

SWANAGE AREA FORUM

INCLUDING SURROUNDING VILLAGES

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020 - No. 5



With Autumn arriving and the winter following, I expect most people are wondering about the prospects in the coming seasons and beyond. It seems, according to most objective commentators, that we can expect a bit of a bumpy ride, both health and economic wise. After the relaxing of the springtime emergency measures, we are already seeing a rising number of Covid-19 cases both nationally and internationally and this does not look like improving any time soon.

We can only hope that our local health and care services and providers are in good shape and that they don't have the same level of crisis that they so brilliantly struggled through earlier in this year. We are also waiting to see the full economic effect of the lockdown on businesses and the jobs market.

Will there be a jobs' shake-out and what will be the economic effect be on many of our younger people, particularly those with young children? I suspect that all the wonderful local support given to needy families over the last few months will have to continue and maybe in a more intensive way.

Please keep us informed of all your activities and the great work that you are doing so that we can spread the word and help re-assure and carry on supporting each other in our communities. So until the next time, take care.

Mel Norris, Chair Swanage Area Forum and Swanage & Purbeck Development Trustee

melvyn.norris@talktalkbusiness.net



Gwenda Yeomans



The Swanage Medical Practice

MESSAGE FROM DR JASON CLARK, SWANAGE MEDICAL PRACTICE

We want to say “Thank you” for your support and understanding as we have all had to adapt to a new way of working with this dreadful COVID-19 pandemic. You have adjusted quickly to the changes we have had to make to ensure the safety of you all - and our staff. This virus has turned all our lives upside down and it has made inevitable the drastic, yet fundamental changes needed to ensure the safety of you all at this terrible time.

To slow down the spread of coronavirus, we have had to work to reduce the number of people coming into the Practice by using online consultation systems like e-Consult (via our website) telephone appointments and video consultations.

We cannot emphasise enough, that all these changes are absolutely essential to keep you and our staff safe whilst ensuring you get the care you need.

As we approach the autumn, we have to remember that there is still a significant increase in demand as we come out of lockdown. We are already overbooked in all our routine and ‘on the day’ capacity. So we still have to advise patients not to attend the surgery without an appointment. **Please telephone the Practice, and for those of you who can, please go to our website or use NHS choices <https://www.nhs.uk/>**

You will be able to speak to a clinician over the phone on **e-Consult** or a video consultation. It is much quicker this way, because you will often get to see the right person to help you. For ordering your prescriptions or looking up results, online access to your medical records is available. For your prescriptions, electronic batch prescribing via local chemists is available and up to a year’s prescriptions are pre-prepared and don’t need requesting.

If a doctor or nurse does need to see you in person, then you will be given an appointment to attend the Practice. As you can imagine, all of our appointments are taking longer due to the need to ensure the premises are clean between patients’ appointments. Please remember that all the clinicians have to “don and doff” Personal Protective Equipment to ensure the safety of all.

The way it works means that you will be seen promptly. You are reducing your risk of catching/spreading Coronavirus because you avoid the waiting room; thereby helping to keep staff healthy and safe too. And last but not least, the Practice is able to ensure a clean environment - to protect you from the virus. If you are offered an appointment, then you might see a clinician you are not familiar with, such as our Advanced Nurse Practitioner or our Primary Care Paramedic.

For patients unable to leave their home, if the clinician judges that it is necessary, a Home Visiting Service is provided. You will have noticed that our GPs are already doing fewer home visits, but Paramedics and Advanced Nurses, skilled at this role, are now available. We understand, and apologise that some patients feel our doctors have been shirking the risk of doing home visits, but would remind you all that our doctors are still visiting when that is the most appropriate response.

Dr Munday has now retired and another three partners will be retiring/leaving in the next year. The national recruitment crisis is having a significant impact on us and despite our relentless advertising locally, nationally, attending recruitment events far and wide, we have been unable to recruit. So the need to continue to change will mean that our doctors will only be available for the most skilled work and the supervision of our new clinical support team. This, in order to give you the best care we can provide.

We will also direct you to the care of our Clinical Pharmacists and Health Coaches. Routine appointments will be offered with an Advanced Nurse at Swanage Hospital MIU. You can also self-refer to Physiotherapy at Swanage Hospital. Please see: <https://www.msdorset.nhs.uk/patient-self-referral-form/>

You can also phone Swanage Hospital MIU to be seen if you have a minor injury problem. Routine GP appointments are also available at Wareham and Poole Hospitals.

By all of us engaging these new ways of working, we aim to continue to provide the high level of care that we always endeavour to do and to attract new staff and patients to Swanage Medical Practice. Thanks again for your support and understanding.

Dr Jason Clark - Senior Partner



MORE USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

On behalf of Dorset Council, Dorset NHS
Partners & the Voluntary Sector

SWANAGE HEALTH CENTRE - 01929 422231 (Mon-Fri
8.30am-1pm & 2pm-6.30pm)

For further information please visit: -

<https://www.swanagemedical.org.uk/Home>

SWANAGE FOOD BANK: Tel: 07713 637208 (Mon-Fri)

Please leave full details of your name and full tel. No.
Someone WILL get back to you)

DORSET COUNCIL'S HELPLINE - If you don't have family,
friends or a support network that can help you get what you need,
you can call **01305 221000**, 8am to 8pm, 7 days a week.

Alternatively, you can email:

communityresponse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

DORSET CARERS' SUPPORT Call 0800 368 8348 - support and
advice for carers across the Dorset Council area linking into local
groups admin@carerssupportdorset.co.uk

DORSET POLICE For contact details, please visit:

<https://www.dorset.police.uk/contact-us/>

DORSET REGISTRATION SERVICES (births, deaths and
marriages) Tel: No: **01305 225153** Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

POST OFFICE CASHLESS SYSTEM - The Post Office has made
it easier for self-isolating people to access cash: first, contact your
bank, building society or credit union to obtain a bar-code voucher;
THEN access the following:

'Payout Now' - voucher sent by text, email or post that you then
share with a trusted individual to withdraw cash on your behalf; or
'Fast PACE' - this allows you to arrange for a trusted individual to
collect a cheque from you, cash it at the Post Office and return
with the cash. For either - please go to:

postoffice.co.uk/post-office-payout/

PURBECK CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU visit:

<http://www.purbeckadvice.org.uk/>

Tel: 03444 111444 Mon-Fri 10am-4pm, leaving your name and
full tel.no. An adviser WILL call you back.

DIGITAL HOTLINE SUPPORT For those not confident using
online services, we have set up a **free hotline**, run by digital
volunteers for anyone with queries about getting online or
improving your online skills. If you are on a low income and do not
have a broadband connection or device at home to connect to the
internet, we may be able to help you to get set up. Please **CALL**
01305 221048. Mon-Fri 10-12noon. If ansaphone please leave
your name and full Tel. No. and someone WILL get back to
you.



A message from the Mayor of Swanage, Councillor Mike Bonfield

AS I sit here writing these few words on a
lovely bright Saturday, I am reminded that we
have arrived at the last Bank Holiday of 2020.

What a year it has been so far. It has been
good to see that Swanage has welcomed very
good numbers of visitors during August. Hopefully
a boost for the businesses that suffered so much
during the lockdown. I believe that the majority of
the visitors to our beautiful area have been
respectful towards government guidelines. But
unfortunately, there are always those that seem to
do as they please to the detriment of others.

We have been so lucky with the weather and I
can only imagine what the summer would have
been like if we had seen poor weather. I hope
that residents have, and will continue to support
all the local businesses as they all need as much
support as possible.

We have seen an increase in the numbers of
people using the town's green spaces; Spa Field,
Sandpit Field, The Rec and Prince Albert
Gardens. In these times we have tried to promote
these areas, making it easier for people to social
distance and it seems to have worked.

It will be interesting to see how things develop
into the autumn. Wonderful news that our
schools are reopening for all. I must thank all
school workers that worked so hard throughout
the lockdown, enabling key workers to carry out
their duties.

September can be a nice time to visit Purbeck
and I hope that we see visitors continuing to come
to the area and carry on supporting the local
economy.

The town council is slowly returning to some
form of normality. The information centre has
been open and has been very busy and the town
hall office will be opening shortly.

Please keep safe.

Cllr Mike Bonfield

information on Town Council services is available on the
council's website www.swanage.gov.uk
and Facebook Page:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/swanagetowncouncil/
posts/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/swanagetowncouncil/posts/)



PETITION TO KEEP OUR CAR: UPDATE

Since last writing in the July Newsletter, we know that the car has been 'safe' at least until the end of August, but concern about what is happening is now mounting again. There is still time! If you have not yet got round to signing this vital petition, and passing the message onto others, we would ask you please to do so. It's very important to send a strong and clear message that we need the Ambulance Car and Paramedic to continue to be based here, as has been clearly demonstrated throughout the last few months.

We in the community really value our Paramedic Car, based at Swanage and covering Purbeck, helping to vitally support our health, and our lives. Unlike the Swanage Ambulance, which could be in use outside of Purbeck all day, our Paramedic Car does not leave Purbeck to take patients to hospital. In an emergency, the fast Paramedic Car is often the nearest help for residents and visitors, and is able to negotiate the narrow, winding roads to get to us.

Our Paramedic Car

- Sustains life until the Ambulance arrives
- Treats many patients 'on the spot' saving valuable Ambulance time
- Supports us overnight when our Community Hospital is closed
 - Helps Purbeck GP's with home visits

Let's all work together to keep our car! This is challenging, without a paper petition, so please help to get the word out!

THERE'S STILL TIME TO SIGN THE PETITION TO KEEP OUR CAR

Please sign and share:

<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-swanage-ambulance-car>

Other ways to sign the petition:

- Type 'Save the Swanage Ambulance Car' into Google search; the petition will come up.
- The Petition is being shared regularly on Facebook, including on Swanage Community Coronavirus Response page.
- Email Swanage Town Councillor Debby Monkhouse on debmonkh@aol.com and she will send you the link.

Celebrating **125** *years*



SWANAGE HOSPITAL
is 125 years old on 26th September 2020

As part of the celebrations we are putting together a display of hospital history and a booklet for our patients, but we need more old photos.

If anyone has any pictures of the hospital that they wouldn't mind us using, please scan them and send them to me as soon as possible at [**n.acres@nhs.net**](mailto:n.acres@nhs.net)

If you don't have access to a scanner then you could take a photo of the picture on your phone and email it to me. Thank you very much.

Nick Acres, Admin Manager, Swanage Hospital.



Lewis-Manning Hospice Care

Lewis-Manning Hospice Care is a charity, helping people with life-limiting illnesses and their families across Purbeck, Poole, and East Dorset.

They promote acceptance, hope and peace of mind, helping people live well through their illness. Lewis-Manning Hospice Care offers a range of important services, which are run by their incredible clinical team.

These free services are:

- Day Hospice
- Lymphoedema Clinic
- Better Breathing Clinic
- Creative Arts & Wellbeing Support

Our aim is to help as many local people as possible, who are dealing with a life limiting illness, to live their precious lives well. This is done through improving symptoms and reaching individual goals all to support them in coping and managing their diagnosis. There is no charge to attend Lewis-Manning Hospice Care, if you wish to make a donation to support their extraordinary care, please visit lewis-manning.co.uk/donate

If you would like to know more about the hospice's incredible services or discuss in greater detail please contact a member of the team on **01202 708470** or email, enquiries@lewis-manning.org.uk.



"HELLO" FROM THE FRIENDS OF WAREHAM HOSPITAL

The Wareham Friends have extended the range of support it offers to include those services provided by the Integrated Team based at Bonnets Lane in Wareham.

Here staff work closely together across health and social care to co-ordinate our local care across and within the community and through Swanage Hospital which now provides in-patient care for the whole of Purbeck (Wareham Hospital beds having been closed two years ago) with medical cover now provided to the hospital ward by GPs from the Integrated team in Wareham.

We are delighted to support the Purbeck multi-disciplinary team and are hopeful for more integrated working in the future to help Purbeck maintain the excellent services we are used to in what are increasingly challenging times both financially and for recruitment of staff in our local area.

Any donations to support Purbeck staff and community services would be gratefully received and can be made through Wareham Hospital Friends, Streche Road, Wareham BH20 4RN

MAGGIE HARDY, FRIENDS CHAIR
Charity number 252073

Proud supporter of the Purbeck Petal Initiative



Digital Hotline volunteers 'do their byte' to get couple to friends' 70th birthday party video celebrations

A highly experienced team of digital volunteers from the **Dorset Digital Hotline** have been praised for the way they helped a local 'shielding' couple connect with loved ones and the outside world during the COVID lockdown.

Arthur and Daniel Brown who are both 'shielding', moved to new sheltered accommodation in Wareham, with hours to spare before lockdown but their broadband connection didn't move with them. The couple found themselves isolated, alone with no connection to the outside world save their GP surgery.

Arthur said: "We were on our own for 10 weeks in all. We always said we didn't want to go digital, but once in lockdown, it became crystal clear that all essential services and human contact relied on us getting broadband and video conferencing.

"We tried some internet service providers but the cost was far too high and neither of us are able to work. Our GP surgery suggested we call the **Dorset Digital Hotline** who suggested we apply for the BT Basic Broadband package. This package is available for people on lower incomes and was installed extremely efficiently and with full safeguarding. Their advisers were on the end of a phone throughout to make sure the broadband and video technology works for us."

Daniel continued: "It was installed midweek and last Sunday we were invited to a 70th digital birthday party on Zoom. There were multiple screens so we could catch up with lots of people, many we hadn't seen for years, and all party together. It was so wonderful - and utterly amazing! Anyone who needs IT or digital support should get in touch with the hotline now. We thoroughly recommend it."

Cllr. Gary Suttle, Dorset Council cabinet lead for skills, said: "Without broadband or digital skills it must be incredibly difficult to shield. During the COVID lockdown, people without broadband have effectively been shut off. I am delighted we have been able to work as a team to find a good all-round solution for this couple."

A selection of some of the support the Dorset Digital Hotline can provide – no problem too small!

- helping families with digital applications for home schooling
- providing help to get online for home shopping
- support for all digital NHS services and e-Consult
- setting up video calls such as Skype and Facetime to keep in contact with friends and family
- support to use all digital appliances and solve problems

Anyone can call the Dorset Digital Hotline with an IT question on 01305 221000 (Option 2) weekdays from 10am to 12 noon

Wearing face coverings in public

If you can, the government advises that you wear face coverings in enclosed public spaces where social distancing isn't possible or where you're more likely to come into contact with people you don't normally meet. For example, on public transport or in shops.

The evidence suggests that face coverings can help us protect each other and reduce the spread of the disease if you are suffering from coronavirus, but not showing symptoms. To protect yourself, you should continue to follow the two metre social distancing measures and isolation guidance and wash your hands regularly.

A face covering is not the same as the surgical masks or respirators used as part of personal protective equipment by healthcare and other workers. These should continue to be reserved for those who need them to protect against risks in their workplace. You can purchase non-surgical face coverings or you can make your own.

A cloth face covering should cover your mouth and nose while allowing you to breathe comfortably. It can be as simple as a scarf or bandana that ties behind the head.

Wash your hands or use hand sanitiser before putting it on and after taking it off and after use. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth at all times and store used face coverings in a plastic bag until you have an opportunity to wash them. Once removed, make sure you clean any surfaces the face covering has touched.

Do not touch the front of the face covering, or the part of the face covering that has been in contact with your mouth and nose. Once removed, make sure you clean any surfaces the face covering has touched. You should wash a face covering regularly. It can go in with other laundry, using your normal detergent.



DORSET NATIONAL PARK - SEPTEMBER

A Dorset National Park can help improve young people's health and life chances.

The past months have reminded us that access to nature is vital for all communities' health and wellbeing. A recent ONS survey found that 42% of young people felt that lockdown had made their mental health worse.

There is compelling evidence that regular contact with the natural environment can help address these challenges. A recent report on Youth engagement, health and wellbeing: the role of National Parks shows how National Parks play a vital role in connecting children and young people with nature, helping them to enjoy the great outdoors. It shows how National Parks promote young people's mental and physical health, and help improve educational experience, family and community relationships and life chances.

From apprenticeship and junior ranger schemes to designing and building "wild play" areas, National Parks help develop resilient, more confident and independent young people. These schemes can also offer great value for money: in the North Yorkshire Moors National Park's Young Ranger and Explorer Club programmes, every pound of investment created six pounds in value for participants, families and society.

The report illustrates some of the benefits a Dorset National Park would offer our young people, families and communities. A Dorset National Park, as a key partner for councils, communities, the health sector and others, would build on the experiences and successes of other National Parks and support a thriving, healthy, greener future for everyone. *Dorset Mind* says: "With our interest in supporting the mental health of children and young people in Dorset, we would welcome the increased resources a Dorset National Park would bring, and the new and exciting partnerships it could foster." (Anna Powney, Children and Young People Service Manager, *Dorset Mind*.) You can find the report and other News on the website:

www.dorsetnationalpark.com

A National Park can bring benefits for Purbeck and all of Dorset, including:

- o Support the health, wellbeing and life chances of Dorset's young people
- o Promote sustainable investment, boost jobs and skills
- o Help ensure a thriving future for our communities, economy and environment
- o Work with communities and councils to meet local housing needs.

The Government wants to create new National Parks. Dorset is widely recognised as the outstanding candidate.

With best wishes from The Dorset National Park Team

www.dorsetnationalpark.com



**WE ♥
DORSET
NATIONAL PARK**

Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership

Keep the heart of Swanage beating



Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership has now been in place for 5 years and during that time we have been able to place 35 defibs. across Swanage and the villages – a far cry from our original aim of 4. (The devices have been taken to over 75 incidents).

We could only do this as we have received such amazing Community support both financially and from local volunteers who help us to monitor and maintain the kit and provide familiarisation training sessions (when allowed!)

Our main objective now is to SUSTAIN this community project which we feel is even more important with Ambulance availability and often delayed response times due to the significant rise in Ambulance work.

We are upgrading our kit and have renewed the signage on some of our cabinets (as shown).



We are also very keen to invite new volunteer members to join our Team to help look after the equipment as 'Defib Guardians' and help us to ensure that, should they be needed, Swanage continues its excellent coverage of public accessed defibrillators.

If you can help us, please do contact Corbens in Station Road, Swanage who will put you in touch with a steering group member.

We would like to thank our excellent support team for their ongoing commitment and dedication to SCDP – we couldn't do it without you!

**Maggie Hardy, Ian Brown and Dave Corben,
SCDP Steering group members**

Swanage Food Bank



SEPTEMBER

Summer has been as busy as usual for **Swanage Food Bank (SFB)**, but different in that clients are encouraged to self-refer, as many of the former referral agencies are still not fully functional or it's difficult for clients to obtain appointments to obtain a voucher. Also as part of the 'new normal,' we arrange home deliveries through our dedicated Home Deliveries Team, as our default means of transferring supplies to clients - many of whom haven't private transport and would be unable to collect even if not 'shielding'.

This system means we have no personal contact with clients. Our Team on duty also adhere to Covid safe-guarding practices which has meant that we had to defer our May AGM until this autumn when we will keep safe-distancing with numbers limited to Team members only in line with the government guidance.

Many people have donated money to SFB during this pandemic, and we are very grateful to them, but are now so well-funded that we do not need further financial donations at present. Although client demand may increase this winter, we have sufficient finances to meet those needs. We still welcome food donations in the **SFB** bins, as this encourages community ownership of our work for the poorest members in this town and district.

For full information, queries or self-referral advice, please telephone **Swanage Food Bank on 07713 637208** which is manned daily. If you cannot get through when you phone, please leave a message with your name and telephone number and someone will always get back to you. Also, for those of you who are able to use Facebook, **Swanage Food Bank** has an account, so contact phone numbers, updates on needs and other news or information can be found there.

Pauline Werba (Chair of SFB)



BIG FIVE FOSSILS CAMPAIGN

The Jurassic Coast Trust is asking people to vote for their favourite prehistoric creatures as part of their new 'Big Five' fossils campaign. This campaign asks, 'If the fossil record of the Jurassic Coast were a safari, what would you be most excited to see?'

This campaign will give you the public the chance to choose from a selection ranging from the critters crawling around on the seafloor to the lumbering herbivorous dinosaurs that roamed the land. The most popular vote-getters from each category will go forward as the Jurassic Coast 'Big Five'!

One of the creatures is the crocodile that was discovered in Durlston Bay in 2007 so if you want to vote for your local Swanage candidate, look out for that!

Everyone who votes during the campaign will go in the running to win a 170 million year-old fossilised Jurassic seabed.

Find out more and vote for your favourite creatures at jurassiccoast.org/big-five



45cm



THE SUSTAINABLE SWANAGE GROUP has been working on exciting projects to help support the community in becoming more sustainable and mitigate the harmful effects of climate change and ecological crisis. We came together initially to address the issue of single-use plastic. Our first achievement was to receive Plastic Free Town Status in recognition of the towns continuing efforts in this area. This ongoing project has led to other initiatives to reduce our waste, environmental projects such as tree planting and we are now also looking at community renewable energy and sustainable transport projects. We seek to significantly reduce our carbon footprint, protect our natural resources and contribute to a resilient and healthy community for the future.

The partnership group, which formed in June 2019, now has one part-time project officer, funded by Swanage Town Council and hosted by the Dorset Coast Forum with the Litter Free Coast and Sea team and involves numerous volunteers from the community. We are now working on new ideas and plans for the coming year, watch this space and get in touch if you would like to find out more and/or be a part of building a range of positive projects.

We are creating an online resource on our website for the community on all things concerned with sustainability and the environment in our local area. Take a look and let us know if there is anything more you would like to see on there...

Sarah Spurling

Sustainable Swanage and Litter Free Coast and Sea Project Officer

<https://www.litterfreecoastandsea.co.uk/sustainable-swanage/>

Gwenda Yeomans





Website: www.swanagemuseum.org.uk

e-mail address: museumswanage@gmail.com

MUSEUM AND HERITAGE CENTRE

The Swanage Museum's management committee has in the present circumstances caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, decided not to re-open its Heritage Centre at The Square in Swanage for the 2020 season. Meanwhile the major refurbishment work is continuing.

FROM NEGATIVE TIMES, COMES SOMETHING POSITIVE

Despite the dreadful uncertain place so many of us find ourselves in, due to the COVID-19 virus, our 'behind the scenes' activity is and has been continuing. At the Swanage History Centre, which is part of The Swanage Museum and Heritage Centre, a few of our talented and dedicated volunteers have recently returned to the centre following lockdown and are now working tirelessly, to update and improve our records, using both traditional and innovative new ways to bring the hidden Purbeck history alive for us all. It is going to make an expansive difference to what we can offer for local school education trips, as well as historic and art contributions and anything and everything about the local communities in which we live. As yet no decision has been made about when it will be safe to open the centre to the public.

NEW WEBSITE

In the meantime our new Swanage Museum website is now up and running and can be viewed by going to www.swanagemuseum.org.uk

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL

We are still awaiting the decision of the Planning Department which was due on the 27th of August. Until this is received work cannot be started on the replacement stonework and the laying out of the Garden of Reflection. Hopefully we will not have long to wait.





THE MOWLEM THEATRE SEPTEMBER UPDATE

After more than six months of closure we're very excited to say that The Mowlem Theatre is set to reopen in October with a series of event screenings and popular family movies!

The Mowlem Trustees and Operations Manager, Thomas Curtis, considered reopening for cinema showings during the summer holiday season but decided the continued risk of Coronavirus too great at that time. As the town grows quieter in the Autumn and the evenings draw in, it feels like the right time to reopen safely.

We have carefully planned social distancing measures in place throughout the building; hand sanitizer will be available at the door and audience numbers will be limited to ensure safe seating for each performance

To enable this, all seats must be pre-booked online via www.mowlemtheatre.co.uk, by telephone on 0333 666 3366 or in person at the Box office which will be open from 10am – 1.30pm.

The opening programme includes a series of five event screenings beginning with **Matthew Bourne's 'The Red Shoes'** filmed live at Sadler's Wells in London, and including live recordings of **42nd Street, Kinky Boots** and **The King & I**.

During October half term The Mowlem will also show three family favourite movies priced at just £5.

We look forward to seeing you soon!



Swanage Pier is one of only a few timber piers in the UK and is run by the Swanage Pier Trust, relying entirely on visitor income and charitable donations to survive.

Swanage Pier attracts over 105,000 visitors each year. Every time you visit, your admission charge is helping to preserve the Victorian landmark. Even though the gates were closed due to the Coronavirus, the Pier continued to be under attack above and below the waves. Between April and July, we would have expected to welcome around 43,000 visitors. This year, the Pier has lost around £40,000 of vital income due to the coronavirus, which places the structure at risk. This makes your support vital to the future of the Pier.

If you would like to support us, then please visit <https://www.swanagepiertrust.com/support-us>

We thank you for your continued support and look forward to welcoming you on to the Pier.





Need Advice?

Purbeck Citizens Advice is Here to Help!

We provide free, independent and confidential advice and information whatever your question.

Advisers are available 5 days a week to give advice on the phone or by email.

We offer a full range of up to date advice, including help with:

- Benefits entitlement and claims
- Debt management, budgeting and income maximisation
- Employment advice including furlough, Statutory Sick Pay and rights when laid off work
- Advice for the self employed including the Income Support Scheme
- Energy and water advice, support and schemes
- Housing and advice if at risk of homelessness
- Referrals for charitable support or to food banks

Purbeck residents needing advice can phone Dorset Adviceline on **03444 111 444**, 10am-4pm weekdays to talk to an adviser. Alternatively, you can use our webform at www.purbeckadvice.org.uk for email or telephone call-back, and access a wealth of self-help advice online at www.citizensadvice.org.uk



Swanagerotary.org is continuing to try and operate through the unique circumstances of the coronavirus.

Our support of the Friendly Food Club has continued throughout the school holidays, with our socially-distanced team preparing food bags every Wednesday for local families. To date we have produced over 500 food bags and aim to continue this valuable service until at least the end of October this year.

We have continued to run our weekly meetings via Zoom with good attendance and a variety of interesting speakers. Recently we have experimented with our first 'hybrid' meeting, whereby those club members who wished to were able to meet 'in person' at our usual venue - The Swanage Conservative Club - whilst others, including our speaker for the meeting, joined us via Zoom. It seems to have been quite well received and something that we will try again whilst circumstances allow it.

As ever, we welcome anyone who would like to find out more about Rotary and/or join one of our meetings. Just email secretary@swanagerotary.org for more details.

Steve Parsons
President, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary Club



Gwenda Yeomans

CHAMPIONS! Accessible and Inclusive Tourism

We did it! Durlston has won Gold in the "Accessible and Inclusive Tourism" category of the Visit England Awards for Excellence 2020. The award recognised many years of hard work by volunteers and staff to make visiting or volunteering accessible and fun for as many different visitors as possible.

Thank you so much to everyone who has helped us get here. You can watch the ceremony here: (our big moment is at 44:36!)

<https://www.visitbritain.org/business-advice/watch-visitengland-awards-excellence-2020>



Roaming Rangers!

This lovely photo of an Adonis Blue is by Debbie, one of our new 'Roaming Rangers'. This is a new volunteer role we have launched for walking around the park and engaging with our visitors! Pop us an email if you might be interested in learning more durlston@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Species Spotlight: Sparrowhawk

The Sparrowhawk is a common predatory bird that is often seen or heard at Durlston and even a potential visitor to your garden at home! They specialise in hunting smaller birds, which although is sad to see, they tend to catch slower weaker birds and so help to improve the gene-pool of these populations over time.

This year a pair of Sparrowhawks successfully raised and fledged four chicks in the woodland at Durlston. Ranger Ben recently spotted one of the parent birds flying over the Zig-Zag path gripping prey in its talons. As it reached the other side of the landslip, all four chicks all flew up in competition for the meal. 'It was an incredible sight to see five Sparrowhawks together in the air at once – not something you get to see everyday!'



Traditional Dry-stone Walls

As we all know Durlston is a very special place, not only for its amazing wildlife, landscape and history but also its wonderful mosaic of nationally important wildlife habitats. Sea-cliffs, downland, traditional meadows, hedgerows, woodland and of course dry-stone walls each with their own characteristics of plant and animals. Dry-stone walls are often found in areas where trees and shrubs do not grow easily, usually due to climate, elevation, strong winds or thin soils, as well as being a feature within a designed landscape like our woodland. Durlston has almost 7 miles altogether! A well built Purbeck stone wall will last for 100+ years (while some on the Orkneys are over 3,000 years old and still standing). Dry stone walls are biological corridors providing a habitat for a variety of species like, reptiles, small mammals, birds and invertebrates, also allowing them to hide, shelter and move between different areas. Over the last couple of months some of our volunteers have been rebuilding fallen walls across the Country Park, a skill that is easy to learn but hard to master. These walls are built to a certain height making sure they keep our Hereford cattle in the right field. Over in the Woodlands many of the dry-stone walls that were part of George Burt's designed landscape are also being restored, including Isle of Wight Road path from the Aviary Glade to Durlston Castle and the newly refurbished viewpoints.



Photograph: June 2010. Ian West © 2013

Durlstone, Thurstone, Durdle Door...?

Ever wondered where the name Durlston comes from? This suggestion, explained by Ian West here:

<http://www.southampton.ac.uk/~imw/Durlston-Head.htm> is probably the most convincing (though we rather like the story of the white horse known as the 'Thurl' which led the Viking Fleet to it's doom)!

He writes: *"Thirlstone" or "Thurlestone", and the old name for Durlstone, refers to a natural arch. The Jagged Rock (left) is a relic of a higher stack. It is probable, although not proven that this was once connected to the cliff of calcitised evaporite breccia (the "Broken Beds") by an arch. It may have been broadly similar in appearance to the Thurlestone Rock of Salcombe, Devon. There is no other stack of any significant size at Durlstone Head or in Durlstone Bay other than this Broken Beds stack."*

SNIPPETS FROM STUDLAND



STUDLAND PARISH COUNCIL is exploring with Dorset Council how to address the problems of illegal and anti-social parking in the summer months when the area experiences significantly additional cars. This year has been problematic with additional visitors and the closure of the National Trust car parks during the lockdown. Cllrs are considering reviewing with Dorset Council Highways the Traffic Regulation Orders that apply in the village and on the ferry road. In addition, the Council is keen to work with the Purbeck Transport Action Group and Dorset Council on developing a transport strategy for Purbeck.

The ferry company are considering how to develop toll-based parking arrangements on the ferry road despite opposition from the National Trust and residents. It is a concern that there appears to be limited transparency over this issue. Confidence in the ferry company and Dorset Council can only be increased with public engagement over this matter. The heathlands are internationally protected areas rarer than the tropical rain forests. They deserve to be properly protected. Natural England need to speak out about the harm associated with making the ferry road into a car park.

Jet skiers (mainly in the area of the Little Beach) have been a nuisance and safety issue. Beach hut tenants and visitors have experienced anti-social and dangerous activities from jet skiers speeding close to the shore, between boats, and within the speed marker buoys. Dorset Council, who are responsible for the by-laws in Studland Bay, are conducting a review – more news later in the year. Transgressions of the by-laws can be reported to Dorset Council, the marine police and via phone 101.

Look out in the spring for the additional bulbs planted in the village.

For more info go to:

www.studlandparishcouncil.org

THE PURBECK SOCIETY As the civic society for south Purbeck, the Purbeck Society supports Civic Voice www.civicvoice.org.uk and its statement on the Planning White Paper. Many say the proposals in the White Paper are a developers' charter, with a loss of environmental protections, and less democracy. Both the Planning White Paper and the proposals for planning reforms do not address the matters of the right number of houses, the right location and the right tenures. *How are your parish and town councils going to respond to these two consultations?*
For more info go to: www.purbeckociety.co.uk

THE CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND An important report is available on <https://dorset-cpre.org.uk>. Please read this report and seek your councillor's view on it. The report shows that central government housing targets are well above those in Local Plans and far in excess of the local housing needs. Almost all of the new housing built in Dorset in the last ten years has gone to persons from outside the area. Dorset deserves better than this!

This website has details and comments on topics relevant to Purbeck. Have a read of the *Dorset Gazette*.

Dorset CPRE is opposed to the proposals for an incinerator at Portland. Where will the pollution go? It is also opposed to the potential to develop a large community adjoining Dorchester – see STAND <https://stand-dorchester.net>
For more info go to: www.cpre.org.uk



Gwenda Yeomans

 When you find a new direction, it helps us protect ancient paths.



Tom.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

NT STUDLAND: FACING UP TO THE FINANCIAL IMPACTS OF COVID



Gwenda Yeomans

We've really valued a chance to share what it's been like to work for the National Trust, in Purbeck, during this unprecedented time and read the impacts and thoughts of others. As we get out of the manic summer season where a lot of people have visited Purbeck/SE Dorset – without the massive spike in cases that many of us were fearing in early May – we're starting to deal with the financial implications of Covid.

The Trust is estimating a total cost of around £200m to the organisation. We know that it can be difficult, if you are a tenant or resident of Studland and Corfe, to see the organisation as anything other than a fairly big tourism business. What you see are the car parks, the cream teas and the coach parties. What can be missed is the mission to provide access to heritage, beauty and nature – the reason the charity was created 125 years ago.

It's a sad fact that as we were reopening Studland and Corfe a large part of the organisation was looking at how to restructure the Trust, reduce costs, and secure its future. We're looking at losing around 10% of our colleagues. For many this will be a personal tragedy, not only losing a job within a cause they love but also facing into a very uncertain future. Where will the next job come from, how will the bills be paid?

And we're also not in isolation. Speaking to our tenants, partner organisations and businesses its clear that everyone is in the same boat. And whilst we are dealing with the economic impact on ourselves, we're facing the very uncertain autumn and winter... will a second wave come? Everyone, the Trust included, is going to need local support to keep as many jobs and businesses alive for whenever business gets back to something like normal.

There are two positives that we have experienced through this period. The first is that we've had many, many messages, conversations, social media comments and likes expressing support and solidarity to us – which has made us feel more loved locally than we felt before (thank you!). The second is that, if nothing else, the last 3 months have shown that people want to visit Purbeck (sometimes in volumes that we struggle as a landscape to cope with). We've met lots of people who have come for the first time. There's a broader range of demographics than ever before. And, people love it and want more of it. Whilst locally we've all struggled to cope with the volume and behaviour of some of these visitors, and the tension between residents and visitors have been sharpened with the threat of the disease being spread by any outside breath... at least we can see where economically we can come back again as an Isle. Imagine being in a place without visitors? Imagine if we didn't have this amazing landscape to share with others?

It's going to be a very difficult year ahead, if we can help support the community in anyway do get in touch...

**Tracey Church, General Manager,
and Tom Clarke, Engagement Officer Purbeck NT**

TELL SOMEONE

EMAIL, CALL, SPEAK UP

If you are concerned about a young person please #TellSomeone

A new campaign is asking children and young people to tell someone they trust, or call national charity Childline, if they feel unsafe in their environment during the current conditions associated with Covid-19.

For some children, this period of isolation has left them without their usual support systems such as teachers, extended family and friends. This lack of regular contact with trusted people can put children at increased risk of abuse or neglect.

Please check on family, friends and loved ones and contact the relevant teams should they or you need support.

If you use social media, please share the #TellSomeone messages. This could help a child or young person who is stuck in a situation where they feel unsafe to seek the help they need.

Child Abuse & Neglect

Child abuse is where a child does not receive the proper standard of care expected from a reasonable parent or carer and includes physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse or neglect.

Contact us:

help@nspcc.org.uk Free Helpline: 0808 800 5000

pan-dorsetscp@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Telephone: 01305 228866 or 01305 221196

Or <https://www.dorset.police.uk/do-it-online/>



‘Aquarius’, the ladies club based in Corfe Castle has continued Committee Meetings using Zoom but have found that the 2 times we have tried it with the general membership we have had variable success. Some people cannot access the format and others prefer not to, which is a shame. However we are continuing to try, hoping that for our October 6th meeting we will hear about Sir Bevois of Hampton and learn some interesting, little known facts about Southampton. This follows our taster session on Tibetan Buddhism and a fun Bingo game.

Our main claim to fame is that we achieved our goal on September 1st of a Special Tea, offered to all members as a treat for having coped with the last difficult 6 months! 43 members joined the event, 5 used the Take Away option but 38 chose to sit either on the outside terrace or well spaced out in the Hall. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces of folk obviously really enjoying meeting up with others that they had not seen for ages, all be it at the prescribed 2m distance! The sun shone and we had a lovely afternoon. The members that live alone particularly enjoyed it.

If the present situation does not change significantly we are hoping to have an Autumn Coffee Morning of some description in the Village Hall on Sat. October 17th and may even consider future meetings being in the hall, but of course with all appropriate precautions in place. We just need to remain adaptable to any changes in protocols that might come in.

If you are interested in joining us in the future please contact me on **01929 480007**

CHRISTINE KEMP (Aquarius Joint Chair)

SWANAGE SPECIAL AMBULANCE CAR



Remember to sign and share the petition:
<https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-swanage-ambulance-car>



Corfe Castle Parish Council

CURRENT ISSUES IN CORFE CASTLE

How we should respond to the large number of visitors to the village during the Coronavirus pandemic was a large part of our recent agenda. We anticipated both vehicle and pedestrian congestion and despite lower capacity at the Castle and the railway there was!

As a Council we increased cleaning frequencies in the toilets and the playground. We discussed and consulted the village on whether there should be increased space for pedestrians on a temporary basis but this was not supported. Instead we encouraged visitors to use our field by the playground for picnics and leisure and many did so. Social distancing in the village was not however always observed. We will review our learning points at a future meeting such as issues with rubbish collection and litter.

On our agenda for the autumn are two significant planning issues. The major extension to the Swanworth Quarry near Kingston will be discussed soon. The Dorset minerals plan includes the extension, as there is a need for crushed Portland stone for the construction industry. The quarry provides good local employment. On the other hand the proposed site is in a beautiful area in the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The quarry also generates about 60 heavy lorry movements a day down Kingston hill and through the village.

The Corfe Castle Community Land Trust is consulting the village this month prior to any planning application about a proposed social housing development in the village and it is expected that many issues will be raised.

Our popular Parish Clerk Ali Burnett is leaving for a new career opportunity and the contact phone number for the Parish will change. Our new Clerk will be Mrs Michelle Harrington. Please see our website for the new number and in the meantime please continue to email on corfecastlepc@aol.com

SCAMS ARE INCREASING PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY

News from Trading Standards

Warning about scams

Fraudsters are increasingly targeting the public and organisations with emails, texts, phone calls and WhatsApp messages offering advice and treatment for the coronavirus, as well as setting up fake websites selling products and offering 'cures'.

Scammers have also been setting up bogus websites asking for donations for victims or promoting awareness and prevention tips.

Cold callers have been contacting organisations suggesting they must have certain measures in place by a certain deadline.

To help members of the public protect themselves from becoming a victim of fraud, the advice from Dorset Council Trading Standard is:

- Be sceptical if you receive an email, text or WhatsApp message about the coronavirus, and never click on any attachments or links
- Never provide personal data such as your full name, address and date of birth – scammers can use this information to steal your identity
- Don't allow yourself to be pressured into donating money, and never make donations by cash or gift card, or send money through transfer agents such as Western Union or Moneygram
- If you think you've been the victim of a scam, then speak to your bank immediately and report any fraud to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040

Further information on dealing with scams and fraud is available from the Citizens Advice Consumer Service at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer> or by calling their new freephone number: **0808 223 1133**.



HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

We are delighted to be able to report that Harmans Cross Village Hall reopened on September 1st for regular groups doing permitted activities.

A Covid risk assessment has been carried out and Covid-secure measures taken e.g. social distancing and face covering signage and sanitiser units situated at various points in the hall.

Special Hire Conditions are in place which cover all the measures which principal hirers need to adhere to e.g. taking attendee details for track and trace. We hope to be able to open for more activities in the near future, government guidance permitting. For details of the activities in the hall visit our website

www.harmancrosshall.co.uk



FREE LOCAL CAREERS ADVICE

A local charity, **Ansbury Guidance** have a team of qualified Careers' Advisers who have a contract which offer **FREE** careers information, advice and guidance to adults (aged 19+) across Dorset. This includes:

- CV development
- Interview preparation skills
- Support with job search
- Up-to-date knowledge of local jobs' market
- Support with returning to work - or education
- Information on funding and finance for learning and training

Sharon McCallum of Ansbury said: "We are able to provide adults aged 19+ with free (government-funded) careers' support. We can offer a 45 minute one-to one telephone appointment (we phone the client) and support them with writing a CV, interview skills and job seeking advice. After this 'careers session', we can signpost them to other resources and services that will be of benefit.

"All potential clients need to do is call our appointment line on **01202 677557** and we will book them in for an appointment on a day/time that is suitable to them. Or for further information go to: www.ansbury.co.uk

SWANAGE DEPRESSION GROUP

We are a group of people who experience depression or anxiety.

We are not experts, but we know how it feels. We find that a problem shared, is a problem halved. We cannot meet face to face at the moment, but meet once a fortnight on the phone and we talk to each other individually all the time.

For more information please contact:

Nick 01929 439121 nickviney@hotmail.com

Andy 01929 481539 andy.knill@gmail.com

*Don't forget the official
mental health 24-hour Helpline: 0300 123 5440*



Langton Matravers Parish Council

Next Parish Council Meeting - 10th September 2020

The Parish office is now open to visitors during the usual hours, 9-10.30 Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Please knock before entering, and retain a suitable physical distance from the Clerk at all times, in line with Government guidelines.

You are welcome to phone or e-mail for an appointment outside these times.

The next meeting of the Council will be on 10th September 2020. There was no August meeting. An agenda for the July virtual meeting, to include a public participation session, can be found in the 'Agendas and Meetings' section of the website. The current draft minutes are available to view and download. Previous agendas and minutes can also be downloaded.

CONTACT US

The best way to contact the Parish Council is via the Parish Clerk using the contact details below.

NOTE: The Parish Council Office is ONLY OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ON MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS FROM 9AM - 10.30AM

Mary Sparks, Clerk
The Parish Council Office
1A The High Street
Langton Matravers
Swanage
Dorset BH19 3EU
Tel: 01929 425100

langtonmatravers@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

STRUGGLING WITH YOUR MENTAL HEALTH? THE FOLLOWING CAN HELP YOU...

SAMARITANS – 116 123. A free, 24/7 phone line.

SANE LINE - Works with anyone affected by mental illness, including families, friends and carers.

Tel: 0300 304 7000. 4.30pm–10.30pm daily

CHILDLINE – Confidential telephone number for under 19s **Tel: 0800 1111**

THE DORSET MENTAL CARERS PROJECT- Offering a telephone, text and email service from Monday to Friday phone line from 10.30am-4.30pm. You will be able to speak to one of the Peer Carer Specialist from the Carers Project. Please phone daily numbers as follows:

MONDAY - Joy Ford 01305 340045. Or text **07508 776410.**

TUESDAY - Dick Franklin 01202 380910 or leave message

WEDNESDAY - Babs Plumbridge 07961 159854 phone or text

THURSDAY - Jenny Hutchinson 01258 455771 phone or leave message

FRIDAY - Nigel Ford 01305 340045

In a medical emergency call 999 if you are seriously ill or injured and your life is at risk. A mental health emergency should be taken as seriously as a physical health emergency.



The Museum, Langton Matravers



DOMESTIC ABUSE CAN AFFECT ANYONE

WE ARE HERE TO HELP:

YOU FIRST (Dorset Council)

0800 032 5204

OUTREACH (POOLE-BOURNEMOUTH)

01202 710 777

WOMEN'S AID

email – helpline@womensaid.org.uk

24HR NATIONAL DOMESTIC ABUSE -

HELPLINE 0808 2000 247

DORSET POLICE in an emergency **CALL 999**

or go to

www.dorset.police.uk/abuse-help



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. ... Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other **alcoholics** to achieve sobriety.

This is a very unusual time. It is stressful for many people in many new ways. Some people turn to alcohol to help them cope and get through it. This can be more of a danger than a help to some of us. If you think you have a problem with alcohol we can help:

IF DRINK IS COSTING YOU MORE THAN MONEY

then we can help you. Please telephone our free Helpline today:

0800 917 7650



Harm Reduction advice for people who use Alcohol

This advice is important during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. If you are drinking heavily, you are at increased risk of the health impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19). You may want to cut down or stop drinking to help improve your immunity, or because your supply of alcohol is running out.

Self-isolation may lead some people to drink more alcohol than usual.

If you are worried about your drinking levels increasing, you can contact any one of the following for help and support:

LiveWell Dorset to talk about how to reduce the amount of alcohol you are drinking.

Call **0800 840 1628** or **01305 233 105**

www.livewelldorset.co.uk

Local alcohol treatment services are open and can provide further advice and support:

Dorset including Christchurch (REACH):

0800 043 4656

Poole (EDAS/SMART): 01202 735777

Drinkline the national alcohol helpline

Call **0300 123 1110**

weekdays 9am-8pm week end 11am-4pm

Drinkaware -

<https://www.drinkaware.co.uk/alcohol-support-services/>