

SWANAGE AREA FORUM NEWSLETTER

Community News from Swanage and the Surrounding Villages



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

Welcome to The Swanage + Purbeck Development Trust (SPDT) and Swanage Area Forum (SAF) May 2022 Newsletter. Once again, we thank all the organisations that support this community newsletter, whether by contributing features, or by distributing the newsletter by email or maybe printing out copies if necessary, to their members, friends and associates. This is a brilliant way of keeping everyone in our communities aware of what's going on.

Articles in this issue again illustrate the many positive aspects of our vibrant communities and now that we are approaching the holiday season with many visitors (and hopefully plenty of good weather) many folk have a reason to look forward to the coming months.

Though the news on the International front is looking very grim, the Purbeck communities have responded magnificently to the Ukrainian situation, something we can all be proud of. However, the economic news does not look great for most - if not all of us - and we will undoubtedly be facing cost of living issues over the coming months if not years.

Those folk with limited incomes and opportunities will be facing major problems and I would like to believe that the Purbeck communities respond with great understanding and compassion to their less privileged neighbours and compatriots, just as they did during the Covid-19 crisis.

Mel Norris

Trustee Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust and Chair of The Swanage Area Forum

melvyn.norris@icloud.com, tel: 01929 426127

JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - Gerry and Jenny of our little team would really appreciate it if you could please note the preferred deadline for your contributions/photos for the June issue, which is **15th MAY 2022**.





**Swanage Community
Defibrillator Partnership**
Keep the heart of Swanage beating



Purbeck Connect Ukraine

Purbeck Connect Ukraine is a newly-formed group of volunteers - a section of Swanage Action for Refugees. The aim of the group is to provide help and support for Ukrainian families coming to Purbeck to flee the war in Ukraine.

At the time of writing, with the first Ukrainians already arriving in the area, we envisage a variety of ways in which we might be able to be of assistance:

First by offering a warm welcome and reassuring our Ukrainian guests that they are not alone.

Then by providing information about the services available, arranging referrals to the Foodbank, providing other essential items, offering transport to necessary appointments, help with filling in forms, English lessons, bringing them into contact with other Ukrainians in the area, providing fun activities for the children, remembering them in our prayers...

The possibilities are vast, and we will no doubt encounter other needs along the way.

At the moment we are taking the first steps in this direction. By our next meeting, we hope to have a comprehensive list of volunteering opportunities, so that people can sign up for tasks that suit their skills and possibilities.

We are also seeking ways of connecting people who have enrolled in the government 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme with Ukrainians wishing to come to England.

The next meeting of Purbeck Connect Ukraine will be held on:

**Tuesday 17 May, 2022 at 7pm
at All Saints' Church hall
5 Redcliffe Road, Ulwell
Swanage BH19 1LZ**

Anyone interested in volunteering to support our Ukrainian guests is welcome to attend.

If you would like more information, please email:

purbeckconnectukraine@gmail.com

Would you like to join us as volunteer guardians?

We are pleased to offer an update on the Swanage Community Defibrillator project which continues to be well supported by our local community enabling us to monitor and maintain the ever-increasing fleet of public access defibs which will soon total 36 devices across the local area.

Since our last report, defibs have been deployed on three occasions, making a total of over 100 deployments since the project started in 2015.

The continuing success of this project is due to a wonderful team of volunteer guardians who regularly maintain the cabinets and check the defibs. are operational, reporting to a central point which now links to the national database "The CIRCUIT"; accessed by local Ambulance Trusts in emergency situations.

The original steering group of Ian Brown, Dave Corben, Kyle Hickman and Maggie Hardy is delighted that Mary Buck has formally joined the small team. Mary will be leading the familiarisation sessions which we hope to re-introduce when Covid levels safely allow us to do so.

One of the main aims of SCDP remains sustainability of the project and to this end, we would welcome volunteers to join the team as guardians or possible steering group members.

SCDP can be contacted through Corbens in Station Rd, Swanage.

**Maggie Hardy
SCDP**



FOOD and FUN at Herston Village Hall

– Partnership working

A happy fun morning led by the Friendly Food Club, supported by Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust (Herston Village Hall) and funded by Swanage & Purbeck Rotary, brought together 15 local youngsters and their parents / carers to prepare and enjoy a vegetable stew and chocolate cornflake baskets.

The youngsters chopped and grated the vegetables and cheese under direction and supervision, showing some very proficient skills and thoroughly enjoyed making and eating the vegetable stew and of course the chocolate cornflake baskets!

Kim Gallagher led a craft session to make pompoms just before lunch which was then greatly enjoyed by the whole team.

A wonderful example of partnership working within our local community.

Kim Gallagher SPDT and Maggie Hardy Swanage & Purbeck Rotary



Arty birds at Shell Bay

From April, eight arty birds will make their home around Shell Bay to raise awareness of an exciting project that's coming in the autumn. Young artists from local youth groups and schools have painted the giant birds to help explain what the project is about. Those involved are Swanage Secondary, Sandford Primary, Montacute School, Dorset Wellbeing, Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation, Stoborough Primary, St Mary's Swanage and Linwood School.



"The bird is called Steve. We really enjoyed decorating Steve for the National trust and hope that Steve can help raise awareness of the plight of the wading birds, thanks Steve" - Quote from Aquila Class at Linwood School

Wading birds travel long distances to rest and feed during the crucial winter months. Poole Harbour is a designated Special Protection Area and provides an important safe space for these wading birds. In the past, Shell Bay was home to a large gathering of 4,000-6,000 waders, including Dunlin, Sanderling, Oystercatcher, Ringed and Grey Plover, and Bar-tailed Godwit. Most of them spending time here between September and March. Now, Shell Bay attracts just a handful of birds.

If birds are repeatedly disturbed, they'll abandon favoured roosting sites and not return in following years. It's vital for birds to be able to feed and roost in quiet zones as they need to keep all their energy reserves as high as possible for their long migrations.



To help protect and restore this once productive and important roost site at Shell Bay, a partnership project between National Trust, Birds of Poole Harbour, Natural England and the Birds and Recreation Initiative are installing a trial 'Wader Protection Area' which will provide a safe section of Shell Beach away from people, dogs, and horses where waders can quietly roost during the winter. It will also provide an opportunity to see what species take advantage of these safe spaces and could potentially set a framework for similar installations at other busy sites in Poole Harbour.

"Be aware of birds and don't scare" - Quote from Year 3 at St Mary's Primary School, Swanage

We've mapped out the area, the orange shows the coastal footpath, and the yellow box shows where the wader fence will go. The coastal footpath will remain accessible, and you will be able to walk on both sides of the wader fence during most times of the year. It is only during a high Spring tide, that you may not be able to walk on the sea side of the fence.

It has been a real pleasure to work with the young artists of Purbeck and Dorset, they are an inspirational lot and their passion for these wading birds truly shows in their artwork. The schools and youth groups have been buzzing with energy and highlighted some interesting ideas for us. This is the landscape they will grow up in, and it is wonderful to have the youth involved in the restoration process.

Written by **Paul Morton** from Birds of Poole Harbour, **Julia Galbenu** Engagement Officer, Dynamic DunesCAPES National Trust Purbeck and **Joanna Manning**

Julia Galbenu Tel: 07794885970

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/studland-bay/features/education-at-studland-bay





HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

Greetings again from Harmans Cross Village Hall. By the time you read this, Easter will be behind us and the summer stretches ahead of us – let's all hope it's a good one. There remains plenty going on at Harmans Cross Village Hall. Most important – so it's up here first – is that the annual **Harmans Cross Fete with Flower and Produce Show** will be taking place on **Bank Holiday Monday 29 August**. Preparation is underway so please watch this space for requests for support from helpers, and please start saving your donations of used jewellery, handbags, scarves, books and bric-a-brac for us. We will be keeping the website updated and hope to ensure the programme for both the Fete and the Flower and Produce Show is available there very shortly.

Our next series of dates for your diary are:

STALLS IN THE HALL on SATURDAY 14 MAY

Lots of stalls with local crafts, produce, cards, homemade jewellery and more besides, as well as tea, coffee and home-made cakes to enjoy. Free entry from 9.30am until 12 noon. For anyone who is interested in booking a table, please contact David Hollister at hxvh@btconnect.com or on **07384 848 419**

MOVIE NIGHT – HOUSE OF GUCCI on TUESDAY 10 MAY

It's 1978 Milan. Patrizia Reggiani (Lady Gaga) meets Maurizio Gucci (Adam Driver) at a nightclub. He is the heir to a large portion of the fashion house Gucci but his father (Rodolfo, played by Jeremy Irons) disapproves of her supposed mafia family although they only own a small trucking company. He marries her anyway and his father disowns him. Sly Uncle Aldo (Al Pacino) is more enamoured, falling for Patrizia's brassy charms, allowing her and his nephew to get their hooks into the fashion house he co-owns with his brother. "The most Gucci of them all" is how Patrizia Reggiani described herself in a 2014 interview. Various known as "Lady Gucci" and "Black Widow", Reggiani became the centre of a very 1990s scandal involving lust, money, fashion, murder... and a clairvoyant.

LIVE MUSIC – THE SPINOFFS on SATURDAY 14 MAY

Playing music from The Beatles to Elbow with lots more in between and featuring our very own Sue Bunyar as guest vocalist. Tickets are already available online from the website <https://www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk/Live-Music/> for £12.00

SUNDAY 5 JUNE – PICNIC IN THE PARK (well actually on the Village Hall field!)

To commemorate HM The Queen's platinum jubilee, we are planning an 'everyone welcome' Picnic in the Park on the afternoon of Sunday 5 June between 2pm and 5pm. You are very welcome to bring your own picnic. The Café will be open selling cakes and refreshments from 2-4pm, the Bar will also be open 2-5pm, and we will be entertained with music through the Queen's decades

MOVIE NIGHT – KING RICHARD on TUESDAY 14 JUNE

As I'm sure everyone knows by now (given the furore at this year's Oscars), Will Smith won the Oscar for Best Actor this year for his astonishing portrayal of plays 24/7-committed, fanatically focused and demanding Richard Williams, renowned father of Venus and Serena Williams. This is the man who, by sheer force of will, took his daughters and the rest of his family straight out of Compton and into the sunlit uplands of multimillion-dollar pro-sports triumph, along the way battling snobbery and racism. The film tracks the Williams family's tough beginnings playing on scuzzy local courts, with Richard regularly getting roughed up when he tries to confront guys hitting on his underage daughters. He badgers a prestigious coach into giving his girls a chance, and then fires this coach and takes Venus and Serena out of the punishing junior tournaments because he feels they need a regular upbringing. The movie nail-bitingly climaxes with Venus's extraordinary professional debut in 1994 at the age of 14, up against the world number two, Arantxa Sánchez Vicario.

A brilliant film to get us ready for Wimbledon which starts on 27 June this year – let's hope for good weather and a Brit or two into the second week!!

CHURCH AT HXVH

Please feel very welcome to join our friendly, informal church service on the third Sunday of every month, starting at 6pm. The next dates are: **Sunday 15 May and Sunday 19 May**

Alison and the HXVH Committee



FRIENDS OF SWANAGE HOSPITAL

<https://www.friendsofswanagehospital.org.uk/>

We need your Patient experiences please

The Friends are very concerned that the new Electronic Referral System (which has taken over from Choose and Book) is *not* allowing patients to choose to go to Swanage Hospital outpatient clinics. So we need to gather patient experiences please.

- Have you recently been referred to a consultant by your GP? And ...
- Were you given the choice of going to Swanage Hospital to see them?
- Did you know you might have a choice as to where to be seen?
- Were you able to do the booking online yourself - and did Swanage Hospital come up as an option?

Please let the Friends know of your experience so we can help to improve the take-up of places at Swanage Hospital. We are concerned that if only a few people turn up for a clinic, the consultant may decide it's not worth their while to come. You can email us at:

membership@friendsofswanagehospital.org.uk

Also, if you are seeing a consultant in Poole, Bournemouth or Dorchester, perhaps you could ask them if they would consider holding a clinic in Swanage Hospital. You could say how much the people of Purbeck would appreciate care closer to home; they would be assured of a very warm welcome!

We will continue to urge Dorset HealthCare to arrange new contracts and find willing consultants for the clinics we used to have and maybe, together with your help we might get an improved service.

We are also working hard to try and re-start the much appreciated Endoscopy Service.

Jan Turnbull
Chair, Friends of Swanage Hospital



Saturday 28 May to Sunday 12 June

**A Celebration of Artists and Musicians
to Welcome the Summer**

Purbeck Art Weeks Festival 2022 is celebrating an inspiring mix of visual and performing arts across Purbeck from Saturday 28 May to Sunday 12 June.

As always there will be an interesting range of artists' studios for you to explore, with many new artists opening their doors to visitors. From collective galleries to pottery sheds in leafy back gardens, you will discover hidden gems that you would normally drive past without even knowing they are there.

The PAW collective show at Rollington Barn will feature paintings, prints, sculptures, textile art and more by nearly 100 artists. Purbeck's Young Artists will be showing off their creations in the byre and new this year is a rolling programme of demonstrations with artists, potters, sculptors, woodworkers, silver artists and glass makers revealing the trade secrets of their methods.

In the evenings you can enjoy a stellar selection of concerts with world class musicians, including the Gabrieli consort players and Inner City Brass, the amazing Tenebrae (choir), and the Monteverdi String Band with Hannah Ely. Look out too for Autin outdoor dance theatre and Eko the giant puppet with their free performances in Swanage. Book your tickets now

<http://www.purbeckartweeksfestival.co.uk>

Look out for our free brochures in many shops and venues in Purbeck



Swanage Museum & Heritage Centre has reopened for the 2022 season after another winter close-down which enabled the continued refurbishment of many of our displays. We have a new major exhibition '*Swanage In Bygone Days*'. This is a photographic exhibition showing many Swanage shops and businesses of bygone days. This display should test your powers of recognition! See if you can place the yesteryear shops with the businesses now, and find out how well you know Swanage.



As part of this innovative venture, a team of museum volunteers are also in the process of offering copies of these relevant photographs to the businesses and shops that relate specifically to their current premises, so that they too can join in displaying in their front windows the history of their own premises. If you would like to know more and/or would like to participate, please write to the Heritage Centre Manager at The Square, Swanage BH19 2LJ or email museumswanage@gmail.com

The Swanage Museum has also recently doubled the size of its 'History and Research Centre' premises on the Victoria Avenue Industrial Estate. This will give our team of volunteers the space they need to provide a dedicated meeting, education and lecture room, more storage space for our artefacts and a proper repair and renovation workshop.

If you would like to join our team of research volunteers, you will be most welcome, so please write to The History and Research Centre Manager by emailing 'The research team' museumswanage@gmail.com

Mel Norris, Chair



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

**Swanage
Food Bank**



Your donations to Swanage Food Bank have brought joy to many lives

At Swanage Food Bank we don't look for gratitude from our clients, but it's very heart-warming when a busy

Mum has taken time to message us with a special thank you for the difference the bags of food (and Easter treats) have made to her family. Or when a stressed client in temporary accommodation has rung us following a recent delivery and thanked us with tears for the best meal she has been able to make for a long time. It's a pleasure to share such thanks with all our faithful community which supplies so much of the food we can pass on to local people in food poverty.

Likewise, we would like to express the pleasure given to many of our families through the generous donation of 100 Easter eggs by a branch of Dorset Freemasons.

We continue to buy provisions to supplement food donations as there is such a heavy demand upon our stocks, and we now have direct deliveries from Morrison's even though we are not a domestic address. It was an experiment and has proved successful. Fresh food we still purchase from our local stores, and we have spent more not just because of an increase in quantities needed but because prices are considerably higher. But financial donations have made this possible and we are indebted to those who give regularly and Gift Aid to add extra value to their gifts.

We are still asked for specific food needs, and by the time this is read, new shortages may have arisen but currently our list includes: sugar, instant coffee, biscuits, savoury crackers and snacks, tinned tuna and other fish, and all tins of meat. But every gift is welcome and useful, provided it is within the 'Best by' date.

I hope that Covid sufferers amongst us make a rapid and full recovery, and that the rest of us keep safe and Covid-free in this wonderful month of May flowers and warmer weather.

Pauline Werba (Chairperson) Swanage Food Bank



Pier renovations went well despite stormy weather

We commenced work around 18th February to replace ten wooden piles, four of which were at the landward end of the wooden structure, the others being throughout the pier length and at the pierhead.

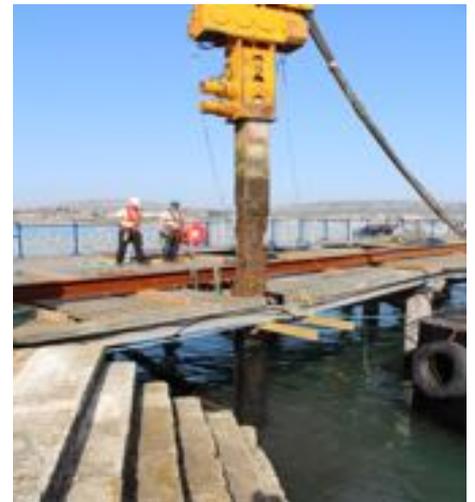
The actual wooden structure of the pier was completely closed to the public as the decking and beams had to be removed to allow access to the piles. The piling contractor was planned to be on site from 18th February to commence removal of the old piles and the driving in of the new ones. Unfortunately, due to tidal conditions and Easterly winds, there was a delay of around ten days in pile removal and replacement commencing.

Luckily, there was a window of some reasonable weather, and the actual piling replacement work was completed around Friday 25th March. This left us with the beams and decking to be replaced, handrails and general tidying of the site, and of course the Health & Safety Inspection before the pier could be re-opened in readiness for the new season.

We had planned to be ready to open on 1st April, but with the delays experienced in February, which had to be put back, with the revised opening date being Saturday 9th April.

Luckily, the 1859 Café & Bistro, Gift Shop and Interpretation Centre remained open whilst the repairs were being carried out, as they were outside the exclusion zone.

We still, have five piles that require replacing and at the time of writing, it is planned to carry out this work later in the year.



This photo shows an old pile being extracted - note the middle section showing how it has rotted away. The photo at the top is of a new pile being driven in.



*Photograph by
Gwenda Yeomans*

Musical Marvels!

Swanage & Purbeck Rotary CIO is delighted to announce the winners of its Young Musician competition. Open to all music genres, the competition was held on 20th March in the Methodist Church in Swanage - the first time since 2019 that we'd been able to run it as a live event! 19 dedicated young musicians aged 8 – 18 years performed an eclectic selection of pieces ranging from Haydn and Schubert to Fats Waller and Jimi Hendrix. Instruments included the piano, violin, electric guitar, drums and human voice! The whole process was masterminded by Tim Arnold with support from a number of other Rotarians. Grateful thanks are also due to the expert adjudicators - Dilys Thomas and Angus Murray-Brown.

The winners were as follows:

Key Stage 1-2 – Instrumental

1st Indiana Sanders Wishart

2nd Hannah Kent

3rd Rosie Kent

Highly commended – Lily Fawcett

Key Stage 3-5 – Instrumental & Voice

1st Oscar Brady

2nd Gabriel Harman

3rd Joe Marlow

Highly commended - Emma Brown Araujo

Oscar Brady was invited to go forward to the Rotary Wessex District level of the competition which was to be held at Bryanston School. Congratulations to all the competitors for their enthusiasm and commitment - it was a splendid performance!



Oscar Brady receives his first prize from Deirdre Selwyn

If you want to find out more about getting involved please contact us via our website www.swanagerotary.org/cio

Deirdre Selwyn, President Swanage & Purbeck Rotary



Young People Grant Alert! - South West Enterprise Fund

Opens on 21st March 2022

Closes on 17th June 2022

Young people in Dorset age 18 - 30 can apply for a grant of **up to £2000** for support with business start-up costs. Applicants should either be planning to launch a brand new business or within the first two years of running a new business. The grant can be used for equipment, materials, stock or services needed for the business - not for salary or living costs.

Applicants need a referee to support their application - this could be a previous or current teacher, employer or support worker.

**Applications received by April 30 will receive a decision in mid-May.
Subsequent applications will receive a decision in early July.**

For more details, please [CLICK HERE](#)



IS PROUD TO PRESENT

THOKOZILE



SAT 7th MAY - 7.30pm

HARMANS CROSS

VILLAGE HALL

TICKETS £10

Swanage Jazz Club Treasurer,
22 Streche Rd, Swanage BH19 1NF
Tel 01929 426127

Cheques made payable to:
Swanage Jazz Associates

Full Ticket details:
Tel 01929 426127 or email:
melvyn.norris@icloud.com

HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL*

SATURDAY 7 MAY - 7.30PM

Licenced Bar - 7pm

Music starts 7.30pm

Thokozile was formed by British musicians after an inspiring visit to South Africa in 2010. It was the title name of the 1986 hit song by the South African group **Mahlathini** and **Mahotella Queens**.

This showed the musicians' commitment to the kind of exuberant, vibrant music of the South African townships.

After a successful 'Footprints of South Africa' concert at Poole Lighthouse in 2010 the band decided to continue to perform around the South West, playing that joyful, swinging Township-inspired music, with some amazing additions of their own.

So we look forward to seeing you ... and who knows ... maybe you'll be tempted to get up and dance too!

Fred Lindop

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

AMPLE PARKING



A message from the Mayor of Swanage, Councillor Avril Harris

The Easter weekend saw Swanage busy with holidaymakers enjoying the fine weather.



An event causing visitors and locals alike to stop and spectate was the Dorset Town Crier championship for 2022, organised by our own Town Crier, Andrew Fleming. As host, he didn't take part but I had the enjoyable task as judge of "volume" - which there certainly was! Despite absences caused by Covid, there was a good field and the Crier from Wimborne was the winner.

In mid-April, accompanied by the Deputy Mayor, I visited Purbeck Coast Radio, which is 99% run by volunteers and broadcasts from its studio in Marine Villas. This included a brief surprise radio interview – *well, it was to me!* - and I returned on 20th April to take part in a half-hour interview and phone-in, interspersed with music. This was a 'first' for me. I hope that there will be further such programmes, perhaps involving councillors as well as the mayor.

A unique project in Swanage is that of erecting the memorial statue of an unsung local hero – Trevor Chadwick. He became a teacher at Forres School, which had been founded by his father and later run by other family members. Trevor was remembered at the school for his kindness, for arranging bus trips for locals to attend sporting events, and for organising parties for disadvantaged children. He was well liked by Swanage's fishermen, was a volunteer member of the Lifeboat crew, and a drinking companion of Lifeboat coxwain Bob Brown at the Black Swan.

Having been asked to help bring two children from Prague to safety in Swanage, Trevor returned there, where he was instrumental in arranging the rescue of 669 Jewish children in 1939, both before and after it was occupied by Nazi forces. He negotiated with the occupying forces and the Gestapo, bending rules and putting himself at risk. Trevor made several trips to and from Prague, escorting the children on Kindertransport trains and also on a plane journey. These children were entrusted by their parents to Trevor and others to be brought to safety in Britain and otherwise would have almost certainly perished in the death camps. Most of the children never saw their families again...

The Trevor Chadwick Memorial Trust has commissioned a life-size statue which has been designed by local sculptor Moira Purver, with Trevor portrayed holding the baby he carried during the whole of one journey to Britain, with a small child standing at his side. Despite most of the funds for the erection of the statue having been so generously raised, to fulfil the plan to have it ready for unveiling late this summer, we still have a way to go to raise the final £18,000 needed. Anyone wishing to make a contribution to commemorating Trevor and his heroic achievement will find information about how to do so on the internet at trevorchadwick.uk or on the "Trevor Chadwick Memorial Trust" facebook page.

Cllr Avril Harris



Swanage Volunteer Bureau Reopens at Swanage Library

Give a Little, Gain a Lot

Would you like to make a difference, use existing or learn fresh skills, meet new people, have fun and be proud to know that you have helped keep Swanage great? Did you enjoy helping others through the Coronavirus epidemic and would like to carry on giving?

The Swanage Volunteer Bureau is a project of Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and works with local organisations that are seeking volunteers. We are very pleased to announce that we are back in the library on term time Friday mornings from Friday 29th April 10-12.

How does it work? You are thinking of helping but are not sure what you would like to do or what is available? Then pop in the library and one of the Volunteer Champions will take you through thirty or more organisations and at least 100 opportunities. We note down the contact details for you to pursue at your own pace. You are welcome to return any time.

If you are not able to visit the library you can also find details on line at <https://www.sandpdt.org.uk/swanage-volunteer-bureau/>

Finally, if you are an organisation who would like an opportunity to be added to the list do contact us; at the library, via the website or email swanagevb@gmail.com

Kim Gallagher
Trustee Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust



Swanage & Purbeck
Development Trust



Steve and Jane volunteering for The Swanage Jazz Festival at The Centre

Who Are We?

We are a group of local people in our local Communities who experience depression or anxiety. We are not experts, but we know how it feels. For many people, this is still a very stressful time. And for many of us, we feel we still cannot safely meet face-to-face at the moment, but that may change ...

We find that a problem shared is a problem halved.

To find out more please contact us - with confidence

To get in touch please contact Nick at nickviney@hotmail.com or phone **01929 439121**, or Mary at mary.ann.bevis955@gmail.com or phone her on **01929 426896**

REMEMBER: THERE'S LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

Swanage & Wareham
Depression Support Group



'Aquarius', the club based in Corfe Castle, held on the first Tuesday of each month at 2pm in the Village Hall, is a very lively gathering of ladies from across Purbeck but mainly from the village and its surrounds.

At the last meeting we had a very informative talk from Judith Holmes on her Fair Trade trip to Costa Rica. We found out how coffee, cocoa and pineapple farming in cooperative groups is benefitting the smaller farmers and allowing them to compete with the 'big boys'. She also had some lovely photographs of the flora and fauna and was pleased to raise some money for the charity with sale of Traid Craft items on her stall.

WILD WEST PARTY NIGHT: A very memorable evening which might have been influenced by the Mint Julip Cocktail to start, where Cowboys, Indians and even a Showgirl enjoyed games such as the Horse Shoe Toss, Tin Pan Alley Shoot Out, Cowboy Film Quiz and Roll The Coin for a bottle of Jack Daniels. Outlaw Barry the Bandit was the winner! The Castle Inn provided an excellent themed meal with a large selection of finger lickin' good cakes for dessert. The hall looked great with its Western themed decorations, wagon train raffle, totem poles and numerous cacti and succulents. The cowboy films displayed on the big screen certainly brought back lots of memories. Many folk joined in the line dancing, even the men, which was good fun, even if we didn't all end up facing in the same direction! In fact everyone was surprisingly good and it was lovely to be all together again, laughing and feeling somewhat normal.

Our May meeting will be led by a Corfe resident, who uses an amazing black labrador Hearing Dog called Elmo. She will tell us about his work and also that of the Hearing Dogs organisation. This will be followed in June by Dr Barbara Smith, an entomologist who will give us an informative insight into her very interesting

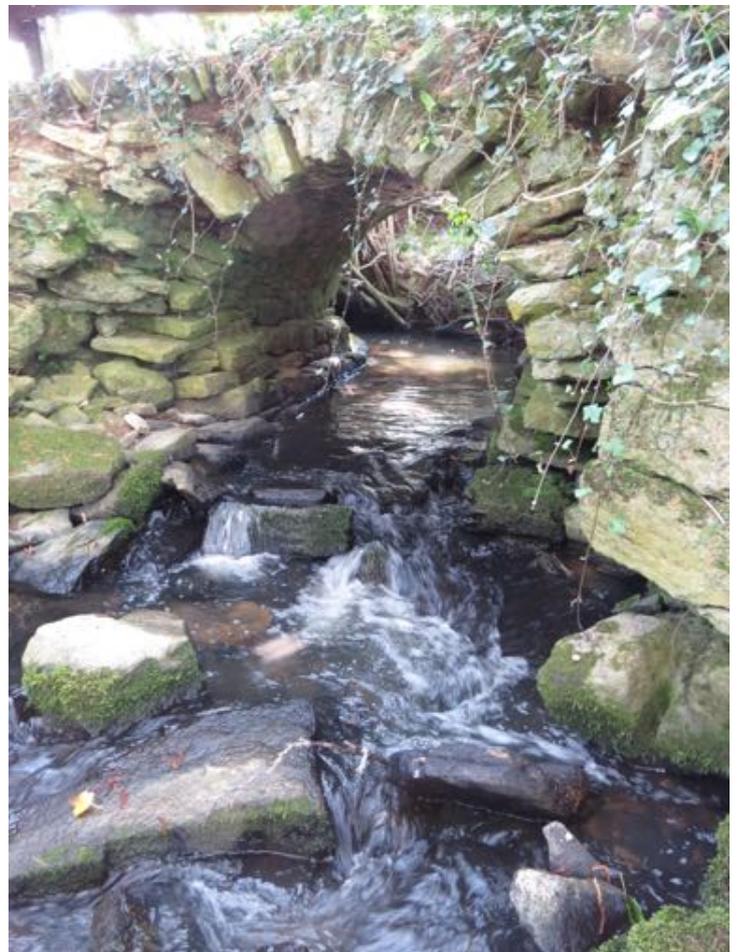
work and those members that have ordered Jubilee mugs will receive them.

Aquarius is fully committed to supporting Corfe Castle's programme of events for the Jubilee weekend and will be serving teas and coffees at the Village Picnic at the Millennium Sports Ground on Sunday June 5th and sharing out the cakes that will have been made by residents for the Bake Off Competition.

Our satellite groups of walkers, strollers, book clubs and lunch club have all continued with their monthly meetings and provide an additional source of camaraderie amongst members. We, of course, always welcome new members, so If you are interested in joining us in the future, please contact me on Tel: 01929 480007.

Christine Kemp

Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans





Swanage Bowls Club

Free "Have-A-Go" Sessions

Sunday 22nd and 29th May 2022
 Either 10am - 12 noon or 2pm - 4 pm
 No need to pre-book. Just turn up!

Come and try this wonderful outdoor game!
 Members will be on hand to assist. Bowls will be provided.
 Please wear trainers/flat shoes/no heels.

- Fresh Air ■ Stay active ■ Challenge yourself
- Make new friends ■ Easy to learn, tricky to Master

For more information contact:
 Barrie Tatman, Club Secretary 01929 421162
 or see our website: www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk

 See us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Swanagebowlsclub/

Entrances at Beach Gardens, Northbrook Road or Cauldon Ave, BH19 1PG

SWANAGE BOWLS CLUB would love to welcome you to one of our 'Have A Go Sessions' on 22nd and 29th May. Bowls is a sport for everyone and the Club is a great place to learn the game and meet friendly and welcoming people. The Club prides itself on the variety of ways that Club Members can enjoy bowls, from relaxed roll ups through to County Matches. We are pretty good with our social events too! Fancy dress Club games, evening events and BBQ's keep us all entertained throughout the season. We are also rather proud of our 'pub' the Bowlers Arms! During the winter the Club runs coffee mornings where people gather to chat and play games. We welcome touring sides from across the country, keen to play on our new and envied green and this year we are off to Torquay ourselves for a tour to play Clubs on the English Riviera.

Our President for 2022 is Mike Keats, a long standing Club member who is keen to welcome people who want to find out more about the game. Mike has adopted Cancer Research as his Charity for the year and previous years have shown that Club members make a great contribution towards each President's charity. We also have new Captains for 2022; Tony Bell and Jan Cherry. They would love to meet you and talk with you about the Club, how we can help you learn the game if you are a newbie, or to bring you into the Swanage Club fold if you are an experienced bowler. The Club also has qualified Coaches who can help people to learn the rudiments of the game and develop their confidence as they join in the Club activities. We are a friendly bunch and would love to see you.

You can find out more about the Club by calling our Secretary, Barrie Tatman on 01929 421162, heading to www.swanagebowlingclub.org or visiting our Facebook page www.facebook.com/swanagebowlsclub/ We are at Beach Gardens, neighbours with the Tennis Club, Tea on the Green and Putting Green.

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 still a very unsettling 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

Dorset National Park – vital to our health and wellbeing

The environment and heritage, including our coast, towns and villages, are Dorset's greatest economic asset, central to a thriving future. Moreover, the "value" of what the countryside can do for us continues to grow, and the pandemic has heightened the value we place on its vital contribution to health and wellbeing.

The countryside has a unique and economically important role to play in addressing the big challenges that face us all. With appropriate policies, Dorset's countryside can play a key role in addressing climate change, restoring nature, improving health and wellbeing, and helping our economy and communities to prosper.

But Dorset's countryside remains at risk. A report by Bournemouth University found that all of Dorset's vital ecosystems are in continuing decline. We need to help our environment and nature to recover.

A National Park for Dorset would work in close, supportive partnership with councils, communities, businesses, farmers and others across Dorset to promote a thriving, prosperous, greener future and to address the challenges we face together. It would help develop and deliver sustainable policies, eg for transport, tourism and energy. It would help farmers to secure a successful and sustainable future, including great Dorset foods from healthy soils; nature recovery; clean rivers and harbours; carbon capture in soils, hedges and woodland; health and wellbeing for local people and visitors. A National Park would help develop a successful economy, including the so-called green/blue economy, improve skills and life chances, and respond to local housing needs including for affordable homes.

Many communities, local councils, societies and individuals support a Dorset National Park and want to see the benefits and opportunities which this would bring for communities, economy, environment, wildlife and heritage across Dorset. For more information: www.dorsetnationalpark.com

Best wishes from the Dorset National Park Team



Early Spider Orchid, by Richard Brown



Early Gentian, by Mike Childs



Cowslips, by Sandra Brown



Marsh Gentian, by Mike Childs



The Swanage Medical Practice



What a couple of years it has been; unprecedented times indeed. Despite making headway nationally Covid cases are on the rise again. Locally we continue to serve the community albeit with protocols in place to protect our most vulnerable & seriously ill patients. The light at the end of the tunnel is shining brighter, but we cannot emphasize enough that vaccination, hand washing, lateral flow testing & taking precautions to protect others remain our collective armour against this disease.

A Thank You message from the team

Everyone at the practice would like to offer their heartfelt thanks for the numerous kindnesses, understanding and patience you have shown as we have endeavoured to offer a high level of support to our patients despite the pandemic. It may not always be obvious, looking from the outside in, that having got to know many of you and your families over the years, the concern we all share for your lives and health is deep-seated, and every effort we put in to ensure high quality care at the practice is relentless. At the same time, we tirelessly advocate for better services in hospital and elsewhere for you—because if they don't work well then you suffer.

Moving forward at the Practice with COVID - All contact with GPs continues to be telephone triage first. Our nurse-led twice daily urgent phone triage service will permanently replace the old Sit & Wait. Please be 100% assured that the clinician you speak to will bring you in if clinically appropriate. The nurse led monitoring of chronic conditions remain a mixture of face to face (f2f) & telcons. Like all NHS providers, patients are still required to be Covid-free & wearing a mask is recommended unless you have a valid exemption card. As events unfold we'll keep you informed of any changes by regularly updating our website: www.swanagemedical.org

Coronavirus - What to do if you think you have symptoms

We strongly advise that you follow the current Government guidance; take a Lateral Flow test if you feel unwell and isolate until you are testing negative. Cases are rising again and hospitalisations, particularly in the elderly, have significantly increased. For full details view the Govt. website. If you don't have online access ring 119 for the latest guidance.

Spring Covid- 19 Booster - The vaccination Hub at Wareham Hospital will be offering boosters to those aged 75+ & aged 12+ who are immunosuppressed (transplants, chemotherapy, some rheumatoid drugs & high dose steroids etc). This will be 6 months from a patient's previous Covid vaccination. Those eligible will be contacted by the admin team at Wareham. Patients can also book themselves in via the National Booking System. If they don't contact you but you believe you're part of this group of patients, you should contact the hub on 01929 557559/ 557589. This phone line is manned Tues, Wed, Thurs mornings and also has an answer phone. Please DO NOT ring the surgery about this—it is all being handled by the Hub @ Wareham. Many Thanks.

Prescriptions—The Way Forward During the pandemic we are not providing a reception counter service to discuss prescription queries. All prescriptions are issued electronically and NOT on paper. This protocol from NHS Digital Services effects all GP surgeries & we must abide by it. If you haven't yet nominated a Pharmacy please do so.

All repeat requests & queries should only come to us via your pharmacy, your online account or in writing submitted to the surgery letter box. Please note we DO NOT take prescription requests for repeats/new meds over the phone.

Bringing in a specimen— A reminder

1. Don't bring one in unless you have spoken to a clinician first. We won't test unsolicited samples.
2. If you have authorisation, and it's a urine sample, you will need to fill out a form on arrival. If someone is bringing the sample in for you, please ensure you tell them what symptoms you've got as that information is required for the form. Please note: Anyone bringing a sample to the surgery must wear a mask.



Psyiotherapy Referrals—If you have a new, acute musculoskeletal problem, the reception team can now book you in directly to see a physio here at the practice.



Elvis and Bowie Concert **A funny and lively evening of poetry and music** **@ Sandy Hill Arts, Corfe Castle**

Elvis is back! Stand-up poet, comedian, broadcaster and armchair revolutionary, [Elvis McGonagall](#) returns to Purbeck for Sandy Hill Arts' first big evening event for 2022. A regular of BBC Radio 4, Elvis is well known for his energetic performances full of wit, intelligence and imagination. People have said of him *"bitingly satirical, irreverent, intelligent and laugh-out-loud funny, Elvis has deservedly earned a reputation as one of UK performance poetry's most cherished stars"* - and who are we to argue? Performance starts at 7pm.

Following on from Elvis is Bowie. Or rather Pop-up Bowie, aka Paul Antony - he wowed us at our Planet Purbeck Festival in 2021 and we are delighted to welcome him back. Paul performs the greatest hits of David Bowie, from every era of the iconic artist's career from the 70s through to the nineties and beyond. Moreover he's great fun - come and sing and dance!

'For anyone who enjoys a great David Bowie tribute, Paul Antony presents the clinching argument as to exactly why he won the Bowie tribute award, as soon as he walks out onstage and begins to sing!' - 'The Stage'.

New local food pop-up The Sprout & Bean will be serving from 6pm alongside the bar, and we have a DJ lined up too....

Please note - there will be no car parking on site that evening, but National Trust have kindly offered their car park for free for the performance - it's a five minute walk to Sandy Hill Arts. Please get in touch if you have mobility issues and feel this would be a problem.



Sandy Hill Arts is the new Arts charity for Purbeck, offering performance, exhibitions and education alongside our 18 studio spaces, and of course the Boilerhouse Gallery. Great things to come!

Date and time: Saturday 21 May - 6-11pm.

Food and bar open from 6pm. Performance at 7pm

Sandy Hill Arts, Sandy Hill Lane, Corfe Castle, BH20 5EJ

Book your tickets NOW! (£12/£10 Concession) TAP HERE: [View Map and ticket sales](#)

For further info or queries please contact: TEL 01929 480977 or 01929 481073



Please see a rundown of what is coming up at The Mowlem in May which includes two firsts for us, as we welcome an exciting live show from the Dorset-based **Arts Reach**. **Cupid's Revenge** is the latest dance theatre comedy show by the ground-breaking performance company, New Art Club. It is a joyful, physical and verbal outburst against the forces that masquerade as love.

In another first for The Mowlem, we are thrilled to announce that we will be live-streaming three Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra events in May. Including **Voices: Requiem 2020** by composer Teresa Barlow from the Swanage Rep Theatre Company. **Requiem** is dedicated to 2020, with movements covering topics such as Human Rights, Climate Change, Animal Rights, Covid, the death of George Floyd and Lockdown. It will be performed by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, a 90 strong choir and four soloists, at Portsmouth Cathedral on May 21st and will be conducted by Pete Harrison. *There will be a 20% discount applied if you book all three live streams simultaneously.*

We have a selection of new movies, including **The Lost City** and **Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore**, in time for the end of May and the Summer half term.

You'll also find details on regular weekly and monthly club & society meetings below.

LIVE SHOWS:

- **Cupid's Revenge** - [Tickets](#)
 - 13th May - 7:30 pm

LIVE STREAMS:

- **Brilliant Mendelssohn** - Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Livestream - [Tickets](#)
 - 4th May - 7:30pm
- **'I Was Glad'** - Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Livestream - [Tickets](#)
 - 11th May - 7:30pm
- **BSO Voices: Requiem 2020** - Teresa Barlow Livestream - [Tickets](#)
 - 21st May - 7:30pm



***Purchase tickets for each live stream together for a 20% discount, applied at checkout.*

MOVIES:

- **The Outfit (18)** [Tickets](#)
 - 2nd May - 2.30pm & 7.30pm
 - 3rd + 5th May - 7.30pm
- **Ambulance (15)** - [Tickets](#)
 - 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th, 12th May - 7.30pm
 - 9th May - also showing at 2:30 pm
- **Operation Mincemeat (12A)** - [Tickets](#)
 - 14th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th May - 7:30pm
 - 16th May - also showing at 2:30pm
- **Ali & Ava (15)** - [Tickets](#)
 - Every day from 23rd to 26th at 7.30pm
 - 23rd May - also showing at 2:30pm
- **Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (12A)** [Tickets](#)
 - Every day from the 27th May to 2nd June - 7.30pm
- **The Lost City (12A)** - [Tickets](#)
 - Every day from 28th May to 3rd June - 2:30pm

Box Office Open Mon-Sat - 10:30am-1:30pm.

Call **TicketSource** on 0333 666 3366 (standard rates and phone charges apply, lines open 9am-5pm) / www.themowlem.com

CLUBS AND SOCIETIES:

Monthly

- **Tuesday, May 3rd - Making Memories** (*Swanage Area Dementia Friendly Group*) meets in the Show Bar cafe for coffee and cake from 10am, with a movie showing of **Some Like it Hot** from 11am.
- **Tuesday 17th May - Making Memories Dementia Friendly Café** from 10am - (*no film showing*)
- **Thursday, 19th May - The monthly Flower Club** meets in the Community Room from 9.00am through 5.00pm.

Weekly

- **Health Qui Con Community** meets every Wednesday at 1.30pm in the Community Room.
- **The Swanage Arts & Crafts Market** is every Saturday and Sunday outside the Mowlem.
- **Slimming World is back** every Thursday from April 21st, meeting at 6.00pm in the Community Room.

Kristian Wingfield-Bennett

PR & Marketing Director



Do you help or support someone?

Are you helping someone with everyday household tasks like shopping or cooking, or organising or transporting someone to medical appointments?

You may also be helping with medication, treatment, personal care and mobility, or you may be providing emotional support.

By doing these things you are considered to be an unpaid carer and there is a lot of support waiting for you in Dorset.

Support is available to unpaid carers in Dorset, finding the right help to support you at the right time when you need it is available in 2 easy steps:

1. Register with your GP Surgery.

2. Register with the carers support service.

Dorset Council residents:

☎ **0800 368 8349**

🖱 **www.carersupportdorset.co.uk**

Bournemouth, Christchurch or Poole:

☎ **01202 128787**

✉ **carersupport@bcpcouncil.gov.uk**

Just how much of our Ambulance Car have we saved?

The good news

We were delighted when Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group, and the Ambulance Trust, announced in March that the Swanage-based 24/7 Purbeck Paramedic Car would not be withdrawn. It's also been confirmed that:

- the Car will continue to be staffed by a Paramedic or an Advanced Ambulance Technician, the staff grades qualified to treat at the scene
- when not attending an emergency, the Car will continue to support the local GP's - this helps to 'tether' the Car to Swanage and Purbeck, so that it is more likely to be here when we need it



The not so good news – the staffing of the Ambulance Car

While it's great to know that we're not going to lose the Ambulance Car altogether, serious concerns remain about the staffing levels. Can we really say that an Ambulance Car that is not staffed most of the time is 'saved'?

Statistics from the Ambulance Trust this January show that our Car was only staffed two-fifths of the time in 2021, probably because there were only 2 permanent staff allocated to the Car, when there should be 5. We were given an assurance in March that these very low staffing levels would be addressed. However, 6 weeks on, it's not clear what has been done, and no timeframe has been given to bring the Car staffing in line with the rest of the Dorset fleet.

How badly is the Car staffed, compared to the Dorset fleet?

A recent Freedom of Information Act response shows the Swanage-based Ambulance Car is the Cinderella of the Dorset fleet by some way. While it is perhaps understandable that double-crewed ambulances are generally better staffed than solo cars, even when our Car is simply compared to the other solo vehicles, it still comes out very badly. While our Ambulance Car was staffed on average just 42% of the time in 2021, the rest of the solo Cars were staffed close to 75% of the time. It is particularly concerning that the Car was such an outlier, given the distance Isle of Purbeck residents have to travel to access emergency hospital care, which will only be made worse if the planned closure of Poole A&E, Maternity and Children's departments goes ahead.

What can be done?

Swanage Town Council will follow up on their request for a clear timeframe within which the staffing of the Swanage-based Car will be brought in line with the rest of the Dorset fleet. The Town Council will also be following up on our request for a six monthly report detailing Car staffing levels, and the emergency response times for Swanage and Wareham. If needed, I'm sure the other Town and Parish Councils will support our request.

We've won a big battle, but the Car really needs to be properly staffed before we can honestly say that it has been saved.

Debby Monkhouse, Swanage Town Cllr

- Co-ordinator Save Our Ambulance Car Campaign



'Artisans at the Market' is held on the first Friday of every month from 1st April to 7th October from 8.00 a.m. until approximately 1.00 p.m. in Main Beach Carpark in Victoria Avenue, Swanage

Come along and browse the wonderful selection of lovingly crafted items on sale including jewellery, ceramics and furniture



Did you know...?

The new Pier was officially opened 125 years ago on 29th March 1897

When George Burt started a steamer service between Swanage, Poole and Bournemouth in 1874, the 'old' Pier was being used for day-trippers as well as stone cargo, it soon became clear that the Pier was unable to cope with the ever increasing traffic and it was decided a new and longer Pier was needed.

The first pile of the new Pier was driven on 30th November 1895 and was officially opened on 29th March 1897. However, the first steamer, the P.S. Lord Elgin, landed people on May 1st 1896. The Pier was an immediate success. 10,000 visitors arrived by steamer in the first season.

To celebrate this anniversary, we will be raffling a limited addition plaque on the Pier and a fabulous original painting by the acclaimed local artist Rebecca Lardner. We are delighted that Rebecca has agreed to undertake this commission which she is currently working on. The piece will include the Pier as the main feature and elements of Swanage.

All proceeds will go towards supporting the work of Swanage Pier Trust and you can purchase your tickets at the gatehouse, the Pier gift shop or [online](#)

Tickets: £1 each

Draw will take place at Midnight on Sunday 5th June 2022

We are also putting together an exhibition of photos of the Pier through the years, which will be held in May. If you have any photos of the Pier and the story behind them, please email - activities@swanagepiertrust.com.

For full details on all our events and to follow Rebecca's progress on the painting, visit our [website](#) or follow us on social media.

Amanda Bowden
Volunteer & Events Co-ordinator, Swanage Pier Trust

Rotary supporting Greengage Project

Swanage & Purbeck Rotary has provided £500 to the Greengage Community Garden Project towards the cost of removing some Leylandii trees on the west of the site. The project was provided with matched funding from Swanage Town Council. The trees were shutting out natural light and preventing a wide area from being suitable for cultivation. Being situated just off Prospect Crescent, before the allotments, there's now a wonderful view overlooking Swanage and an excellent spot to relax and take a breather from the world around us. The Greengage Community Garden welcomes people living in Swanage and the surrounding area and is open for anyone who wishes to participate in the life of the community. It runs from 10am to 3pm most Fridays from now to mid-December and anyone who wants to get involved is encouraged to just turn up.

Tasks will be allocated according to personal preference, with support offered as required. There is a wide sharing of skills and knowledge and right at the heart of what Greengage is really about is the development of friendship and community and enjoying our time together. You can just pop in for a chat or take a quiet moment in the garden for reflection and relaxation. Produce is shared between attendees or offered for donations. The garden doesn't use herbicides or pesticides and tries to be wildlife friendly, creating a balance between nature and tidiness. As the project develops it is hoped to expand the activities to include extra hours of opening, linking with other locally based groups, attending fetes and shows and developing an educational function.

Plans for the future include creating more links with local schools and groups and there's also a hope to produce fresh fruit and vegetables for the Swanage Food Bank. Further projects include, replacing old wire fencing, new signage and flag, installing a pond and subject to planning permission, provision of a new building with working areas, toilet and meeting place. As the project develops it is hoped to expand the activities to include extra hours of opening, linking with other locally based groups, attending fetes and shows and developing an educational function.



Rotarian Robin Hargraves with Bob Walters, Chair Greengage Community Garden Project

Bob Walters from Greengage urges everyone to “come and visit and see what we do ... you will be very welcome.” For more information on Greengage, please contact Bob Walters on 07812 036514 or visit www.sandpdt.org.uk



Photograph by David Corben



STUDLAND SNIPPETS

Studland Parish Council

The Council is in the process of developing a resilience plan for the community. The winter storms and disruption to the electricity supply has raised the issue of vulnerable residents and back up arrangements that can be supplied locally to ensure continuity of services. Some residents in Studland were without electricity for up to five days; other residents were unaware of the opportunity to register with their electricity supplier so that they would be granted some priority status. To date a resident has volunteered to be the resilience co-ordinator and discussions are taking place over the provision of emergency cooking facilities likely to be in Studland Village Hall. The Dorset Local Resilience Forum has useful information for other local councils.

Some progress is being made with efforts to link up the footpaths in the Parish. Discussions on this matter go back to the Studland Parish Plan of 2009. Try the new path from Nine Barrow Down to Currendon Farm to see how safer walking can be implemented. Further work on paths from the Obelisk to the Swanage road and the reinstatement of unused former tracks are possible developments. Thanks are extended to the National Trust, the local tenant farmer, a local volunteer and Dorset Council for starting this important work. Perhaps in the near future we shall see a bridleway from Studland to Corfe Castle and much safer routes towards Swanage.

Looking after the local environment and embedding understanding in the hearts and minds of young local people is an important activity of stewardship for the area. Next time you walk along the sea shore at Shell Bay you will come across eight bird effigies created as part of a project between The Birds of Poole Harbour, Natural England, some local schools and the National Trust. These structures are designed to inform walkers of the disturbance that may be caused by dogs off their leads chasing over-wintering wading birds. The number of such birds has been reduced by up to 50% in recent years. Whilst the intention of this project is admirable the visual format and location of the wading bird effigies is intrusive and inappropriate to this special natural location. These precious areas deserve a low human footprint and special attention. Surely those organisations with responsibilities for the environment and conservation should review this visual impact and develop more sensitive ways of engaging with young people.

The Purbeck Society

The April talk on 'Bumps in the Bay' was very well received. Given the interest in the research on the undulations of the sea bed adjacent to coast, it is likely that the Purbeck Society will ask other organisations if the designation of the World Heritage Site can be extended to include an area under the sea. For readers interested in contributing towards a review of heritage assets in their locality please contact Jessica Sutcliffe, the secretary of the Purbeck Society. It is important that local knowledge is used for the records of heritage assets that are being compiled by Dorset Council. Please help the Purbeck Society if you can.

The May activity for the Purbeck Society takes the form of a visit to the cider orchard at Bushey on Wednesday the 18th of May. Karen Delahay is organising this event.

To find out more: go to: www.facebook.com/PurbeckSociety/

The Campaign to Protect Rural England



The countryside charity

Hedges, both more and wider, have the ability to contribute to carbon reduction as well as impacting on the rural landscape. There are at least three styles of hedges in Purbeck yet not many skilled hedge layers. Maybe some training and development from Kingston Maurward College ...?

The Dorset branch is looking for a volunteer to assist with its campaign for hedges. If you have or know of someone interested in this topic please contact the Dorset office at the end of the article.

Dorset CPRE have a countryside forum where ideas are discussed and contributions shared. At the March meeting Andrew MacRobb of Herefordshire CPRE outlined a citizen's science project on water quality in the river Wye. Volunteers mapped the quality of the water over time. Given the importance of the rivers in Dorset and the increasing pollution of Poole harbour, something similar here may be appropriate. Up to 70% of river pollution comes from farming and the rest is from sewage. Vigilance is required, especially in Swanage where plans for more housebuilding will create challenges for Wessex Water.

Dorset CPRE is continuing to promote the case for the Dorset Local Plan to reflect the exceptional environmental, ecological and archaeological circumstances of the county. The area branch of Purbeck and Poole is interested in hearing from readers about exceptional circumstances.

Finally, a challenge. How about planting an apple tree in your garden or immediate area? Even a small tree in a tub can supply apples in a year's time and even enable a Dorset apple cake or apple and blackberry pie. Food for thought!

To find out more about Dorset CPRE contact: info@dorset-cpre.org.uk.

Peter Bowyer



Fund-raising summer events for Trevor Chadwick Memorial Trust

Trevor Chadwick was Swanage's own Schindler, who rescued 669 children from Prague just before the outbreak of the second world war. Since launching the final appeal for £18,000 which will complete the cost of the constructing the life-size memorial statue, we were delighted when Budgens supermarket in Swanage, kindly permitted us to publicise our charity in their window. This has resulted in renewed public interest, and we are extremely grateful as we have received a number of generous donations, including one of £1,000.



We still have a way to go to reach our target, but we are very encouraged by the rejuvenated response to our important project.

Further fund-raising events are planned for the summer and following a really successful Gala Concert at the Bandstand last year, the well-known local singer and entertainer, Karen Grant, has offered to arrange a similar event this year on **Saturday 16th July, again at the Bandstand**. We hope to see you there.

We are now in a position to give the go ahead for the foundations of the statue to be installed; the work is scheduled to be completed by the 20th July. The statue is then planned to be erected towards the end of August, but the date is yet to be finalised.

Further details can be obtained from our website:
<https://trevorchadwick.uk>



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

Disappointing News for Friends of Wareham Hospital



With the unfolding situation in the Ukraine, the disappointing news we received on 21st February '22 seems almost insignificant as we still have much to be positive about but the news that the plans for the promised Purbeck Integrated Hub had been scrapped evoked some very strong emotions amongst committee members.

We have been working with local organisations since 2015 on Purbeck plans and were discouraged from campaigning against the closure of inpatient beds at Wareham Hospital in 2018 as it could affect the proposals for the Hub bringing together health and social care staff on one site in an exciting development opportunity. We had hoped this would complement the Integrated Care Agenda, improve recruitment opportunities and service improvements for our locality area which perceivably has seen an erosion of local services for several years. The decision does not just affect Wareham; this will affect the whole locality, including Swanage, as staff work across the Purbeck area. Sadly, we are aware that key staff, disheartened by this news have already resigned.

We are told that the consensus opinion of Dorset Healthcare NHS Trust, who manage community services is that integration can be achieved through digital means and that finances do not support a new building. Interestingly the Trust which manages Dorset County Hospital feel that an integrated hub is a good idea and are proposing one for Dorchester!

There is however some good news ... We have been informed that Wareham Hospital, not long ago considered to be "unfit for purpose" is to remain for at least another 10 years.

Our support of Wareham Hospital and Purbeck Community Services remains strong and will continue but we would urgently welcome new members to the Friends to help us strengthen our voice should this promise also be broken. We can be contacted through the Hospital, Streche Road, Wareham.

We salute and thank all Purbeck staff who continue to work hard for us all in the area.

Maggie Hardy Friends Chair

Charity Number 252073



Important new face-to-face money advice sessions

The increase in the cost of living, combined with spiralling energy prices has resulted in many people struggling with everyday expenditure.

To meet this need, Citizens Advice has now reopened face-to-face money advice sessions in local libraries thanks to Dorset Libraries and with funding from Dorset Council.

- Citizens Advice Money Management advisers are at Swanage Library on Mondays for booked appointments

These income maximisation sessions are led by specialist advisers who can advise on a range of money-related topics to help people to budget and manage their finances more confidently.

Anyone who is struggling with their day-to-day spending can contact Citizens Advice to book an appointment at a participating library, including Swanage Library.

Income maximisation sessions must be pre-booked by calling the **Dorset Adviceline on 0800 144 8848**, or you can be referred by a Citizens Advice adviser or member of library staff.

Our advisers can provide a better understanding of welfare benefit entitlements, how to apply for charitable grants and information on any other discretionary help which may be available. We can also provide debt advice.

Details of other participating Dorset libraries can be found on our website at www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/specialist-advice

General Advice Drop-in Sessions

We hold drop-in sessions at a number of locations across Purbeck and East Dorset including:

- Herston Village Hall, Swanage, 10am-12noon, first Monday of each month (please note 9th May instead of 2nd May as bank holiday)
- Wareham Office, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10am-12noon
- Lytchett Matravers Library, Fridays 10am-12noon

No appointment is needed. See www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk for full details of all drop-in locations and opening times.

Talk to an adviser on Dorset Adviceline

For free, confidential advice and support, call **Dorset Adviceline on Freephone 0800 144 8848 Mon-Fri, 10am-4pm**

We are able to help most people either by phone or by email using our website form, and a face-to-face appointment can be made if necessary.

***Visit our website for a wealth of online help and support**

www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk



Team programme

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

16 to 25 and want to...

- ✓ Improve your confidence?
- ✓ Create friendships?
- ✓ Enjoy new experiences?
- ✓ Gain qualifications?

If you're interested:

- Text 'TEAM' to 07500 066134
- debbie.harvey@dwfire.org.uk
- DWFRSPTTeam
- DWFRSPrincesTrust
- DWFRSPrincesTrust

<https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/help-for-young-people/get-job/boost-your-confidence>



DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE

We are delighted to announce that we are now recruiting young people to join our Prince's Trust Team Programme starting in May. There is no charge for this course.

Key points are:

- There is a taster day on Wednesday 18th May 11am - 2pm
- It's running from 3rd Poole Sea Scout Hall, Edith Lyle Hall, West Quay Rd, Poole BH15 1JF
- It's from 23rd May to 12th August
- It's a full-time course (9:30am - 3:30pm Monday to Friday)
- It's for 16 - 25-year-olds who are NEET
- On completion, young people gain nationally recognised qualifications
- There is also a residential part of the course.

Please don't hesitate to contact me for full details or with any queries.

Tel: 07500 06613 or debbie.harvey@dwfire.org.uk

Debbie Harvey, Prince's Trust Team Leader Dorset and Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service



Prince's Trust Team Programme Example

Please note, this is an example programme and some content may vary

Week 1. Get to know your team

Don't worry about turning up on your own, there will be up to 14 other people in the same situation. It will be very informal and our excellent staff will help you to feel comfortable and part of the group. This week is all about getting to know each other. Activities include team building and problem-solving tasks.



Week 2. Try something new

This is often a highlight of the course where you'll get to try activities such as canoeing, climbing, mountain biking, search and rescue, gorge walking and more. This week normally takes place in Dartmoor as a 4-day residential.





Startup School for Seniors

Have an idea for a business but don't know where to start?



Join our free course for over 50s and we'll help you get your business off the ground*



Find out more at:
startupschoolforseniors.com

“A really enjoyable and informative course... suited to those with some life experience behind them”

Helen, hat maker

*Terms and conditions apply

Free ‘Startup School for Seniors’ course for Dorset residents

Are you over 50, currently unemployed, have recently been made redundant or are looking to branch out on your own?

Startup School for Seniors is a **free** eight week eLearning course for unemployed Dorset residents, who are looking to start their own business.

This course is for you if:

- You have a passion or idea you’d like to turn into a business
- You want to gain the skills necessary to get a new business off the ground
- You would benefit from the support of others

The course is being delivered online by entrepreneur Suzanne Noble and business coach Mark Elliott, who create a fun, interactive, learning experience and support you to progress week by week.

The course starts in May 2022 and registration will open shortly. Add your email address to our reminder list now and we will be in touch with you soon. You can sign up [here](https://startupschoolforseniors.com/course).

Tanya Palmer, Membership Officer

<https://startupschoolforseniors.com/course>



The new ‘Place of Welcome’ location, next door to the old one at 103, High Street, continues to grow and thrive with dominoes high on the list of attractions, along with conversations ranging across a wide range of interesting subjects. Forthcoming events include a ‘Birthday Bash’ lunch in the Globe Garden for one of our regulars and a ‘Parrotphinalia’ stall at the June Platinum Jubilee event where we will be selling a variety of ‘recycled’ goods, books etc. donations welcome! As well as having a ‘Water into Wine’ game. Sid, our Parrot patrons, photo will feature in our publicity and we hope he will become our mascot for future events.

As far as home visits to lonely and isolated people are concerned we have recently seen a big increase in referrals from the Social Services/NHS and we are struggling to find enough volunteers to help with these. So, if you have only a small amount of time to make a new friend do get in touch.

From the beginning of April we have also become more closely involved with our ‘Linked’ Organisation ‘Purbeck Good Neighbours’. Do look us up if you want help or can offer help with small domestic tasks.

Sarah M Bamber

Email: swanage@linkinglives.uk

Tel: **07495 534171**



Pop in to
 Emmanuel Baptist Church
 every Monday between
 10 am and 12 noon 
 join in a game, do a jigsaw
 or have a drink, a cake and a chat

 No charge 

ROYAL
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE



HM The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Help us to celebrate by knitting and crafting!

Are you a keen crafter looking for your next project? Why not join in and help us to create items to celebrate the big event of the year! You can knit, crochet or sew members of the Royal Family, their pets, crowns, 'houses', bunting, tea cozies or other items for a Royal Tea Party – no limits to your imagination! Think of sunny days in June when we will celebrate by organising a special event or two to show off your donated creations, and let your imagination take over.

All items will then be sold to raise money for Royal Voluntary Service and our work in the community. So please spread the word, get started and let me know what you are making; photos are always great and look good on our Facebook page.

Any questions please contact Maria Jacobson, Service Manager Dorset Home Library Service, tel. 07786 635154 or e-mail maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk

PURBECK
COAST
101.2fm



Purbeck Coast Radio will be hosting a Coffee Morning from 10am to 12 noon at **Stoborough Village Hall**, on the 4th Monday of every month - ***Do come and say hello!***

Historic local house opens its glorious gardens for the first time

Whitecliff Manor Farm Gardens will be open to the public for the first time this year, under the National Gardens Scheme. This is your chance to see the spectacular gardens of this Swanage Grade II listed building, with magnificent views too. In May the tulip collection should be in full bloom and by June, the many roses should be blossoming.

All proceeds to go to the National Garden Scheme (www.ngs.org.uk) and local charity the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust (www.sandpdt.org.uk) and their projects.

Sat 30th April - from 11am - 3pm

Sun 1st May - from 11am - 3pm

Sat 4th June - from 11am - 3pm

Sun 5th June - from 11am - 3pm



There will be refreshments ranging from coffee/tea and home baked treats to a luxury Prosecco Afternoon Tea. Also, there will be many stalls, including plants, books and objets d'art.

The postal address is: Whitecliff Road, Swanage, BH19 1RL. Tel 07780 704195 for more information or full details are available on the NGS website.

