with their day."

"I'd like to thank our waste contracts team for their hard work researching and devising these changes, to our contractors W&S Recycling for the great job they do managing our 10 HRCs, and to everyone who uses them to ensure their waste is disposed of correctly."

To Winspit with Mum

As a child, I would have sulked that day
'A lovely walk' it would have made me moan
But now that I was older, fully grown,
I relished every footfall of the way.

Poor Mum, it was a struggle for her knees
At 79 I hope to do as well
And even though she slipped and nearly fell,
She loved the sea, the cliff, the 'lovely breeze'.

The shelving rock, the splashing, white-foamed waves,

The lush, green grass, the caves, the changing sky,

We came, we saw, we slowly walked on by
And now we'll keep that day until our graves.

(Sadly, Mum has since died with severe dementia. She was 83.) Martin Hobdell, Swanage.

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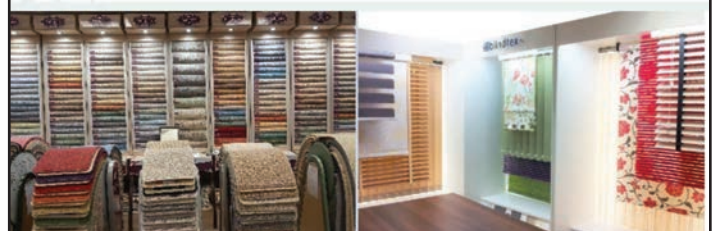


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Sunday Roast 12:00pm - 2:30pm



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Booking Advised Smart Casual Dress

Christmas at the Club

December 1st - 23rd

CHRISTMAS LUNCHES 12-2:30pm
 2-Course Lunches: £25.00 3-Course Lunches: £29.00

Friday Evenings

2-Course Dinners: £28.00 3-Course Dinners: £32.00

PARTY NIGHT - Saturday December 18th

** To include Dinner and Disco **
 2-Course Dinner with disco: £25
 3-Course Dinner with disco: £30

Everyone Welcome
Menu on our website



New Year's Eve Party

31st December, 2021
6:45/7:30pm

Three-Course Dinner & Favours
Complimentary Glass of Bubbly
(at Midnight)

Disco & Dancing

£75/person
Everyone Welcome
Menu on our Website

For more information please visit www.purbeckgolf.co.uk
 email iop@purbeckgolf.co.uk or call 01929 450361

Operation Christmas - Celebrating Dorset's Young Carers

Local charity, MYTIME Young Carers, is on a mission to host a Christmas party for the over 600 young carers living in Dorset. As well as organising the virtual event, the MYTIME team are going one step further, delivering goody bags, including Christmas jumpers and presents, to every child invited. To pull off the social event of the season and spread the Christmas cheer these young people truly deserve, MYTIME is looking for donations and volunteers.

A young carer is a child or young person responsible for looking after a family member, often at great personal cost. There are an estimated 700,000 young carers across the UK. MYTIME support carers as young as five years old, who may be carrying out anything from cooking dinner to laundry to physically helping their family member get up and dressed every morning. The responsibility of caring for another person often means these young people miss out on hobbies, seeing friends and other social activities their peers may take for granted.

Penelope Day, Fundraising Director at MYTIME Young Carers, commented: 'These remarkable young people work incredibly hard to take care of their families, day in and day out. And that includes Christmas. Many of them never get a day off and that can be exhausting and lonely. So we want to make sure all the young carers in Dorset get to enjoy themselves over the holidays and receive the recognition they deserve for what they do. Throwing them a party and giving them a chance to celebrate together is our little way of saying thank you to them.'

In order to host the biggest Christmas party for young carers the county, and potentially even the country, has ever seen, the MYTIME team need support. One party bag, including a Christmas jumper to wear to the event, presents, and treats, costs £20. With over 600 young carers on the guest list, MYTIME is looking to raise £5,000 to go towards funding this 'Operation Christmas' mission. As well as fundraising, MYTIME is looking for volunteers to help write cards, pack the goody bags and deliver them between the 6th and 10th December.

Penelope continued: 'We know we've set ourselves a challenge: hosting a party for every young carer in Dorset is a big job. That's why we need help. We're looking for our very own Christmas elves to help us with everything from writing a Christmas card to delivering Christmas jumpers. If you want to help us spread some Christmas cheer, please get in touch!'



To find out more about MYTIME Young Carers and volunteer your help, visit: <https://www.mytimeyoungcarers.org/>. Or visit the JustGiving page to donate: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/operation-christmas>.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Words by Frank Roberts, pictures by Tim Crabb

The fantastic Remembrance Sunday Parade this year hid early planning jitters in the background as some long term members of the team were greatly missed - as was the usual heavy presence by the Royal Corps of Signals from Blandford.

All month Carolyn Hooper and the Poppy team were hard at work and we thank Corbens for arranging the Pop-up Poppy Shop in Station Road. With Town Council planning for traffic arrangements, signage and other matters aligning well, thoughts focused on St Mary's Church. Due to the absence of Colonel Mike and the usual contingent of soldiers we decided to rather streamline the service.

The service was superb, led by the Reverend Solveig Sonet - with the choir really on top form. We then marched behind the Ringwood Pipe Band to the Wreath Laying Ceremony, which was also very well supported by the community. The soldiers then marched themselves to the Royal British Legion for refreshments! Thank you to Ian Bissett and his Land Rover for leading the Parade; whilst of course John Bentham was fondly remembered.

We were very grateful to all those who attended the short service on Armistice Day, especially the children who planted the Poppy crosses and John Bailey who played the cornet at 11.00hrs. Finally, thank you Mrs Judy Alexander who has supported us so well for so many years as the Secretary of the Swanage Branch of the Royal British Legion. Next year, we will remember the 40th anniversary of the Falklands War.



Wareham Town Council Update

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



News from Wareham Town Council November

A back-to-front year, 2020-21, reported Neighbourhood Police Inspector James Offer with the summer months quieter than usual. Also, while normally 50% of antisocial behaviour is related to neighbours, this year 70% was about Covid regulation breaches. The Inspector said that some patrol officers had been temporarily moved to cover the shortfall arising from the grouping of Christchurch with Poole and Bournemouth, but he assured Councillors that there were no plans to close Wareham Police station although it remains closed to the public.

Dorset Council would charge for doing a speed survey in North Street so this could only go ahead in a future year if the Town Council included the cost in its budget. A speed limit of 20mph could be introduced to Northmoor Park given sufficient resident support.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group will continue to operate in order to monitor adherence. Already it is being cited in decisions by the Planning and Transport Committee.

Objectors to a skate park in Hauses Field were told that it would not go ahead without public consultation. Drivers will be able to charge electric vehicles in car parks in Streche Road and Bonnets Lane. Visitors to the Quay will be able to admire new rendering, external doors and frames on the public toilets (cost about £7,000).

With its Community Engagement Policy, the Town Council hopes to share information more readily between the Council and the community. A good way to learn more about the Council is to come to a Council meeting.

The church service for Remembrance Sunday was to be held on the Quay. There was to be no parade. Since the Royal British Legion had to pay a large sum of money to a marshal who was injured and not covered by insurance, only staff members with specific training are allowed to marshal. It would cost £4,000 to employ extra trained staff to make up the required complement of 12.

Christmas Festival arrangements were under way. There are new lights and maybe a different decoration on the Town Hall. Santa had not decided for sure where to have his Grotto.

Forthcoming meetings of the Town Council are on 23rd November, 14th December and for your new diaries, 18th January, at 7pm in the Council Chamber. The Council's website is www.wareham-tc.gov.uk and the 'phone number of the office is 01929 553006.

Purbeck Society Update

After some four years of work, the Purbeck Society has finally published its survey of buildings and features of significance in Swanage, that are neither listed nor in conservation areas.

In 2017 Ben Webb, the then conservation officer for Purbeck District Council, asked the society to produce a list of buildings in the town, currently not protected, to assist future planning decisions and as a historical record.

Each street was surveyed and photographed by Purbeck Society volunteers, Karen Delahay, David Gerry and Jessica Sutcliffe, with specific buildings, terraces or street furniture chosen for inclusion in the list of "non designated assets". Additional historical information was researched independently or provided by David Haysom of the Heritage Centre. Nick Crabbe of the Society put together the maps and the final draft.

A book launch was held on November 12th at the Society's first members meeting in nearly two years. Copies were presented to Swanage Town clerk, Martin Ayres, and others will be distributed to relevant bodies and organisations. It is hoped other councils and parishes will carry out similar surveys. Jessica and Karen have offered to help others to do so.

The 100 page survey "Swanage Local Survey of Non Designated Heritage Assets" can be viewed on the society website: www.purbecksociety.co.uk and a limited number of printed copies are available to buy.

The society would like to thank the Council for the Protection of Rural England for a donation towards costs of producing the book.

Sadly since its publication, two of the buildings listed have or are in the process of being demolished.

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The Wareham Scouts and Guides will again deliver local Christmas cards in the Wareham, Northmoor and Stoborough / Ridge area.

New stamps are 30p and available from Horsey's in North St and at Not Just Sundaes, South St and at Carey Home and Garden.

Our special postboxes will be in these locations and at the Scout and Guide Hall.

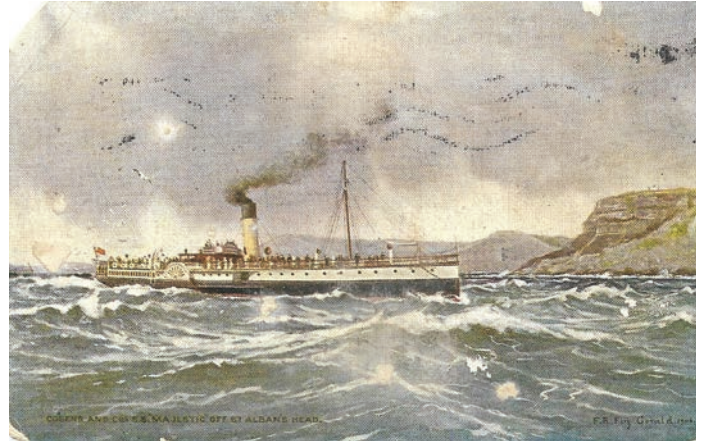
The last day for posting will be Sat 18th December and the cards will be delivered by Xmas.

Thank you for supporting us in this venture which helps us raise useful funds and helps local people deliver cards in the local area.



National Coastwatch

Eyes along the coast



Having just re-read the 2020 December article, written as we entered 'lockdown 2.0', it's really pleasing to finish 2021 on a much more positive note. The Remembrance Parade has recently taken place and there are some exciting events happening during December that we are taking part in.

Our November quiz, at the Conservative Club, was a great success and we had over ten teams taking part. Competition was fierce and there were only five points separating the three top teams. The eventual winners were the "Divers and Watchers", a mixed team from the Isle of Purbeck Sub Aqua Club and Swanage NCI. We must say a big thanks to our catering team who produced an excellent Ploughman's Supper for the event, as well as Corben's Estates Agents and @Sixtyone for helping us sell tickets.

"Switch on Swanage" is taking place on Saturday 27th November, and I am pleased to say that we will be supporting the event. Our gazebo will be outside the Post Office so come and say hello to us. As an incentive we will be offering mulled wine and mince pies!

The following weekend sees the return of the Swanage Christmas Market and we will have our stall there along with several organisations. It always proves to be a popular event and helps you get in the Christmas spirit.

Between 3rd – 6th December Langton Matravers will be holding their Christmas Tree Festival. Both St Alban's and Swanage Stations are taking part and it promises to be a magical event in the highly atmospheric St George's Church, in Langton.

Talking of atmospheric buildings, St Aldhelm's Chapel, close to our lookout at St Aldhelm's Head, has a timeless beauty and is often decorated in a simple but fitting way for a 12th century building. A visit would make an ideal walk after the Christmas festivities. For those intrepid explorers who manage it, the lookout at St Alban's will be offering tea and cakes on December 26th and 27th and January 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (weather permitting).

In a similar vein, the Swanage Station will be offering tea, cakes, and mulled wine on New Year's Day. Just the thing to round off New Year celebrations in Swanage.

I've quite often mentioned that many of the NCI stations are in scenic locations and have an illustrious history, which predates their role as an NCI lookout. This is certainly true for St Alban's and Swanage and in early autumn this year, our national organisation launched the NCI Living History website (<https://www.ncilivinghistory.org.uk/home>)

The website is designed to record and make available the history of our charity and its individual stations and to attempt to tell the story of NCI from its conception to the present day. The site isn't just about the past, it's as much about documenting what is going on now. We see it as an interactive site, and we invite you to play a part in helping us tell our story.

If you have photographs, documents, or stories to tell us about the NCI, please share them with us by uploading them to the site. Just click the yellow Upload button (you'll see it on every page) and follow the

simple instructions, and together we can ensure that the NCI's role in helping to save lives at sea and around our coastline is recorded for future generations.

History is happening every minute and you can record what you are seeing instantly if you have a smart phone. Simply log onto the website and use the Take a Photo button (that's on every page too!) to take and upload a photo anytime you're walking near one of our lookout stations.

Both our stations can trace their history back to the nineteenth century and the Coastguard Service. At the time the coastguards were part of the Navy and were as much concerned about preventing smuggling as they were about saving lives.

The first coastguard station at St Aldhelm's area was at Chapman's Pool, where the foundations of the four original cottages can still be seen. The station, moved to St Alban's Head in 1895 where the four cottages and the original lookout were built. The station (rebuilt in the 1970's) remained here until its closure in 1994. The station reopened as an NCI Lookout in mid-1995.

The Swanage station can trace its history back to the preventive station (an early name for the coastguard) built by William Morton-Pitt in the 1820s. It's position guarding the entrance to Poole Harbour and the Solent has meant that it has often served a defensive purpose and there was a gun battery there until the early 1900s. The battery was re-established during WW2 and the current lookout is built on top of one of the gun emplacements.

As with St Alban's the station closed in 1994, but reopened in 1995, being the second NCI station to be established.

This is NCI St Alban's Head and NCI Swanage listening on Channel 65, and looking forward to seeing your photographs. NCI out.

Photos: top left: Aerial view of NCI Lookout at St Alban's (credit – Alison Pettit)

Top right: Paddle steamer passing St Alban's Head (credit – Nick Reed Collection)

Below: Peveril Point Gun Battery 1870 (credit Swanage Museum)





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This edition carries advertising from cover to cover which is aimed at YOU. Local businesses are making the effort to invite you 'round to their place' this Christmas, so take them up on their offer and they'll still be there to serve you in 2022.....use them or lose them folks!

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CHRISTMAS WITH ROTARY

CHRISTMAS MARKET SATURDAY 4TH DECEMBER 10AM - 4PM

Station Road, Swanage.

Join us for Swanage's fantastic traditional Christmas Market.
Featuring a wide range of stalls and much more.

Father Christmas will also be in town!

For details of how to book a stall, please check our website.

Christmas Charity Mail

Our Post Office at 10 Station Rd, Swanage,
will be open from:

1st to 11th December from 9.30am - 3pm,
excluding Sunday.

Collection points at Ballard Stores,

Corfe Castle Bakery, King's Arms (Langton),
Foleys Garage (Harmans Cross). Delivery to Swanage
and surrounding villages/hamlets up to/including
Church Knowle and Norden.

Cards will be charged at 25p each (delivery)

SANTA'S SLEIGH!

Christmas is coming! Santa and his sleigh will soon be travelling the streets of Swanage, Langton Matravers & Corfe Castle (with Crazy4Corfe). Santa will have sweets for the children and his elves will be collecting for Rotary-supported local projects. Santa will be calling from 5pm - 7pm.

WEDNESDAY 1st DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Burlington Rd, Victoria Rd, Redcliffe Rd (Victoria Rd to Seaward Rd), Seaward Rd, Bonfields Ave, Battlemead, Cauldon Ave, Beach Gardens, De Moulham Rd (Bonfields Ave to Gannetts Park), Northbrook Rd (Bonfields Ave to Beach Gardens), Gannetts Park, Vivian Park.

THURSDAY 2nd DECEMBER - SWANAGE

High St (Benlease Way to Jubilee Rd), Jubilee Rd, Shirley Close, Bell St (Jubilee Rd to top), Marsh Way, Ash Close, Priest's Rd (Bell St to Panorama Rd), Quarry Close, Panorama Rd, Hillview Road (if time), Priests Way, Purbeck View.

FRIDAY 3rd DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Locarno Rd, Argyle Rd, Hanbury Rd, Court Rd, Princess Rd, Kings Road West (St. Mary's Church to Victoria Ave), Linden Rd, High St (Court Rd to Newton Manor Close), Cecil Rd, Newton Manor Close, Morrison Rd, Hendrie Close, Findlay Place.

MONDAY 6th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

High St (Methodist Church to Gordon Rd), Townsend Rd, Richmond Rd, Manwell Rd, Manwell Drive, Osborne Rd, Mount Scar, Queens Mead, Queens Rd (High Street to hospital), Gordon Rd, Priest's Rd (High St to Holburne Rd), Holburne Rd, Foxhill Close, Mariners Drive, Cowlease.

TUESDAY 7th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Ullwell Rd (layby near vets to All Saints Church), Whitecliff Rd, Moor Rd, Parsons Close, Hill Rd, Redcliffe Rd (excl. Victoria Rd to Seaward Rd), Ballard Way, Bay Crescent, Bay Close, Ballard Rd, Streche Rd, James Day Mead.

WEDNESDAY 8th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Victoria Ave (Northbrook Rd to Smiths Farm), Smiths Farm, Northbrook Rd (Victoria Ave to Walrond Rd), Prospect Cres,

Rabling Rd, De Moulham Rd (Walrond Rd to Rabling Rd), Walrond Road.

THURSDAY 9th DECEMBER - LANGTON MATRAVERS

Capston Field, High St (Capston Field to Three Acre Lane), Tom's Field Rd, Old Malthouse Lane, Durnford Drove, Gypshayes, The Hyde, Steppes, Lower Steppes, Nine Barrow View, Steppes Hill, Serrells Mead, Three Acre Lane.

FRIDAY 10th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Benlease Way (Days Rd to High St), Alderbury Close, Anvil Close, Leeson Close, High St (Holmes Rd to Benlease Way), Days Rd, Holmes Rd, Sydenham Rd, Bay View, Casterbridge Close, Higher Days Rd, Shaston Close, Shottsford Close, Sandbourne Close, Kingswood Close.

MONDAY 13th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Bell St (Jubilee Rd to High St), Victoria Ave (High Street to Kings Road West), Aigburth Rd, Ancaster Rd, High St (Victoria Ave to Hillsea Rd), Steer Road, Hillsea Rd, South Rd, Newton Rise, West Drive, Newton Grange Close, Cow Lane, Wills Rd.

TUESDAY 14th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Dolphin Court, Cauldron Crescent, Cauldron Barn Rd, Cauldron Meadows, D'Urberville Drive, Greensands Way, Brickyard Close, Anglebury Ave, Wessex Way.

FRIDAY 17th DECEMBER - CORFE CASTLE

Halves Cottages, Colletts Close, Mead Rd, Battlemead, Higher Gardens, East Street, The Square.

SATURDAY 18th DECEMBER - CORFE CASTLE

West Street Turning Circle to The Square via Toms Mead, etc.

SUNDAY 19th DECEMBER - SWANAGE

Herston Yards Farm Campsite. 5pm

Visit www.swanagerotary.org for more information and updates.

Santa doesn't like to disappoint, but if the weather is very bad, the routes may change.

Purbeck Coast FM (101.2) will announce any changes between 4-5pm.

You can also check Facebook @SwanageandPurbeckRotary or Twitter @SwanageRotary.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL!



Diverse Abilities
Dorset's Disability Charity

Christmas Carol Concert

Join us in the spectacular **St. Peter's Church** for an evening of carols and festive joy with performances from the **Emmanuel Middle School & Stuart Anderson**.

Enjoy Christmas readings from our very special guests **Valerie Singleton OBE** and **Maggie the Seaside Baker**.

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DOORS OPEN AT 6PM

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Book tickets:
diverseabilities.org.uk/carolconcert
Ticket hotline: 01202 711502

Tickets:
Adults - £15
Children - £7.50
Family - £40

Charity no: 282197

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Charity number: 282197

Celebrate The Festive Season With Diverse Abilities!



Vital funds will be raised for Diverse Abilities, Dorset's disability charity, through a series of festive activities and initiatives throughout December. Christmas Treecycling returns across the weekend of January 8 to 10 where the charity and its team of volunteers will collect your Christmas tree and dispose of it sustainably for a suggested donation of £10.

Collections can be booked now at diverseabilities.org.uk/trees or by calling 01202 711507.

Emma Bovey, fundraising manager at Diverse Abilities, commented: "We are so ready to start celebrating and enjoy Christmas this

year, and are really excited for the return of Christmas Treecycling.

"As one of our most important fundraising events of the year, Treecycling makes a huge impact on the amount of vital funds we raise each and every year for the children and adults we support. We're also on the hunt for people with vans to join in the collection efforts, so please do get in touch if you're keen to get involved."

The charity has re-opened its online Christmas Store selling a selection of Christmas Jumpers, cards, and decorations all designed by the children and adults supported by the charity and its volunteers.

As well as being available on the website at: diverseabilities.org.uk/the-christmas-store, the team will also be out and about at Christmas markets and fairs throughout December.

Emma continued: "It is wonderful to be able to get out in the community once again and meet people face to face. The support of everyone locally is what helps to keep us going year after year so we can continue to be there for those who need us most."

Visit diverseabilities.org.uk for details on all Christmas fundraising activity or speak to the team on 01202 718266 with any questions.



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DECEMBER EVENTS

Sat 4th

Sat 11th

Sun 12th

Sat 18th

Sun 19th

Xmas Eve

Sun 29th

New Year's Eve

Chas Roberts

Paul Anthony

Quiz Night

Paul Michael

Grand Xmas Draw

Martin Boucher

Quiz Night

Kelly Lorraine

Merry
Christmas
from all the
Committee & Staff

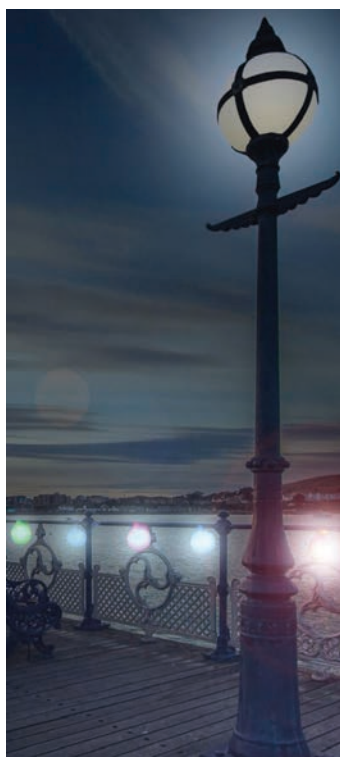
Xmas lunches available from
Thursday 2nd Dec - Tuesday 21st Dec
Also Friday evenings 3rd, 10th, 17th
(excluding Sundays and Mondays)

www.swanageconservativeclub.co.uk

Memberships due
1st Jan 2022

T: 422310/423600

Lighting Up Lives At Swanage Pier



Lighting Up Lives Illuminations on the Pier

You are invited to dedicate a light to someone special or a group of people you want to show your appreciation to. With a £10 sponsorship, you can dedicate a light to celebrate, commemorate, show thanks, remember loved ones or to simply wish someone a happy Christmas.

Your dedication will feature on the online 'Lighting Up Lives' page, and you will receive an electronic copy of your certificate within seventy-two hours of submitting your sponsorship.

Your light will shine bright along the railings as part of a stunning installation on Swanage Pier in December.

The 'Lighting Up Lives' installation will be illuminated from Thursday 9th December to Monday 3rd January.

Within the above dates the Pier will have extended opening hours as following:

Monday – Thursday until 5.00pm

Friday – Sunday until 6.00pm

Apart from Christmas Eve, Boxing Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, when the Pier will be open 10am – 2pm and Christmas Day, when the Pier will be closed. Unless bad weather (including forecasted high winds or heavy rain). Normal admission to the Pier applies.

LIGHTING UP LIVES on Swanage Pier



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For more details:
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SWANAGE 

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These lovely Christmas cards which are extremely popular ensure Charities receive at least 70p in the pound.

We also sell a wide range of local food, crafts and books which will make lovely gifts.
Available at the Swanage Information Centre on Shore Road, opposite the beach – we are here for visitors and residents alike.

Happy Christmas

Swanage Information Centre, Shore Road,
Swanage, 01929 766018 www.swanage.gov.uk 

Swanage Delights This Christmas!

Swanage has always put on a great show at Christmas time - a real community affair, enjoyed by all. We welcome back the fantastic Christmas Market once again, having missed it last year due to the pandemic. The streets will once again be filled with stalls on Saturday 4th December and word has it that the great man himself (Father Christmas!!) will put in an appearance! Whoop!

Swanage's amazingly supportive Town Council have also arranged 'Artisans on the Beach' once again, so our beautiful beach huts on Shore Road will be taken over by a wide range of artists and craftspeople, offering an impressively wide range of goods for you to browse this year, in your hunt for the ideal Christmas gift!

Swanage & Purbeck Rotary Club are going all out for 2021 - not only arranging the return of the Christmas Market, but also bringing joy to all with Santa's Sleigh, touring our towns and villages very soon. Please see the Rotary page on page 20 for full details of Santa's route this year!

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Unique, Original Gifts, In The Heart Of Purbeck

We are so very lucky here on the Isle of Purbeck as our community includes a vast range of superb craftspeople and artists, creating a wonderful selection of gifts and homeware items to delight everyone. The delightful and ancient village of Corfe Castle is home to both The Town House and Seasons Green, both real local gems, offering extensive ranges to suit all tastes.

Artist, Angela Sturch, offers her unique and specialised wares from her beautiful shop 'The Town House' in Corfe Square. Angela excels in recreating much-loved local scenes on a variety of items, from greetings cards to tea towels and so much more.

The Town House also offers an impressive range of vintage toys and books, creating a local store which can cater to all tastes and which offers a brilliant selection of gift items for all ages, for all occasions. The Town House is also well-known for giving all visitors to the store a truly warm Purbeckian welcome and for providing exceptional customer service.

Seasons Green, just around the corner from the Town House, is another independent local gem, offering an intensive collection of really beautiful gift items and homeware (both indoor and outdoor). The range includes everything from cards, wellbeing, homewares, jewellery and pet accessories to an impressively wide range of art from a plethora of named artists.

If you don't find everything you need to delight friends and family this Christmas from Corfe Castle, pop along to the renowned 'PASH' Christmas Market at Worth Matravers Village Hall (dates on advert, right).

The Purbeck Artists and Stallholders' regular markets have gained a loyal following over the years and the array of crafts and artistic creations available offer something for every taste possible - the ideal arts and crafts market in which to find something for that person 'who has everything'!

Our suggestion for a fabulous 'local' day out? Head to Corfe, browse your heart out at The Town House and Seasons Green, pop into the 'Northern Lights Bar' at the Greyhound for a spot of lunch, head over to Worth Matravers and check out the PASH market and finish off at the Square and Compass for a celebratory pint of cider and a pasty as you mark a successful day of Christmas shopping!

Purbeck Artists & Stallholders

Local Christmas Gifts & Produce

4th - 12th December
11am to 4.30pm

at
Worth Matravers Village Hall

Homemade cakes & mince pies

Happy Christmas to our friends!

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And For That Something Special...

We have three pretty amazing specialist shops within our region - the historic Georgian Gems in the High Street, Heirlooms of Wareham and Studio by the Sea in Commercial Road.

Jewellery still holds a place in our hearts as that 'special gift' for someone truly deserving and we are therefore extremely fortunate to have three fantastic options to choose between when looking for the ideal, long-lasting gift for that special someone.

Georgian Gems in Swanage (advert, right), run by Brian Barker, is an historic wonder in its own right - one of the smallest shops in existence, Georgian Gems carries an extensively wide range of antique and vintage jewellery and specialist items. Art Deco, Art Nouveau, Victorian, Georgian, Edwardian - you name it, Brian will have an example of exactly what you're seeking in his small but wonderful shop! Customer service is exceptional - Brian makes time for each customer and is renowned for his detailed knowledge.

Just round the corner in Commercial Road, you'll find Marita Morgan in her store, 'Studio by the sea' (advert on page 23). Marita is a silversmith of some renown with an excellent reputation for creating unique silver jewellery in a wide range of styles, to suit all tastes. Studio by the Sea carries an impressive range of stock, including items inspired by the natural environment, such as shells, leaves and other natural forms, recreated in solid silver. Pricing is exceptionally reasonable and the service is also exceptional - pop in and see Marita this Christmas - you won't regret it!

Popping over to the delightful ancient town of Wareham, you'll find Heirlooms the Jewellers (advert on page 7) - now run by Amy Brenan, Heirlooms is a long-standing feature of Wareham with a loyal and impressive customer base. Heirlooms has a long-held reputation for outstanding service, detailed knowledge and an impressive range of jewellery spanning the eras. Amy offers a fabulous service and caters to all tastes and styles, meaning you'll find that special something in-store, or Amy will assist you in finding a suitable alternative!

If you're planning on purchasing jewellery this Christmas, don't hesitate to visit one of our three amazing jewellery stores - all offer differing ranges, a personal service and are well worth a visit!

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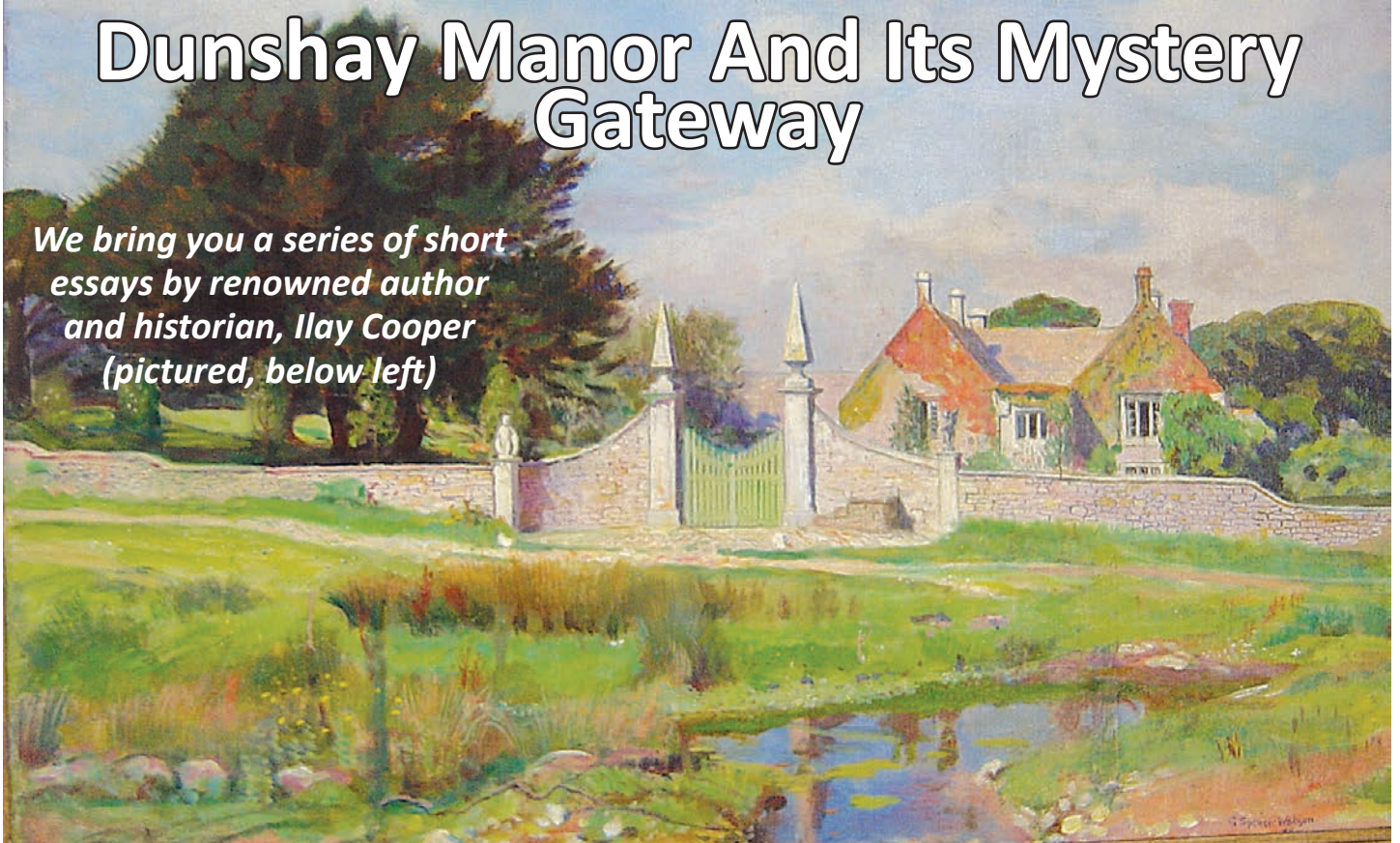
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Dunshay Manor And Its Mystery Gateway

We bring you a series of short essays by renowned author and historian, Ilay Cooper (pictured, below left)



Above: Dunshay's gateway, smaller side piers and the house. Painting by George Spencer Watson, c1924



The first features that strike every visitor to Dunshay Manor as they quit Haycrafts Lane to descend its drive are the house's double gabled façade and its fine gateway, a pointed finial soaring above each pier.

On my first visit, sixty years ago, the gables were faint in December darkness. As my father drove me there his headlights revealed that gateway. Elsewhere each gracious stone pier would be sufficient in itself or perhaps crowned by a round stone ball. Those wild turrets are unexpected. The gateway didn't strike me as magnificent or as belonging to any particular era. I knew little of

architecture, had nothing with which to compare it. Beyond, the house came as something of an anticlimax, too modest for such an entrance. But I was in my teens and there was a party inside. Forget the gate!

Thirty years later I settled at Dunshay. My parents had quit Purbeck but it remained my home. Researching each winter in India or Pakistan, returning home in the summer I had to find somewhere to stay. That was always difficult in the thriving tourist season. In 1988, it seemed impossible. Then, a friend suggested Mary Spencer Watson, the sculptor who owned Dunshay, might rent out her old caravan. She was amenable, the caravan battered, the rent small. I moved in next day and have been there ever since.

When Mary died, almost 20 years later, she left the estate and me to The Landmark Trust. Three of us tenants were asked to 'skip' the mass of papers and photographs, deemed valueless, dumped in a barn. They were a treasure trove of information on the three talented Spencer Watsons who had made Dunshay their home. All those papers illuminated my ignorance; I decided to research a book on the house and its inhabitants. The result was Purbeck Arcadia: Dunshay Manor and the Spencer Watsons.

The building itself is partly datable. On the south wall the initials of Christopher Dolling are incised into the labels of a window lintel. On another lintel the first letter of more initials is damaged - an 'I' it might point to John, an 'E' could indicate Christopher's wife, Elizabeth. Christopher, who owned the house from 1576 to 1616, presumably built that south wall. His grandson extended the house eastwards as those two gabled wings, marking the drainpipe hopper on the new façade with I D (John Dolling), A D for his wife, Anne and the date, 1642.

Perhaps John laid out the garden with its stone-paved paths, planted the six yews, long-lived trees: two came down recently but three remain.

Writers often list those piers and their pinnacles amongst his additions. They are incongruous. The monolithic piers, neatly finished with sunken panels on all four faces, were certainly not fashioned to stand against the present drystone wall, nor beside the upended slabs shown in a 19th century illustration. Perhaps they were not made for Dunshay at all or perhaps chains were to replace any fence.

Most writers side-step such issues. In 1868, Thomas Bond of Tyneham described the gate as being flanked by 'stone piers of inelegant but characteristic form'. Twelve years later, Charles Robinson, hazarding no date, talks of 'The strangely elegant stone piers at the garden gate'. Then, only one finial stood in place, the other having been broken off where it joined the pedestal, which was overgrown with ivy. That ill-fated pinnacle,



Above: Dunshay's square gatepost piers and their striking finials



Above: The two nearest piers in the c1713 arcade of Charlton Marshall church closely resemble those at Dunshay

its tip forever blunted by the fall, leaned negligently against its pier. Oddly, Nikolaus Pevsner, avoiding controversy, never noticing the gateway! Records make no mention of it and Mary's parents knew nothing of its origin. That is how it remained.

Around 2010 I began to cycle through Dorset, carrying a sleeping bag, but no tent, and kipping where I could. Not a comfortable mode of travel, it gave freedom. Most villages treasured an interesting church, often locked. There is something ungodly about locking churches: a built-in lack of faith. Locked was the church at Charlton Marshall, 20 miles north of Dunshay, unjustly described by Sir Frederick Treves as having a 'prim, old-maidish-look'. Its finials impressed me.

Most local 14th century churches have a square tower with, rising from each corner, a finial, its outline broken by projecting croquets. The narrow-necked finials at Charlton Marshall, clean in outline and renewed c1714, are remarkably similar to those at Dunshay. Trev Haysom pointed out that contemporary pillars inside the church closely resemble the Dunshay piers, with all four faces worked. There were similar piers with recessed panels in front of Wareham's cliffstone Manor House (dated 1712), their height identical to Dunshay's but achieved with two stones. Gate posts at Durnford, in nearby Langton Matravers, are meeker and not worked on all faces.

All these piers and finials are cut from Portland stone. It is difficult to differentiate fine-grained stone dug on Portland from contemporary Purbeck cliffstone, but cliffstone was close at hand and in demand in the 18th century. The restoration of Charlton Marshall's church 1713-15 was funded by a wealthy rector, Dr Sloper, the work attributed to the Bastard brothers, who were to rebuild Blandford after the fire of 1731. Did their masonry in the church, perhaps from stone dug at Winspit's cliffstone quarry (then owned by the Pikes of Dunshay), inspire the Pikes and George Gould of Wareham to imitate? Did some Bastard design the Dunshay gate? Were piers left over from a plan to replace the second colonnade of the church? Perhaps all three men met by chance at Winspit quarry around 1713: Dr Sloper was there to survey the stone for his church, George Gould following progress with his new house and Robert Pike collecting the rent.

Whatever the details, surely that gateway was put up during Robert Pike's



Above: The facade of Wareham Old Manor House, built by Gould in 1712, has four Dunshay-like piers set in its garden wall



Above: Did the 18thC finials on the tower of Charlton Marshall church inspire those at Dunshay?

tenure in the second decade of the 18th century. Robert inherited Dunshay after his father died in 1703 but until March 1715 his children were baptized near Clanville, his wife's Hampshire house. From 1716 onwards they were baptized at Worth Matravers, indicating the family had moved to Dunshay. Is it presumptuous to suggest that, while smartening Dunshay against his wife's arrival, Robert built that new gateway?

Possibly – but prove otherwise!



Above: The relief pinnacles on the door jambs of Wareham Old Manor hint at Dunshay's full relief spires.

Motoring

EV Charge Point Milestone Reached For Dorset



As part of its commitment to tackle the climate emergency, Dorset Council are pleased to announce the successful completion of their Phase 1 electric vehicle (EV) chargepoint installation programme.

Phase 1 has seen the installation of forty-two chargepoints (sockets) in twenty-one locations around the County and includes 5 replacement rapid chargers and one new rapid

charger at the Langton Road Car Park in Blandford Forum. Use of the chargepoints has exceeded expectations and saved 51,000 kg in CO₂e emissions when compared with petrol or diesel vehicle use.

The council are now busy planning for Phase 2, which could see up to forty-four more fast chargers (sockets) and excitingly seven more rapid chargers at twenty-four new locations around the county. Several of these rapid chargers are expected to be 150kW ultra-rapid chargers, capable of providing 200 miles of driving range in about the same time as it takes to enjoy a cup of coffee.

Most of the Phase 2 sites will once more be in Dorset Council run public car parks, but the council are also starting to explore ways to get chargepoints installed in villages, in joint projects involving local residents. This will go some way to addressing the challenge of providing affordable charging for households without access to suitable off-street parking. It will help the council move closer to the short-term goal of every Dorset household being within five miles of a public charge point by 2023.

The chargepoints are a joint project with award winning chargepoint installers Joju Charging and Mer who have pledged at least £0.5m to Phase 2 of the programme. Dorset Council have access to the Government's on-street residential charging scheme (ORCS) and will be using this to

fund a number of the new sites. Dorset Council's public car park based chargepoints are now even easier to use. Customers can use any charge card for the rapid chargers and, as well as Mer's own easy to use app, they have teamed up with a number of data roaming style mobility payment partners including NewMotion, Allstar One Electric, Electric Juice Network, Paua and Zap Pay. Despite the current energy crisis, Mer have not increased their prices to charge.

Cllr Ray Bryan, Dorset Council's Portfolio Holder for Highways, Travel and Environment, said: "With sales of new petrol and diesel cars set to be banned by 2030, it's essential that we expand the charging infrastructure to support electric vehicles. We are making sure Dorset Council plays its part in helping to tackle the Climate and Ecological Emergency. The installation of new chargepoints is one of a number of measures needed to support the shift towards more sustainable travel and our commitment to becoming carbon-neutral."

For more information on public charging points in Dorset, including vehicle charging costs and existing locations of all public charging points, visit: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/electric-vehicle-charge-points

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Thank you all for your continued support over the past year.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Business Matters



**Redmayne
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Inflation

Inflation is something which is very evident in all our lives at the moment, with prices of all sorts of goods and services increasing, from basic needs such as food and energy through to the non-essential luxury items and services we enjoy.

However modest our lifestyle there is not a lot that we can do to avoid inflationary pressures at the moment and I am sure that most people will have noticed that a lot of everyday items they buy have increased in price recently.

As things gradually return to some sort of normality as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic, a lack of supply of goods is causing price rises as is the increase in producer prices. Underlying causes have included increased energy and commodity prices, a shortage of workers and HGV drivers (some of which is due to Brexit as well as the pandemic) and difficulties with supply of components like semi-conductors, all of which have resulted in price rises and pent-up demand in the automotive industry.

It was recently announced that China's factory gate inflation had soared to a 26-year high in October 2021. This is, therefore, is extremely likely to result in the increased cost of goods. Increased demand is also inflationary, so when it is coupled with a lower supply, it results in higher inflation.

Consumer price inflation is the rate at which the price of goods and services bought by households rise or fall. This is the inflation measure that the Government uses in its target for inflation. The Consumer Prices Index rose by 3.1% in the 12 months to September 2021.

With inflation currently at 3.1%, clearly any investments or cash which return less than this are being eroded by inflation. If investors wish to have some inflation protection it is worth considering investments such as index-linked gilts and bonds, gold, commodities or property funds where there are inflation-linked uplifts in rentals as part of a diversified portfolio of investments which is appropriate for your risk appetite and needs.

However, just because inflation is high now, it doesn't mean that it will continue to be this high and it is arguable that the demand for some of these investments, because they are offering inflation proofing, could put pressure on the supply and/or cause inflated prices.

With every good wish for a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Kate Spurling, Investment Manager, Redmayne Bentley, Tel: 01202 714 450 kate.spurling@redmayne.co.uk

Redmayne Bentley is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Members of the London Stock Exchange. The Redmayne Bentley Bournemouth and Poole office is located at 139 Commercial Road, Ashley Cross, Poole, Dorset, BH14 0JD. Follow us on Twitter @redmaynebentley and visit us on the web at www.redmayne.co.uk/bournemouth



Marriage Allowance – Don't miss this tax break

If you are entitled to the marriage allowance and have not yet applied, then you could receive a payment of up to £1,220 from HMRC. The marriage allowance is available to qualifying married couples and those in a civil partnership where a spouse or civil partner is a non-taxpayer i.e., has an income below their personal allowance (currently £12,570).

The allowance works by permitting the lower earning partner to transfer up to £1,260 of their personal tax-free allowance to their spouse or civil partner.

The marriage allowance can only be used when the recipient of the transfer (the higher earning partner) doesn't pay tax at more than the basic 20% rate of Income Tax. This would usually mean that their income is between £12,570 to £50,270 in 2020-21.

If you meet the eligibility requirements and have not yet claimed the allowance, then you can backdate your claim to 6 April 2017.

This could result in a total tax break of up to £1,220 if you can claim for 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 as well as the current 2021-22 tax year. If you claim now, you can backdate your claim for four years (if eligible) as well as for the current tax year.

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Sport



Old Gig Rowers Never Give Up *They Just Get More Oarsome!*

Although Cornish Pilot Gigs have been rowed and raced for hundreds of years, for many years the modern sport remained very small and confined to a few clubs in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly with only seven clubs competing in the first County Championships in Newquay in 1970. But, since then, interest has grown steadily so that the Cornish Pilot Gig Association now has 86 member clubs, with over 8,000 active rowers, in Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset, Hampshire, Sussex, Kent, Essex, Norfolk, Bristol and London.

The reason for this spectacular expansion is that gig rowing is such an amazing pastime. The traditionally crafted wooden boats have been developed over centuries to be strong and safe in even the toughest of sea conditions, making the sport very accessible. Even the newest beginner can enjoy the unbeatable pleasure and excitement of rowing out to sea as part of a crew benefitting mind and body with healthy exercise and beautiful scenery. And while for many this is all they want to take from the sport, for many more the lure of competition is irresistible.

Once the racing bug has bitten, it is hard to give up, so the sport has evolved with its followers. Where once there were only simple 'Open' races, the CPGA (formed in 1986 to regulate the sport) introduced a Veteran category for rowers of 40 years and older. These fortysomethings grew older and kept on rowing, so next came 'Supervets' for those aged fifty or more.

Five years ago Swanage Sea Rowing Club decided that, in addition to its Open Regatta in June, it would host a special 'Supervets' Regatta each October. Because of the number and geographical spread of the clubs, the CPGA has regionalised open competition, to minimise the distance rowers and boats need to travel, so our Open Regatta rarely sees clubs from outside our own 'Jurassic League' of Dorset, Hampshire and East Devon.

However, as Swanage is one of only two Supervets events, older rowers who itch for a race are prepared to come from far and wide to enter. Swanage is a fantastic venue, with easy launching and a view of the entire course from the Main Beach, all right next to the facilities of the town centre. The organisation is a well-oiled machine, from unloading visiting boats, to timing, to our unbeatable home-made catering. Visiting crews never fail to be impressed. What's more, by holding the regatta in mid-October, we have succeeded in offering splendid weather almost every year, a meteorological phenomenon known as 'St Luke's Little Summer'.

This year, after being starved of competition for almost two years, 37 crews from 20 clubs from all over the South of England came to join four Swanage crews for a fantastic day's racing. Under a blazing sun timed heats were held, after which crews were sorted into 'A', 'B' and 'C' finals, with the winners of each final being awarded handsome medals and trophies, plus crates of local beer. Swanage 'A' crews came a very creditable fourth overall in both the Men's and Women's events.

The winners were:

Cups ('A' finals)

Men - Caradon A

Women - Salcombe A

Shields ('B' finals)

Men - Brixham A

Women - Langstone A

Plates ('C' finals)

Men - Swanage B

Women - Torridge A

Incidentally, as the Supervets have shown no sign of quitting, the CPGA have now introduced a further category - 'Masters' - for rowers aged 60 or over. It can only be a matter of time before the 70+ and 80+ have their own categories too. 'Old Masters' and 'Past Masters' perhaps? Watch this space! Whatever your age and ability, you are welcome to come and join us at Swanage Sea Rowing Club. Learn to Row courses are held regularly. Check out www.swanagesearowingclub.org.uk or Facebook Swanage Sea Rowing Club for more information.

Picture: Credit Tim Crabb

Christmas at Purbeck Sports Centre

Opening Times:

- Christmas Eve - Closed
- Christmas Day - Closed
- Boxing Day - Closed
- Mon 27th - 7am to 5pm
- Tues 28th - 7am to 5pm
- Wed 29th - open as normal
- Thurs 30th - open as normal
- New Years Eve - Closed
- New Years Day - Closed
- Sun 2nd - 7am to 5pm
- Mon 3rd - 7am to 5pm

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Dorset Council

From The Kitchen Garden...



Aniseed And Almond Slice

By Regula
Wright,
Godlingston
Manor Kitchen
Garden

Although the light levels are low and the trees are losing their leaves somewhere in my mind I find it odd that I'm writing for the last issue of 2021....

This year August felt like it was going on and on and on and on. It was such an awkward month. The main sowing and planting out of vegetable crops were done, the cows had their calves and the picking and harvesting was going full throttle. Tiredness was kicking in after the long days of spring and early summer. That whole month felt cool and damp.

Then September arrived. The weather was sunny, calm and throughout October into November, apart from the odd couple of days of wet, windy and gusty weather, autumn has been benign and gorgeous.

Short days always take me a bit of getting used to and the big garden clear up gets started. Slowly, the Kitchen Garden transforms from bountiful greenery covering every horizontal space and many vertical frames, with flowers frothing and flopping all over the place, into a much sparser and tidier place. The layout is more defined, plainer, and easier on the eye. Winter. Rest.

Over the coming weeks I shall plan the new season, make a cropping plan and order fresh seed. Tools and machinery need maintenance, a job I don't relish at all but is rather important. It will feel good come next spring when the strimmer starts with a couple of pulls, the hoe is sharp, and the cultivator does its job properly.

Before all that I shall be busy making Christmas wreaths with fresh green foliage, pinecones and other natural decorations. I like natural wreaths, as they symbolise the rhythm of the growing year. The green background as the life sustaining part, with accents of fruit and seed heads - all needed for the circle of life.

All this crafting happens easier with a hot cup of tea and a Christmas bake at hand and this Aniseed and Almond Slice is suitably seasonal and easy to make.

ANISEED AND ALMOND SLICE

- Preheat oven 160C
- 3 eggs
- 300 g icing sugar
- 200 g whole almonds
- 150 g sultanas
- 2 tbl. spoons aniseed, roughly ground in a pestle and mortar
- 300 g plain flour
- Beat all the ingredients together. It will be quite a dry mix, so if you can use an electric mixer, it'll be easier.
- Push the mix by hand into your shallow baking tin, make sure the thickness is even.
- Bake for 20-30 minutes until slightly coloured on top
- Leave to cool down then cut into lengths

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Pre booking essential

£22.95 2 course / £29.95 3 course

Glass of mulled wine on arrival

~Starters~

Luxury seafood cocktail with salmon, prawns and Portland crab served with Marie Rose sauce and multi seeded bread.

Deep fried Brie with cranberry sauce and a pear and walnut salad.

Smoked ham hock and chicken terrine with caramelised onion chutney.

Vegan soup of the day.

~Mains~

Turkey parcel wrapped in smoked bacon and stuffed with sage and onion, Roast parsnips, braised carrots, spiced red cabbage, Fondant potato and a cider turkey gravy.

Roast fillet of cod, creamed potato, cabbage, baby onions and a light curry sauce.

Vegan pithivier with beetroot, squash, chestnuts and vegan blue cheese served with spiced red cabbage, braised carrot, maple roast parsnips and a mushroom bisque.

~Desserts~

Black forest Eton mess with Cherry ice cream.

Dark chocolate, coffee and Orange Pave with Marmalade ice cream.

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Boxing Day and New Years Day lunchtime 12 noon –
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2 or 3 Course Christmas Party Menu

Minimum booking 8 people

Duck Liver Parfait

Soup of the Day

Traditional Prawn Cocktail

Locally Sourced Roast Turkey Crown

Locally Sourced Roasted Beef

Vegan Friendly Nut Roast

Oven Baked Salmon with Citrus Butter

All dishes served with Roast Potatoes and
Selection of Vegetables

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Fresh Fruit Salad

Followed by Tea or Coffee & Homemade
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Natural Matters

Sewage *the return...and return...and return...*

By John Garner



A while ago I wrote about sewage. It's not the first thing people are concerned with at present, 'ugh, the sewage' not being the phrase on everybody's lips...unless you're having a lovely swim in the sea round about discharge time. And as there were at least 2435 hours of discharges of raw sewage into the rivers in our area in 2020, you'd have done well to miss one if you regularly swam in the seas and rivers around here. So, maybe it should be at the centre of our minds both directly affecting us and also being somewhat symbolic of the general attitude to the environment from those in charge.

Encouraged by Surfers against Sewage (other environmental charities abound) I sent an email to my MP protesting about the latest lack of support for a bill to help deal with the issue of the raw sewage. Mr Drax replied saying he shared my concerns. Aha. A good start. He pointed out that our sewage and draining system was largely built in the Victorian era and was one of the most advanced of its time. Of this I have no doubt, but the Victorian era ended over a century ago.

He explained that water and sewage from businesses and homes passes into the sewage system where it is purified and returned to the rivers all shiny and new. Again, so far so good. But when the rain is heavy the system cannot cope and rather than a mixture of rain and sewage flowing back into houses, the decision is taken to discharge into the rivers to prevent this occurring.

You may think this is a much better state of affairs than having a house full of sewage and flood water and I would agree. But...as far as I am aware, it has been raining here for many years. This situation has been happening for decades and is clearly the least worst option as opposed to a good one.

So, my question would be why hasn't there been investment in a system that has clearly been an unacceptable one for as long as anyone can remember? And here we arrive at the crux of the issue. The preamble before the real issue, which is that of funding. As it almost always is.

We've reached a point where to invest in the improvements necessary, conservative estimates would put this at about £150 billion plus. The governments figures. Hmmm.

A lot of money given, as is pointed out in Mr Drax's reply, we spend about £160 billion on the NHS each year. Now leaving aside the fact that as

we've seen over the last few years the NHS is drastically underfunded, I can concede that this is a great deal of money.

But as we're constantly being told that the future needs to be much 'greener' surely this is exactly the sort of investment that would go a long way towards a more environmentally centred country.

HS2 is currently due to cost over 100 billion pounds. I have no doubt it will be a lot more than that by the time it's finished. Reports say it has a lifespan of 120 years and it will never be carbon neutral in that lifespan. It is currently destroying many natural habitats and as far as I can see, will have very limited benefits to a small number of train users.

There seems to be no problem in terms of costs with this highly destructive environmental project and I suppose the two monetary approaches pretty much summarise the approach to green issues that we are seeing from the men in suits. In a bid to speed up transport links, money is no object. If you want to protect the environment, money is very much an object.

Instead, my MP informs me that the government has taken on another course of action. They're getting a plan together to reduce storm overflows and their harm. Now you might call me a cynic, but planning ahead does not seem to be one of the key strengths of this or any other government in recent times, certainly judging by the investment to future proof the sewage and water treatment systems. They will also be reviewing current legislation which would require new builds to conform to government standards on sustainable drainage systems. Sigh.

It just feels like we've heard it all before. When in doubt, add some extra layers of administration, set up a few committees, issue a few minor fines etc etc. Meanwhile, the effects of human created climate change will mean more rain and therefore more incidents of raw sewage being discharged and people will say how awful it all is over and over again.

I suspect this particular unrecycled can will again be kicked down the road and left for someone else to deal with. It can join all the other cans nestling under the hedgerows. The trouble is we are rapidly approaching a point where there'll be neither hedgerows nor people to deal with anything.

It's just stopped raining. I'd quite like to go for a swim even though it's getting colder. For the first time I can remember, I'm not sure if I want to.

DURLSTON

COUNTRY PARK & NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas...

It's that time of year when Durlston Castle closes for two whole days, those being Christmas Day and Boxing Day, of course! Before then there is lots to get involved in at the park this month, from events to get you into the Christmas spirit to activities to help you burn off those extra Christmas treats!

Our shop is stocked full of wonderful goodies for Christmas shoppers to make the perfect gifts or hampers. Doggy treats, chutneys, local prints and children's toys are only just the start of the selection. For those who prefer something homemade, items made by our 'Sheddies' can be purchased from the Castle including boot removers and wooden leaf pendant necklaces.

If something with a more personal touch is in mind, then we've got some exciting workshops that might be for you. Our wonderful 'Glass Engraving for Beginners' workshop will give you an opportunity to add a personal touch to a gift this Christmas.

December also means the return of our Christmas Trail! Running daily throughout the holidays, a fantastic opportunity to keep the kids entertained (or the young at heart), Rudolph's Reindeer Roundup will take you on a hunt to find Santa's cheeky reindeer hiding around the park.

For those of you wanting to stay indoors (or in the warm) then The Cabinet of Living Cinema's two fantastic events in the Fine Foundation Gallery might just be that 'run up to Christmas' afternoon and evening that you've been looking for.

On Saturday 18th December 3:30pm – 5pm a unique showing of 'The Snowman' will bring spirits up with a live score and contributions from encouraged audience participation. Following at 8pm – 9:30pm will be 'Candlelit Tales for the Longest Night'. An evening of recorded and spoken tales of enchantment, apparitions, hauntings and local lore with musical accompaniment and projections of our wild coast.

If this isn't enough then we have plenty more Christmas fun up our sleeves including "Design your own Christmas Seed Bomb", "Children's Nature and Woodland Art with Mark Page" and the return of our "Festive Family Fun Run"! Between Christmas and New Year, we have added an extra offering to get families outdoors for "Christmas (Bottle) Rocket Launch" to celebrate the new year!

For more information on any of these events then visit our Durlston website!

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

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

Margaret Green Animal Rescue



Our Shoebox Appeal is back!

Would you like to send a gift to our rescue animals for them to open on Christmas Day? It would mean so much to them and help to make their festive season extra special.

You can choose to send a gift to our rescue cats, dogs, horses, donkeys, goats, pigs, sheep, chickens, rabbits and guinea pigs and each has their very own wish list, so you can create a shoebox especially for your chosen animal.

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Registered Charity Number: 1167990

It's also a great opportunity to get creative with your wrapping and you could even include a personalised message.

Once you have filled a shoebox with your gifts, please drop it into one of our centres or charity shops during our opening hours. Your present will be gratefully received and will help to spread the festive cheer this winter!

If you would prefer to send a gift online, you can make a donation through our website or place an order through our Amazon Wishlist.

Each centre has their own wish list, so you can choose exactly where your gift goes this Christmas and get it sent straight to our door.

Please visit our website to find out more and discover the wish lists for our animals: <https://www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk/ShoeboxAppeal2021>

With your help, we can make our rescue animals' Christmas a truly magical time whilst they await their Forever Home.

Planet Purbeck Youth Group Wants YOU!

By the Planet Purbeck Youth Group

The Planet Purbeck Youth Group is an environmental voice and action group for young people in Purbeck. This group is run by teens for teens. It's a place to share the youth's voice, come up with ideas and make real change. The group is facilitated by Planet Purbeck, National Trust and Purbeck Youth and Community Foundation.

We meet every Wednesday evening to discuss what we feel are the most pressing issues, such as climate change, pollution, biodiversity loss and extinction and what we're going to do about it. We also want to spread awareness about the climate emergency.

One of our aims is to run a 'Green Christmas' event where we will try and engage the teenage community to be greener this Christmas. The event will take place Saturday 11th December at 6-9pm at Wareham Youth Club. We are including a 'green' prop stand, Christmas quiz, film, free food and much more for only £1 for the night.

This event will be run by the Planet Purbeck Youth Group as a way to try

and interact with a wider audience of youth, and in a different way. We feel that there is not enough understanding about climate change and that people take it for granted as, living in Purbeck, we are rarely exposed to the immediate effects of it.

As time runs out, we see that people are not doing enough. This event is aiming to open people's eyes about the crisis in a gentle, welcoming way that is interactive. There will be many different activities being held based around nature and using only natural resources such as willow wreath making, prop stands, gingerbread and hot chocolate decoration, selfie walls and a quiz with a prize! Additionally, there will be a classic Christmas film with free pizza and popcorn.

We hope to see many new faces and inspire the youth to take an interest in the environment and take action. If you have any other questions or interested in joining our group, email:

lisahardisty@pycf.org.uk / 01929552934

julia.galbenu@nationaltrust.org.uk / 07794885970

New Walking Trail For Kimmeridge



Improvements are now completed enhancing pedestrian access links between the refurbished Fine Foundation Wild Seas Centre at Kimmeridge Bay and the Etches Collection Fossil Museum in the village.

With the existing path linking the village and bay having a 'make-over' including new gates, bridge, drainage works and path clearance, together with path improvement along the coastal path, visitors are encouraged to park at Kimmeridge Bay and visit the village using the improved access.

Visitors are now welcomed to Kimmeridge Bay by a new oak framed

interpretation panel at Gaulters Gap, (the western end of the main car park) and a panel on the wall of the toilet facilities in the smaller car park providing information on the local area, what they can see and do whilst visiting this unique and beautiful part of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site.

Visitors are encouraged to walk the improved path to the village led by new wayfinding fingerposts along the walking trail. Interactive, eye-catching illustrations along the trail tell the story of Kimmeridge marine life past and present, showing how the creatures found here today are linked to past wildlife through geological time.

Julie Hatcher from the Fine Foundation Wild Seas Centre, Dorset Wildlife Trust says: "Kimmeridge tells the extraordinary story of marine wildlife that lived here millions of years ago and whose relatives can still be found in the rock pools and shallows today.

"This new trail, along with exhibitions at the Fine Foundation Wild Seas Centre and Etches Collection Museum, explain that story and show visitors how to discover it for themselves".

There is still some outstanding work to be done to remove old information plinths which will be undertaken as soon as possible.

This project has been made possible by partnership working and support from the Wytch Farm Landscape and Access Enhancement Fund. Partners on this project were Dorset Council's Greenspace Team, Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Partnership, Dorset Wildlife Trust, Etches Collection, landowners Smedmore Estate, Defence Infrastructure Organisation (part of the MOD), the Jurassic Coast Trust and coordinated by the Dorset Coast Forum.

Young People Volunteering This New Year

My name is Charlie Stockley, and I am a twenty-year-old ecology student from Bournemouth University. I undertook my placement with the National Trust in June 2021, and I found it to be such an amazing experience that I decided to carry on working with the National Trust as an engagement volunteer.

From January 2022, I will be leading the Young People Volunteering Group at Studland. I volunteered for this project as I want to help set up and lead other likeminded young people, so they too can get involved in conservation, learn new skills, and gain experience that will help improve their skill set.

Gaining experience in this industry is vital in advancing your career, however finding the right kind of experience can be difficult especially for younger people post lockdown.

This is the reason why I want to make this volunteering group for young people and organised by young people. You will have your say in the activities and projects for the group.

Some of the volunteering activities we will begin on include, removing invasive species and vegetation, habitat creation for rare species, litter picking, species monitoring and conservation work with tools.

We will be launching this on the 2nd of January 2022 and meeting every Sunday, at Discovery Centre. Sessions will start at 10am and finish at 3pm with a lunch break halfway through so bring lunch, water and dress appropriately.

For more information visit: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/volunteering





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Gazette Gardening

Gardening to combat climate change

with Simon Goldsack

Design Your Garden with Sustainability in Mind.



A garden is an outdoor space where we create, shape and then maintain a layout and structure that suits our needs, aspirations and enjoyment.

The key to good design is to work out what makes up your needs, aspirations and enjoyment.

For instance, you might:

- **need** a washing line or somewhere to store your bikes,
- **aspire** to having a dreamy cottage border, and
- **enjoy** sunbathing, reading outdoors or perhaps enjoy the process of gardening itself.

Work out what these three things are, and you are halfway there.

At one end of the design scale there are highly controlled gardens like the one above. From a human point of view, it has interesting shapes, balance, symmetry, repetition, controlled views and vistas and is pleasing on the eye. However, from a sustainability and wildlife perspective is pretty poor.

There is:

- very little flower to attract pollinators,
- little or no food plants for insects to breed and develop,
- no decaying matter for invertebrates and as these support the food chain,

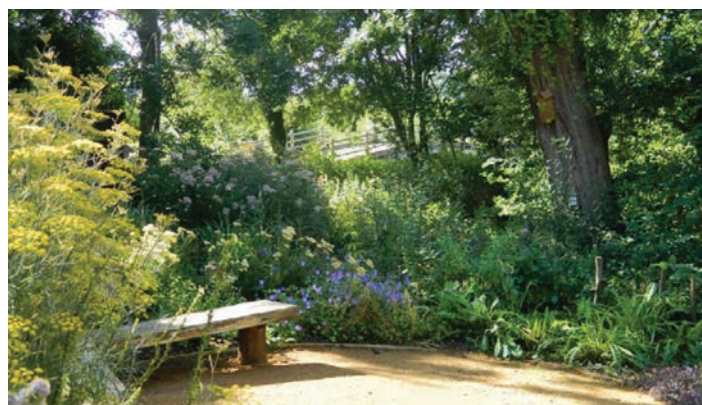


- little to attract birds and mammals.
- chemically treated water to keep it clean
- hedges and topiary that need regular trimming
- paths treated with weed-killer, and
- let's not get started on the lawn!

On the other end of the scale is abandonment. This garden (above) has:

- tall foliage for insects to live and breed
- decaying matter for invertebrates
- nesting sites for birds and
- flowers to attract pollinators.

However, does it fit the owner's needs, aspirations and enjoyment? Well possibly, if they don't need a bike store, have no aspirations and enjoy



being inside watching TV!

The other option is to design a space to meet your needs, aspirations and enjoyment and include many or all of the following (as above).

- Mixed structure of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants
- Porous surfaces to allow natural drainage
- A diversity of flowers to cover all seasons
- Hedgehog holes at the base of fences
- Compost heaps to attract detritivores such as woodlice, beetles and centipedes.
- Log piles allowed to breakdown naturally
- A pond (a tiny one will do)
- Water conservation (eg. Water butts)
- Choose plants that are suited to your soil
- Only mow the areas you need to access, let the grass grow longer and don't apply weed-killer.

If you do this you will have a garden that not only makes you happy but, is also great for wildlife and reduces the effects of climate change.



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Arts & Entertainment

Castle Guide Set To Gross-Out New Generation!

Children love a bit of horrible history, and it doesn't come more horrible than the story of Corfe Castle. That's why Swanage writer, Cathy Lewis, has republished a guidebook to the castle, years after it went out of print. Cathy wrote the 'Family Guide to Corfe Castle' for the National Trust back in 2004, filling it with information about the dastardly deeds that had taken place there, as well as descriptions of wicked weapons, terrible toilets and foul food. It was illustrated throughout by Swanage artist, Tony Kerins.

The guide was sold by the Trust for about ten years, before being replaced with a different publication. But, as Cathy found out, the public hadn't lost interest.

She said: "We were sad to see the guide go out of print but understood that approaches change. But what I didn't expect was the number of enquiries I'd have from people still wanting to get hold of a copy, including local residents, visitors and schools."

Cathy eventually sold out of her own stock of books and thought that was the end of the story. That all changed in 2020. "I was contacted by a woman whose son had seen the guide at school. He desperately wanted one for himself, and being autistic, became fixated on getting it. After much searching, his mother finally tracked me down and I gave him one of my last copies. At that point, I realised I had to try to get the guide back into print."

Cathy was able to acquire copyright permission from the National Trust. Working with the former education officer at the castle, Pam White, she renamed the guide and updated the text, while Tony Kerins refreshed the illustrations. "It's so good to see the guide back in print," said Cathy. "It's



cost us a lot of time and money to get it out there again, but it's worth it just to see a new generation of children reading it, learning from it and being grossed-out by it!"

'The Gory Story of Corfe Castle' is available from outlets including The Swanage Bookshop, Swanage Information Centre and Corfe Castle Sweet Shop, and online via Etsy.

Photo: Testing the gross-factor of the Corfe Castle guide! Left to right: Seb (6) and Erin (9) of Swanage, and Owen (4) and Kai (9) of Wareham.

Dorchester Crier Equals National Record



Alistair Chisholm (76), Town Crier of Dorchester (pictured, left), won the 68th National Town Criers' Championship in Hastings for a record-equalling 11th time on 16th October 2021.

This equals the record held by the late Ben Johnson of Fowey in Cornwall who achieved this in 1973.

Although Ben Johnson's name only appears on the Championship trophy ten times (the current cup dating back to 1945), he also won the National Championship in 1939 when it was held in Lyme Regis and recorded on a newsreel of the time.

Alistair said he was immensely proud to have equalled Ben's record, in what is the oldest and most prestigious of Town Crying competitions, and congratulated Andrew Fleming, the Town Crier of Swanage, on his well-deserved second place.

Alistair dedicated his win to all the staff at the Robert White Radiotherapy unit at Dorset County Hospital where he has recently completed his treatment for prostate cancer saying: "The staff are not only truly professional but are incredibly patient and understanding. The whole atmosphere created at the unit puts one at ease and the sessions are not only painless but pass very quickly."

Asked if he would enter the National Championships next year (probably on Saturday 15th October 2022), Alistair said: "I shall certainly be there as the Championship competition is only one part of a truly spectacular

climax to 'Hastings Week'. I look forward to this annual event and love wandering around the Old Town.

"The Saturday evening's real torchlight procession, with its infectious drumming, is a sight and sound never to be forgotten and the accompanying huge beach bonfire and firework display more than equals anything I've ever seen."

Will he try for a record-breaking 12th win? "I am proud to represent Dorset's county town and will be giving it my best shot. Winning again would be a bonus but I know I'd enjoy the Hastings event regardless of the result."

Below: Dorset Town Criers, L to R, Iain Mitchell of West Moors, John Collingwood of Bridport, runner-up Andrew Fleming of Swanage, and winner Alistair Chisholm of Dorchester.





As usual we will be out on Boxing Day around Corfe Castle and other locations in stunning Purbeck. That's the plan, anyway, but does depend on Covid rates and the locations.....

Preliminary we will be performing at:

12 mid-day Corfe Castle Square

12.30pm The Fox (Corfe)

1.00 pm The Bankes Hotel bar (Corfe)

1.30pm Castle Inn (Corfe)

2.15pm The Square and Compass outside (Worth Matravers)

As Mummers are not very tame, all times are approximate - just in case we get lost between pubs!

We will put posters up to confirm and also post on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/purbeckmummers/>

As usual we will be collecting for local charities, so please do support us.

We look forward to seeing you all!

Christmas Music With The Mayday Singers

Dear Readers,

You might like to know that the Mayday Singers are going to be performing half an hour of festive music as part of the Christmas Tree Festival at St. George's Church, Langton Matravers.

Since we are again unable to visit local care homes this Christmas, we are delighted to have this opportunity to sing carols to local people in such a beautiful setting - and all for charity too!

We shall be there on Saturday 4th December at 11.30am and hope that some of your readers will be able to join us.

Yours sincerely, Wendy Clark on behalf of the Mayday Singers, by email.

'Just Carols On The Green' In Wareham

Dear Readers,

I am writing to let your readers know that the Parish Church of Lady St. Mary in Wareham will be holding 'Just Carols on the Green' at 6pm on Friday 3rd December.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to join together and sing many of the favourite, traditional carols. It will be held outside on Church Green in front of Lady St. Mary Church. Musical accompaniment and carol sheets will be provided. We look forward to welcoming families and all of the community to this festive start to the Christmas season.

With season's greetings to you and all of your readers,
Pat Cherrett, The Wareham Church Family.



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Wareham Choral Society & Briantspuddle Singers Christmas Concert "O be Joyful!"

Celebrating the return of choral singing!

Saturday 4th December 7pm

Lady St Mary Church, Wareham BH20 4ND

Music Directors

WCS Hazel Ricketts

BpS Michael Moorsom

Trumpet Philip Singleton

Soprano Lucy Braga

Baritone David Reece

Organ John Challenger

Assistant Director of Music at Salisbury Cathedral

Fiona Maddocks, Guardian: "Challenger displays technical wizardry and infinite sonic variety throughout."

Ian Munro, RSCM reviews: "...Challenger's wizardry in a flawless performance."

Andrew Fletcher, Organists' Review: "... the technical brilliance, artistry, musicality and seemingly effortless organ management of John Challenger."

"Dorset Jubilate"

The first performance of a new work by composer Philip Singleton setting two Thomas Hardy poems, (The Oxen and The Darkling Thrush) with excerpts from Messiah and readings, including traditional audience carols



Tickets £12.50 (under 18s half price, accompanied children under 12 free), from choir members or on the door, or from Joys in Wareham, or tel 01202 632678 or email warehamchoral@gmail.com and online at <https://www.warehamchoral.co.uk>

Health & Beauty

Matron's Round Our Local Hospitals' Monthly Column



I thought that the community may be interested to know about our Facilities Teams at both Swanage and Wareham Hospitals:

"Please allow me to introduce myself, my name is Tim Gelaky and I'm a fairly new appointment to the Trust, having started in May of this year.

"Working in the capacity of Facilities Manager, I oversee the teams delivering both the cleaning and catering services for Swanage and Wareham Hospitals.

"Prior to my arrival in this role, I performed similar management duties, delivering services

for both the Royal Marines at Hamworthy and the Army's Armoured Division at Bovington.

"After having worked for nine years on military camps, an interesting comparison occurred to me the other day. As we know, quite rightly, military servicemen and women are awarded medals for their service and bravery, and I take nothing away from them; they're heroes 'one and all'.

"In these few months however I've learned that heroism comes in many forms and have been humbled by the selfless courage and commitment of my new hospital teammates who work both diligently in the kitchen and perform a wide variety of cleaning duties.

"Whilst working throughout the pandemic and exposed to real risks on a daily basis, their sense of commitment and duty to the hospital and its patients has seen the successful and seamless delivery of these crucial services and in my view, this has been nothing short of extraordinary.

"I would therefore like to take this opportunity to recognise these hard-working individuals who toil in the background, yet provide as vital a service as any in these special hospitals.

"You are the personification of the 'unsung hero' and if I could organise medals for you all, I would. In no particular order:-

Petrice, Jade, Jo, Claire, Annie, Mandy, Mandy T, Penny, Pauline, Helen, Alan, Sara, Melanie, Gina, Kerry, Rachel, Ann, Martin and Richard."

Until next time, Matron Annette Sanchez (pictured)



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Hello From Swanage Medical Practice

News from Swanage Medical Practice



Practice News

We thought it might be helpful for you to see how our team have been looking after patients at our practice.

Flu Vaccines - We are working hard on our flu campaign with nearly 3000 patients already vaccinated. It has been a challenging year with disruption to deliveries (nationally) which has caused delays and frustration. All patients 65+ and those classed as "at risk" will be invited to our flu clinics. We are in the process of inviting patients 50-64 year olds. If you are eligible and have not received an invite by either letter or text, please contact the surgery to arrange your appointment.

Face to face appointments and Telephone consultations - in just ten working days in October our team of GPs, Advanced Nurse practitioners Primary Care Paramedics, Pharmacists and treatment room staff have consulted with 2414 patients. We continue to offer telephone triage with our GPs, Advanced Nurse Practitioners and Primary Care Paramedic, with the clinician arranging a face to face appointment for you if appropriate.

Prescriptions - in just ten working days in October our team processed 4710 prescriptions items. Did you know, you can order your prescriptions using Online Access, for more information about this please visit our website: <https://www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Online-Access>

Clinical Correspondence - during just five working days in October, our team of GPs and admin staff dealt with over 1200 letters received into our Practice. This was a mixture of consultant letters, discharge summaries and letters from patients etc. All have to be reviewed, coded and actioned accordingly.

Phone calls received by the Practice - in an eight week period up to 26th October 2021, our team answered just over 19,000 calls from patients. We recognise that this volume of calls means that some patients are waiting longer than we would like, however, we would like to reassure you that our team are working hard to answer all calls, extra provision has been put in place during peak times and that we are currently reviewing the call data available to us to help with planning and decision making for the future.

Safety Measures within the surgery - As you can see, we are very busy and with Covid positive numbers still high and increasing in our area, we need to protect our workforce to ensure we can maintain services for our patients. Unfortunately access to locum (temp) GPs and other temporary clinicians and admin staff is extremely challenging and there is just not the availability in our area. Many of our team have had to self-isolate as a precautionary measure due to covid and while we aim to keep disruption to a minimum for our patients, staff missing from any part of our team impacts on what we can offer patients. With this in mind, the following safety measures remain in our surgery:

The most appropriate way to seek help - Our receptionists are trained

care navigators, their role is to actively listen, to signpost people to sources of help, advocacy and support. They are supported and guided by the GPs at the Practice and will arrange for you to speak to a clinician or team member appropriate to your needs:

Advanced Nurse Practitioner - The conditions they see and treat, cover from head to toe, both acute and chronic conditions. They diagnose a wide range of conditions including diabetes, hypertension, urinary tract infections, respiratory infections and common skin conditions. They can refer to secondary care either for emergency admission or to clinics such as the rapid access chest pain clinic. Many patients also attend for advice about starting contraception, menopause and pre-pregnancy planning. Part of their day is allocated for checking test results and reviewing treatment plans. This may involve reviewing medicines or referring to specialist nurses such as diabetes, heart failure or respiratory Nurse Specialists. Clinical supervision of nursing and support staff is also part of their role.

Clinical Pharmacists - are experts in medicines and are very much part of our core Practice team. They can prescribe so can issue your medication, answer complex queries about your medication. They can review your medication so you don't need to see a GP. They can also signpost you to other specialists or services, can complete hospital discharge reviews and manage medication for long term conditions.

Primary Care paramedic - Our Paramedic, came to the practice a year and a half ago after working as a Paramedic for 15 years for South Western Ambulance Service, including the Swanage Car. She now works as an Advanced Clinical Practitioner as part of the Duty team with the Duty Doctors and Advanced Nurse Practitioners to provide care for patient's presenting with acute problems that need help that day. She phones, sees, examines, diagnoses, and treats patients at the surgery and also visits patients at home who are too sick to attend the surgery and may need hospital admission.

Practice Nurses - Our Practices nurses all have specialist skills, this could be INR monitoring, Asthma, Diabetes, Chronic leg ulcers, smear taking, child immunisations and vaccinations and other general Practice nurse skills.

GP - our team of GPs are here to offer patients telephone consultations and if appropriate, they will arrange for you to be seen face to face by either them, another clinician such as one of our Advanced Nurse Practitioners or they will signpost you to another service for support.

Pharmacists at local chemists - As qualified healthcare professionals, they can offer clinical advice and over-the-counter medicines for a range of minor illnesses, such as coughs, colds, sore throats, tummy trouble and aches and pains. If symptoms suggest it's something more serious, pharmacists have the right training to make sure you get the help you need. For example they will tell you if you need to see a GP, nurse or other healthcare professional. All pharmacists train for 5 years in the use of medicines. They are also trained in managing minor illnesses and providing health and wellbeing advice.

Social prescribers - Social prescribing is designed to support people with a wide range of social, emotional or practical needs. Those who could benefit from social prescribing include people with mild or long-term mental health problems, people with complex needs, people who are socially isolated and those with multiple long-term conditions. The social prescribers will help you with all non-clinical aspects. You can self-refer to our social prescribers by calling 03033 030153 or visit: www.helppandcare.org.uk/services/self-management

Call NHS 111 - if you have an urgent medical problem, but you're not sure what to do.

Blast From The Past!

This month, A Decade Ago...

December 2011 saw our letters pages absolutely busting with your communications on a wide variety of topics. Numerous writers penned missives about the proposed wind farm, with the debate ranging around the siting of the farm, longevity of the turbines, negative effects to wildlife and so on. Several letters were also sent in about the Mowlem Theatre in Swanage, with readers bemoaning the closed attitude of the then-trustees and their perceived failure to connect and work with the community.

A new group, the 50/50 group, had been formed with the intention of fundraising and working with the Mowlem to bring aboard new, more modern ideas and offer up a better programme which would inspire more people in the community to get involved and support the community theatre. Writer, Christopher Burke, said: 'The 50/50 group has been frustrated by some of the trustees who are obstructive and show a negative approach to co-operation between them. I suggest that these trustees are behaving as ostriches burying their stubborn heads in the sands of Swanage Bay.' Today, we're incredibly proud of the improved Mowlem Theatre and Bar, run by new trustees who are open, engaging with the community and who we all feel are well suited to take this community gem on towards a bright and sustainable future for the benefit of all.

Purbeck welcomed some very special visitors in 2011, as the Osiligi Maasai Troop from South Kenya paid us a visit to share their culture and educate us in their way of life (pictured, below). This was the Osiligi Troop's ninth tour of the UK and we saw their amazing performance at Wareham. The tours had made a significant difference to the Maasai community over the previous nine years; a new school was being created, funded by the work of the Troop, in conjunction with the UK based 'Osiligi Charity Projects'.

The performances were inspirational and humbling - an unusual mix, but an utterly awesome one. The Maasai re-created a scene for the audience from their lion hunting days (now abolished by their government) and gave demonstrations of traditional dancing, singing and Maasai jumping (absolutely extraordinary!). Audience members were welcomed to the stage to attempt to learn to jump the Maasai way - fascinating to see how much practice we in the West would need to even consider competing with the accomplished Maasai - able to jump over well a metre into the air from a standing point!

Simon, the Troop leader, had taught himself to not only speak English at age thirteen, he'd also taught himself to read and write in English too. He held and Q & A session, where attendees were able to ask about the Maasai way of life and how the Troop adjusted to the modern conveniences they experienced whilst touring the UK. Interestingly, the phrase 'I want' doesn't exist in Maasai language. They are contented with a simpler way of life and whilst they reported enjoying constant electricity, heating and beefburgers (!), they felt they would not miss these things when they returned home.

Gazette Editor, Nico Johnson, undertook to sponsor one of the Maasai children (Santa) to enable her to attend the new Osiligi School. Ten years on, we're delighted to let you know that the Osiligi School is fully built and operational, and is recognised as an outstanding school in Kenya. Santa has attended since pre-school (under the sponsorship programme) and is now a beautiful teenager, writing to Nico regularly (in English) and looking towards a brighter future, all thanks to the Osiligi Charity Projects groups and the work of the Osiligi Troop.

The team behind Heroes Haven in Swanage reported that after a delay of fifteen weeks, they had finally received Planning Permission for the Lodge



to go ahead. Work had finally commenced on the site and it was hoped that the Lodge would be completed in early February 2012.

Corfe Castle Community Pre-School reported that they had begun generating their own power after receiving a special deal for solar panels from Poole-based NGPS Ltd. The school paid half of the cut-price for the panels and was given a year to raise the second half. It was hoped that the panels would help the pre-school run more efficiently in future. Ten years on, we wonder how they're faring?

Swanage's Country Market, based at the Mowlem Theatre, had been running for twenty-five years in 2011, opening every Friday from 10am in the Committee Room. Everything from fresh cakes, eggs and locally produced meat through to jewellery, craftwears and plants were on offer. A weekly ordering system was in place, so locals could pre-order their selection of hyper-local produce from the team. The team wrote to invite more traders to join them to ensure the survival of this locally important group. Sadly, a decade on, the Swanage Country Market no longer exists.....

Godfrey Moles of Herston had resurrected the Swanage in Bloom competition and the 2011 results were finally announced in December 2011. Mr and Mrs Scott won the 'Best Holiday Accommodation' award and Commercial Road (including Gazette Towers!) won the 'Best Area' award. All taking part were encouraged by the wonderful and dedicated Godfrey to welcome wildlife 'back to our place' and plant pollinating blossoms to bring nature back to the town centre areas.

In Wareham, Michael and Gabrielle Young were celebrating their twenty-fifth anniversary at the helm of long-standing jewellers and silversmiths, Heirlooms of Wareham. The couple were well known not only in Wareham, but throughout Purbeck for their exceptional service, indepth knowledge and dedication to their craft.

Although now retired, they ensured the continuation of Heirlooms of Wareham under the expert eye of Amy Brenan, so this much-loved and exceptional store should continue long into the future!

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 JAN is noon, 8th DEC

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.

DECEMBER 2021

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

EVERY MONDAY

- 09.00 U3A Table Tennis Group meet at Harmans Cross VH.
 09.30 Under 2.5 years old group. Till 11am. at Parish Hall, Wm.
 09.45 Toddler Club URC, Sw. Till 11.15
 10.00 Table Tennis Club Methodist Ch. hall, High Street, Sw. All ages/abilities welcome. Steve: 424591, Malcolm: 427695
 13.00 Play and Learn at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Till 2.45pm
 13.00 Under 1s and Tums at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 3pm
 14.00 Pins and Needles at Harmans Cross VH.
 14.00 Swanage Digital Champions. Support people in the community to use the internet and gain basic online skills. Booking essential on 01929 423485.
 14.00 Wareham Short Mat Bowls. Meet at Furzebrook Village Hall. New members welcome to come along and meet us!
 14.00 Swanage Disabled Club meet until 4pm. Meeting place All Saints Church Hall, Uwell, Sw. Transport available. Call Mrs Daphne Saville on 01929 425241 ffi.
 16.00 Colour Me Happy. Adult colouring session at Swanage Library. Drop in.
 16.45 Soccer Skills Sw FC First Sch chldn £1 Till 5.45. 425175
 18.00 Swanage Tennis Club at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm
 18.00 Swanage Tennis Club at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 8.30pm.
 19.00 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.
 19.00 Wareham Choral Society meet Lady St.Mary Church, Wm. Till 9.30. New singers always welcome. Ffi: 01202 632678.
 19.30 Purbeck Village Quire rehearse at Wm URC Church. New/visiting singers (no audition necessary). String & wind players also welcome. Ffi: 288045 or 480737.
 19.30 Wareham Art Club Workshop at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.
 19.30 Wm Folk Dance Club Stoboro' VH. All welcome. 07749 853815. Email: warehamfolkdance@gmail.com
 19.30 Swanage Air Cadets meet at Air Training Corps HQ, Court Road, Sw. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
 20.00 DARTS at the RBL Club, Sw.
 20.00 Herston Hall Management C'ttee Bingo

EVERY TUESDAY

- 09.00 Swanage Tennis Club at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am
 09.30 Isle of Purbeck Arts Club. Painting and sketching. At the Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Till 1pm. Outdoors in summer. Ffi: Gina on 421689.
 09.30 Well Baby Clinic at Chapel Lane, Swanage. Till 11.30am.
 09.30 Kiddies Corner Mother & Toddler Group (term time only) No fee - donations welcome. Purbeck Gateway Church. 551415
 09.30 Wareham Art Club Workshop at Wareham Parish Hall. Ffi: 553718.
 10.00 First Steps Parent & Toddlers' Group. Swanage Methodist Church till 11.30am during term time. Ffi: Sylvia Garrett 425420, office hours.
 10.00 Men & Women's Mixed Walking Football Club at Swanage Football Club. Come and try! All levels welcome, even if you've never played before. Come and join in or just come along to watch a very friendly group of people playing football. Until 11.30am. Call Nick on: 07745 907509
 10.00 Swanage Tennis Club at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11.30am.
 10.00 Wareham Croquet Club meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email warehamgolfcroquetclub@hotmail.com
 10.00 Sandford Toddlers at Sandford Community Hall, till 11.30am.
 10.00 Short Tennis at Sw FC All ages & abilities £1.50 Till noon. 425175
 10.00 A Place Of Welcome at 103 High St. Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances. Until 12 noon.
 10.30 Adult Line Dance Class. FREE taster session at D'Urberville Centre, Wool. Till 11.30am with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadibelius@gogglemail.com
 10.30 Employment Hub at Swanage Library. Until 12.30pm. Book via Skills dn Learning on 01202 262300.
 10.30 Swanage Walking for Health Group starter walks (15-30mins). Start from the Mowlem Shelter on Swanage Seaford. Get back into the swing of things gently! Ffi: 481000
 10.30 Wareham Walkers. Convivial health walks for mainly older people, of up to two hours in and around Wareham, ending with coffee at a local tea room or pub. Ffi: www.wareham-walkers.org.uk or call 552933.
 11.30 New Adult Latin American & Ballroom Dance Class for beginners. FREE taster session at D'Urberville Centre, Wool. Till 12.30pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or

email: donnadibelius@gogglemail.com

- 12.00 Nature Tots (0-4yrs) at Bovington Memorial Hall Garden. Until 2pm.
 14.00 Wareham Short Mat Bowls. Meet at Furzebrook Village Hall. New members welcome to come along and meet us!
 14.00 Swanage Walking for Health Group. Walks of 60-90mins, various locations. Walks are very social, for a range of abilities. Walks start from car parks at Studland, Corfe, Arne, Durlston, Langton, Acton, Worth and Kingston. Ffi: 481000.
 14.00 Swanage Town Walk. Local historian takes walks lasting 90 minutes. Meet outside the Museum in the 'Square'. No charge but voluntary contributions welcome.
 14.00 Harman's Cross Village Hall Art Group Till 5
 18.00 Sw Youth Centre Girls' Night (Yr 8+) Till 10
 18.15 Sw Cricket Club Practice till 8.30pm
 18.30 Sw Bridge Club Mowlem Community Room. 421840
 19.00 Wareham Air Cadets meet at Air Training Corps HQ, St Martin's Lane, Wm. Cadets age 12+. Ffi: email: oc.2185@aircadets.mod.
 19.00 New Adult Line Dance Class. FREE taster session at Corfe Castle VH. Till 8pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadibelius@gogglemail.com
 19.00 Give Rugby A Try! FREE! at Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Rd, Wm. We're looking for new players, so come and have a go! Until 9pm. Over 18s only. Call John C. on: 07970 500357 Ffi.
 19.30 Swanage Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets at Swanage Day Centre, High Street, Swanage. If you want help to stop drinking, you are welcome. Or call 01202 296000 for more details.
 19.30 Belvedere Singers rehearsal at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Victoria Avenue, Sw. BH19 1AZ. Parking on-site. Till 9.30pm. All singers welcome! 425074.
 19.30 Women's Walking Football Club at Swanage Football Club. Come and try! All levels welcome, even if you've never played before. Come and join in or just come along to watch a very friendly group of people playing football. Until 9pm. Call Nick on: 07745 907509
 19.30 Sw & Langton Folk Dance Club Langton VH. Ffi: 421913
 20.00 Carey Hall, Wm Bingo
 EVERY WEDNESDAY
 09.00 St Mark's Toddlers Group, St Mark's Church, Swanage. Herston, Sw Till 11am
 09.45 Corfe Wool Workshop Corfe VH, East St. Members £1.50; non-members £2.50. Till 12.00. 427067
 10.00 Short tennis for adults at Swanage Football Club. All welcome. Equipment supplied. Till noon.
 10.00 Breast Feeding Group at Wareham's Children Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Offering peer support and breastfeeding counsellor advice. Till 12 noon. Ffi: 552864
 10.30 Adult Dance Classes. Modern Line dance. Until 11.30am. At St Edward's Church hall, Swanage. Ffi: 01202 243803 or see: www.purbeckdancestudio.co.uk
 10.30 Play and Learn at Kids of Wool (BH20 6DY) until 12 noon.
 10.30 Books and More - at Swanage Library. Reading & discussion group.
 13.00 Studland Toddler Group at Studland Village Hall until 2.30pm.
 14.00 Herston Senior Citizens meet Herston Hall, Jubilee Rd, Sw. All welcome
 14.00 Health Qigong: Fitness and relaxation. Till 3pm. With Penny at the Mowlem Community Room, Sw. Ffi 07969925502
 14.30 Local Historian takes you on a town walk around Swanage, lasting 1 1/2 hours. No need to book, just turn up in the Swanage Museum in the Square, voluntary contributions welcome.
 15.00 Extend Exercise Class, now at Morton Village Hall. To improve strength, balance and flexibility. All welcome. Donations welcome. Ffi: 471490.
 16.15 Swanage Football Club U-7s Training til 5.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
 17.15 Swanage Football Club U-9s Training til 6.15pm. £1. Ffi: 426346
 18.00 Swanage Tennis Club at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 7pm
 18.00 Swanage Youth Club. School years 7&8. Till 8.30pm
 18.30 Sw & Wm Hockey Club Junior (6-14yrs) Training, Wm Sports Centre. Until 7.30pm. Email: swanagewarehamhockey@outlook.com
 19.00 Wm Bridge Club at the Library, South St. 552046
 19.00 Swanage Depression Support group. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday each month at the Lower Hall, Salvation Army, Kings Rd East, Sw. BH19 1ES, until 9pm. Ffi: Nick on: 07766352062 or email: nickviney@hotmail.com or call Mary on: 01929426896.
 19.00 Wareham Depression Support group. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month at Not Just Sundaes, South Street, Wareham. BH20, until 9pm. Ffi: John: 01929556315 or 07871 727278 or email: johnoneil905@yahoo.co.uk
 19.00 Swanage Town Band meet for our weekly practice in the Council Chamber, Swanage Town Hall. New musicians warmly welcomed. Please call David Cook (musical Director) for further information on: 01929 422909.
 19.00 Give Rugby A Try! FREE! at Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Rd, Wm. We're looking for new players, so come and have a go! Until 9pm. Under 16s-18s only. Call John P. on: 07725 567541 Ffi.
 19.00 Purbeck Runners meet at Beach Gardens Pavilion, Sw.

- 19.30 **Swanage Musical Theatre** meet Swanage Bay View Complex Rehearsal Room. All welcome. Ffi: 426161
- 19.30 **Sw & Wm Hockey Club (13+ years)** Training, Wm Sports Centre. Till 9pm. Email: swanagewarehamhockey@outlook.com
- 20.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 10
- 20.15 **Dorset Buttons Morris Practice.** URC Hall, Wm. 423234/421130
- 20.30 **Wm Swimming Club Adults.** All standards + stroke improvement. Till 10
- 22.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club Night (16+)** Till 11.59
- EVERY THURSDAY**
- 08.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 9.30am.
- 09.00 **Carey Crafters** meet every Thursday at Carey Hall, Mistover Road, until 12.30pm (come anytime between). No age or gender restriction. All crafts welcome we have a wide variety! Come along and share your craft or learn a new one! Contact Donna on 07870 993311 or Helen on 07368 352737 ffi.
- 09.00 **Swanage Painting Club.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Rd, Sw. Friendly group. New members including beginners welcome. Till 1pm. Ffi: Jane on 01929 427078
- 09.30 **Play and Learn** at Chapel Lane, Swanage, till 11am.
- 09.30 **Well Baby Clinic** at Streche Road, Wareham, until 12 noon.
- 09.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 11am.
- 09.30 **Sensory Play** for under ones, at Bovington Centre until 10.30am
- 09.30 **Adult Dance Classes.** Latin American & Ballroom dance. Until 10.30am. At the Wareham Scout & Guide Hut, N. Bestwall Rd, Wareham. BH20 4HX. Ffi: 01202 243803 or see: www.purbeckdancestudio.co.uk
- 10.00 **Wyvern Savings & Loan Credit Union** opens until 12 noon at Not Just Sundaes, South Street, Wareham, opposite the Library. A secure place to save and loans available at fair rates. Call in for a cuppa and a chat, or call 01305 268444.
- 10.00 **Wm Parent & Toddler Group** During term Parish Hall, Quay Till 11.45. 556806
- 10.00 **A Place Of Welcome** at 103 High St. Sw. Friendly drop-in for everyone, providing a free cup of tea or coffee, a listening ear, conversation and basic information. Everyone welcome, whatever the circumstances. Until 12 noon.
- 10.00 **Wool Country Market** D'Urville Hall. Cakes, preserves, plants, crafts, vegetables. Coffee & biscuits available.
- 10.00 **Tea, Coffee, Biscuits** at Queensmead Hall, Sw. Till 11am. Adm 50p
- 10.00 **Volunteer Centre Drop-In** at Wareham Library till 12pm. Find out about volunteering to support community groups & charities.
- 10.00 **Wareham Croquet Club** meet at the Recreation Ground until 5pm. New members and visitors welcome. Call Tony on 01929 550190 or Lesley on 01929 553927 or email 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. D'Urberville Centre, Collier's Lane, Wool. www.purbeckworkshop.org 07757 776907. www.purbeckworkshop.org Phone: 07794 479208
- 11.00 **Sensory Play** for 1-4yrs old at Bovington Centre, until 12 noon.
- 11.30 **New Adult Line Dance Class.** FREE taster session at Corfe Castle VH. Till 12.30pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadiebelius@gogglemail.com
- 13.30 **Under 1 year olds** at Wareham's Children's Centre, Streche Rd, Wm. Anti-natal mums welcome. Till 3pm. Ffi: 552864.
- 13.00 **Wareham Area Men's Shed** meets at Purbeck Connect, Sandford Lane, Wm. Ffi: call Chris on 554758, Harold on 792591 or Mike on 288045
- 13.30 **Toddler Group.** All Saints' Church, Sw. 423937. Till 3pm (Term times)
- 13.00 **New Adult Latin American & Ballroom Dance Class** for beginners. FREE taster session at Corfe Castle VH. Till 2pm with fully qualified instructor. All Covid-19 safety measures in place. Call Donna: 01202 243803 or email: donnadiebelius@gogglemail.com
- 14.00 **Swanage Town Walk.** Local historian takes walks lasting 90 minutes. Meet outside the Museum in the 'Square'. No charge but voluntary contributions welcome.
- 14.00 **Wareham Happy Cafe.** Friendly conversation, talks, activities and some fun to put a spring in your step! Everyone welcome. Held at the Not Just Sundaes Cafe in South Street, Wareham. BH20 4LU. From 5th March 2020 onwards. FREE. Until 3.30pm.
- 14.00 **Studland Chair-based Exercise** in the Village Hall, Studland. Ffi: Julie on 558139 or email: jbrad@uwclub.net
- 14.15 **Sw Over-60s Meet** in the Rectory Classroom, Swanage, Sw. All Welcome.
- 17.45 **Swanage Youth Club.** Learning Difficulties and disability (age 11-25) night. Till 7.30pm
- 18.00 **Isle of Purbeck Arts Club.** Weekly evening Art Group. Aimed at beginners, at Purbeck New Wave Gallery, 25 Commercial Rd, Sw. BH19 1DF. till 9pm.
- 18.15 **Sw Cricket Club Practice** till 9pm
- 18.30 **Swanage Sea Rowing Club Circuit Training** at Swanage Middle School. Ffi: 07776 201455
- 19.00 **Health Qigong:** Fitness and relaxation. Till 8pm. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 19.00 **Over 40s Men's Walking Football Club** at Swanage Football Club. Come and try! All levels welcome, even if you've never played before. Come and join in or just come along to watch a very friendly group of people playing football. Until 8.30pm. Call Nick on: 07745 907509
- 19.00 **Purbeck Gateway Club** meets at Wareham Youth Centre until 9pm. Purbeck Gateway is a club for adults with learning difficulties. We meet during term time and have fun! All welcome. Ffi: Lew on 552173. Email: Lewisbell1@aol.com

- 19.15 **Wm Town Band Brass & Woodwind** players welcome. 551478/01202 242147
- 19.30 **Short Mat Bowls** in the Durbeville Hall, Wool. All standards welcome, till 9.30pm. Ffi: 552682
- 19.30 **Purbeck Arts Choir** meet for rehearsals, with conductor David Fawcett, at St Mary's School, Northbrook Road, Swanage. Sept-May. All welcome. For more information please phone Liz Roberts 01929 481419
- 19.30 **Swanage Youth Club Youth Action** (year 7 - sixth form). Till 9.30pm
- 20.00 **Herston Hall OAP Committee Bingo** Sw
- EVERY FRIDAY**
- 08.45 **Coffee @ 112 - Drop In For Coffee!** Catch up with friends at 112 High Street (United Reformed Church) in Sw. Cake and bacon butties. Fair trade stall. Donations for 'Besom in Purbeck' and church funds.
- 09.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 10am
- 09.30 **Health Qigong:** Fitness and relaxation. Till 10.30am. With Penny at Furzebrook VH, Wm. Ffi 07969925502
- 09.30 **Wareham Area Men's Shed** meets at Purbeck Connect, Sandford Lane, Wm. Ffi: call Chris on 554758, Harold on 792591 or Mike on 288045
- 09.30 **Little Fishes Baby and Toddler Group.** Catholic Church Hall, Rempstone Road, Swanage. Term time only. Until 11.30am. Ffi: Alex on 07904 412067.
- 10.00 **Table Tennis Club** Methodist Ch. hall, High Street, Sw. All ages/abilities welcome. Steve: 424591, Malcolm: 427695
- 10.30 **Do you want to volunteer in Swanage?** Meet the team at the Volunteer Bureau in Swanage Library! Until 12.30pm.
- 11.00 **Swanage Library Rhyme Time,** ages 0-4, until 11.30am.
- 11.00 **Toddler Time For Under 5s And Carers.** Wareham Library. Stories, songs and crafts. Every Friday, including school holidays. Ffi: 01929 556146
- 14.00 **Wareham Short Mat Bowls.** Meet at Furzebrook Village Hall. New members welcome to come along and meet us!
- 14.30 **Short Mat Bowls** at Durbeville Hall, Wool. Till 4.30pm. All standards welcome. Ffi: 552682.
- 18.00 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 8.30pm.
- 18.00 **Purbeck War-Game & Model Club.** Royal British Legion, Sw. 426096.
- 18.00 **Sw Youth Centre Club 12-13 (Yr 7-9)** Till 8
- 18.00 **Purbeck Youth Choir** at the United Reformed Church Hall, Sw. 8-18 years old. Till 7pm. Ffi: Jay Buckle on: 07947 866945
- 18.30 **Sw Bridge Club** Mowlem Community Room. 421840
- 19.00 **Sw Youth Centre Seniors Club Night (Yr 9+)** Till 9.30pm.
- 19.30 **Informal Lesbian Social Group** meets each Friday for fun, laughter and to make new friends. Ffi, contact Karen by email at: outinpurbeck@gmail.com
- 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. Till 2pm. Bric-a-Brac stall weekly. Christian bookstall most weeks. All welcome for a warm-up and a friendly chat.
- 11.00 **Lego and Megablok Mayhem** at Swanage Library, until 12 noon.
- 20.00 **Herston OAP Committee Bingo** at Herston Hall, Sw
- EVERY SUNDAY**
- 09.00 **Purbeck Runners** meet at the Mowlem, Sw. 8+ mile run.
- 10.00 **Arts and Crafts Market** at the Mowlem in Swanage. A wide range of local art for sale, including pottery, glass, cards, fabric and much more! To book your table, or for more information, call Tony on 01929 421321.
- 10.00 **Give Rugby A Try! FREE!** at Swanage & Wareham Rugby Club, Bestwall Rd, Wm. We're looking for new players, so come and have a go! Until noon. Under 6s-16s only. Call Claire on: 07799 842225 Ffi.
- 10.30 **Stoborough Emmanuel Baptist Church** meet at Stoborough First School, Stoborough. All very welcome.
- 13.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Cardio Tennis taster. Till 2.30pm
- 14.30 **Swanage Tennis Club** at Beach Gardens, Sw. Free Matchplay taster session for prospective new members. First 3 sessions are free. Until 4.30pm.
- 19.00 **Quiz Night** with cash prizes at the Red Lion, High Street, Swanage. All welcome - come along and see if you can win the prize pot!
- 19.00 **Alcoholics Anonymous Wareham.** Until 8.15pm. Doors open at 6.30pm. Call 07855 536039 or email: warehamsunday@gmail.com for details of meeting location and so on.

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