

Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
and Swanage Area Forum

NEWSLETTER

Community News from Swanage and the Surrounding Villages



Welcome all to the February 2023 issue of The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and Swanage Area Forum Newsletter. This issue illustrates once again a whole range of activities that many of our local contributors organise within our communities and this month you can see that many of our local village groups' news, meetings and activities are particularly well documented as well as both the Swanage and Wareham communities.

The next issue will be the March issue which can hopefully welcome Spring and give a general uplift to our morale after such a gruelling winter.

Mel Norris

Trustee Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and Chair of The Swanage Area Forum
melvyn.norris@icloud.com, mobile: 07446 677924

find the newsletter at www.sandpdt.org.uk



DEADLINE
for contributions to the March 2023 issue
of the Newsletter

FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2023



Swanage & Purbeck
Development Trust



HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

Latest News from Harmans Cross Village Hall

From all of us at Harmans Cross Village Hall, we do hope you enjoyed a peaceful and lovely Christmas and New Year. As we move into February, here are some dates for your diary for forthcoming events

Tuesday 14 February **The Duke -- starring Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren**

Tuesday 14 March **Fisherman's Friends: One and All**

Doors and bar open at 7pm and entry is just £5.



Stalls at the Hall

Saturday 18 February

Saturday 25 March

To book a table please contact David Hollister at hxvh@btconnect.com or call on 07384 848419



Coffee Junction

We welcome everyone to **Coffee Junction** every other Thursday morning from 10.30am in the small meeting room, HXVH. A chance to chat to other local residents sponsored by St Aldhelm's Parish (the new parish covering Langton, Worth and Kingston churches and Harmans Cross). This started early in January, and the next dates are **9th February and 23rd February.**



We look forward to seeing you in Harmans Cross very soon.

Alison and the HXVH Committee

Celebrate Silver Saturday With Us





Tea & Cakes with Entertainment on Rotary's Birthday
Emmanuel Baptist Church
Victoria Avenue, Swanage
Saturday 25th February 2023
At 2.30pm
Booking is essential by
Saturday 18th February
Transport can be arranged with prior notice
Book your place with
Robin - 07775 900263
Sarah - 07971 457931
Free of Charge but
Donations taken towards Local Charities






SWANAGE JAZZ MACHINE

Steve Dumble (bass) Andrew Cannon (piano) Rob Mills (tenor sax)

Next Appearances:

CHARITY FUND-RAISING CONCERTS:

Sun 05 Feb 2023	A	"Jazz At The Grand" Grand Hotel, Swanage.	2.00 pm
Sun 12 Mar 2023	A	"Jazz At The Grand" Grand Hotel, Swanage.	2.00 pm
Sun 02 Apr 2023	A	"Jazz At The Grand" Grand Hotel, Swanage.	2.00 pm
Sun 07 May 2023	A	"Jazz At The Grand" Grand Hotel, Swanage.	2.00 pm
Sun 04 Jun 2023	A	"Jazz At The Grand" Grand Hotel, Swanage.	2.00 pm
Tue 06 Jun 2023	B	Charity Concert, Newton Manor Hall, Swanage.	2.00 pm

Venue A: **GRAND HOTEL** Burlington Road, Swanage BH19 1LU
Afternoon Tea available 3 - 5.00 p.m.

Venue B: "M.U.S.I.C." Charity event at **NEWTON MANOR HALL**,
170 High Street, Swanage BH19 2PF (opp Cow Lane) Free tea/coffee and cookies!

SUMMER MONTHS 2023 - JAZZ WORKSHOPS AND VARIOUS FESTIVALS
WE COLLECT FOR CHARITY! 2023: Friends of Swanage Hospital. Please be generous!

Message from the Mayor of Swanage, Cllr Tina Foster



After a very wet month we are now well on our way to Spring.

I can't wait to see the blossom and spring flowers gracing our gardens and verges, but it is not always a good idea to wish your life away. There is still plenty to look forward to in our lively town.

As Mayor, I and my consort, Les, are invited to many events and it is always good to see the town putting its best foot forward and the plethora of talent we have in Swanage.

The Mowlem under its Board of Trustees is working hard to supply arts, entertainment and exhibitions for the residents and although I missed the Pantomime, there are shows coming up put on by the Swanage School and the Swanage Musical Theatre Company. We are so lucky to have this venue and the Town Council, and I, are keen to support the work of the trustees in making sure it has a bright future ahead.

The Market in the Main Car Park on a Friday is also a wonderful asset for Swanage. It is planned that more stalls will arrive as the weather improves and I hope that support continues. The fresh food on offer is a great help in keeping everyone healthy and well fed in our current economic situation. Please support the market; not only can you top up the store cupboard, but it is a great social opportunity to meet with others.

We have carried out a few engagements and am always happy to meet and support community groups. Les and I attended, albeit briefly, the Linking Lives Boxing Day lunch and met some very happy people. We visited the local Police on their open evening and learnt how important it is to report any crimes or anti-social behaviour. If no reports are made by the public, we will not get the police officers we need.

I and a few other stalwart councillors were shown around the Wessex Water recycling plant (the sewage works to most of us) and were fascinated to see and learn about the work done to treat the waste water in our town. Not the most fragrant of tours but certainly one of the most interesting. We learnt how important it is to control what we flush down our toilets and drains so please ensure that we all play a responsible role in disposing of waste.

But it is not all fun and games on the Council; we do debate some very serious issues. You will all be pleased to know that after many hours of analysis, and some heated debates, it has been decided that the precept from Swanage Town Council is not to be increased this financial year. We may have to incur some tough financial decisions but are mindful that we must be prudent with your money.

You may all have given up and even forgotten your New Year's resolution, but can I ask you all to make one now to carry out for the rest of 2023. It is to support your town, its businesses, its charities, its environment and its community spirit. Thank you.

Cllr Tina Foster

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

Studland Snippets

Studland Parish Council - The National Trust has removed the white tape from the burnt heathland east of the Ferry Road. The new temporary café in the car park will be opened as soon as possible. The café will be operated by the Salt Pig for three years. The date for a new permanent café is unknown.



There are some potholes on the road to Swanage - please take care by the fork in the road leaving the village. None of the drains in the roads have been successfully cleared by Dorset Council since early summer of 2022.



*Paul Brown and 2 colleagues
(Photo Dorset Echo)*

The leaving party for the former café operator, Paul Brown, was very successful. It was widely recognised that the café operated in a valued location and provided important opportunities for young local people to acquire initial experience of the hospitality industry. Few such opportunities now exist in Studland.

The Parish Council like all local councils in Purbeck has the opportunity to respond to the consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework.

The Parish Council is planning work to clear the village pond at Beach Road of growing vegetation.

Discussions are commencing about how to celebrate the coronation of the King in the summer. A street party in Church Road by St Nicholas Church is a popular potential location.

There will be no increase in the Parish Council part of the Dorset Council Tax.

Discussions are being held with relevant parties about how to limit and even remove the use of advertising A boards in the village. Many residents regard such advertising boards as unnecessary and ill-suited to the village.

Following representations made to SSEN, the electricity supplier, on cuts to services, residents on the Glebe Estate mainly have been advised to complain direct to SSEN in the event of cuts to services.

As there were no volunteers from the Parish Council to form a steering committee for a neighbourhood plan there will be no neighbourhood plan for Studland. The opportunity to influence building designs in the village has been reduced by this decision.

The Purbeck Society (PS) - A successful Annual General meeting re-elected the committee and officers for 2023. Following a brief presentation on the Countryside Charity, the Campaign to Protect Rural England, there was a discussion on future activities for the Purbeck Society including the potential to work with the Veterans Forge and local schools.

The Purbeck Society as a civic society is keen to develop pride in the Purbeck area. Increasingly it is recognised that communities lack the power to achieve this goal. Communities are keen to take ownership of their surroundings and to shape their place. The Purbeck Society looks forward to working with the Swanage Neighbourhood Steering Group to achieve enhancement of the area and protection of its valued heritage.

Before Easter there will be a talk by local historian and former Parish Clerk of Langton Matravers, Mary Sparks, on the Manors of Purbeck. Something interesting for members and visitors on a Friday afternoon in the Community Room of the Mowlem Institute. Further details are available in the members' Newsletter and from the talks organiser, Karen Delahay at e mail:

grubbunder@gmail.com

The Countryside Charity, the Campaign to Protect Rural England - 2022 was a very successful year for achieving influence with government. Research on Brownfield Building First, Hedges, and potential reforms to the planning system have all contributed towards government thinking in respect of potential legislation on Levelling Up and Regeneration.

Current campaigns are developing on energy and water. These campaigns have the ability to draw upon local Dorset concerns. Recent weather has emphasised the impact of rain water on flood plains and the need to manage water courses. Swanage has much building on its flood plains. Proposals for a huge development north of Dorchester face significant problems with potential impact of water courses including the river Frome.

Two members of Dorset CPRE have met officers of Dorset Council to discuss renewable energy. Whilst it was agreed that Dorset CPRE will work with Dorset Council in particular supplying feedback on emerging policies on renewable energy, little else was achieved as Dorset Council officers preferred to not share their plans yet. Nationally CPRE are calling for a national policy on land use. Such a policy has the potential to build upon the work of Renewables Done Well and to ensure that renewable energy infrastructure is suitable to the natural and heritage environments of Dorset.

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Nationally and locally there is growing concern about the lack of affordable and low cost housing to rent. In Dorset this problem exists where local and young residents are unable to access the housing market either for purchase or rent. Commentators across the political spectrum are calling for more social housing to rent. Some councillors have made a plea for social or Council housing to rent. Some communities have long waiting lists for low cost housing. It is understood that the Swanage area has up to 200 persons on the local housing list.

CPRE supports the case for the provision of affordable housing in the emerging Dorset Local Plan and recognises the need for Dorset to have sustainable communities in respect of low cost housing including via Community Lands Trusts.

Dorset CPRE are working up a response to the consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Until detailed proposals are put forward in legislation CPRE is somewhat sceptical about the extent and details offered to local councils to have more say over their housing provision and its location.

There is growing concern that government control over central planning policies may negate any freedoms offered to local councils.

Actions to address climate change may well have to fit into any revisions of the NPPF and also the Dorset Local Plan.

Peter Bowyer



Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership (SCDP) has been in place for nearly eight years. In that time the coordination and installation of Defib devices across Swanage and surrounding villages has given us an enviable network of defibrillators which are accessible to the public and are proving themselves on a regular basis when they are deployed to local incidents. (which are increasing with the pressures now facing the NHS)

The success of SCDP is due to 3 main factors

1. The wonderful community interest and support we receive
2. A fantastic team of volunteer Defib Guardians who help to maintain the defib cabinets and defib devices on a regular basis reporting to a central point
3. A dedicated and committed Steering Group team which meets regularly and has a determination that this service is sustainable and continues to support our community

SCDP is absolutely delighted to report that Mary Buck, a more recent but valuable member of our Steering Group, has been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) in the King's New Year's Honours. Mary has been a nurse for over 50 years, with a lot of that time spent at Swanage Hospital and she is still working as an important member of the Covid Vaccination Team at Wareham Hospital. Her local community service is wide and varied and includes nursing with St Johns Ambulance Service, support of the Drama groups at the Mowlem and now Mary is leading on the Defib Familiarisation sessions which SCDP is keen to re-establish. The sessions were restricted due to Covid but can offer us all a chance to see how a defib works and to be less fearful of using one.

Any groups wishing to hold a familiarisation session can contact us by using our email address

info@swanagedefib.co.uk, on Facebook or through Corbens in Station Road (01929 422284).

We send many congratulations to Mary for this well-deserved recognition of her hard work.

SCDP is one of the 3 charities to benefit from the Coop Community Fund this year. Please look out for our advertising and support us if you can when shopping at the Coop

Maggie Hardy, SCDP



Mary Buck and her husband Terry after they had supported SCDP by collecting at the Summer Carnival



50 Years Exemplary Service to the RNLI

Well known Isle of Purbeck resident, David Corben, has just been appointed Chairman of Swanage Lifeboat. This follows a distinguished 35 years' service as Lifeboat Crew member and latterly 15 years as Deputy Launching Authority.

David is a Senior Partner in the family-run firm of Corbens Estate Agents and Surveyors. Dave wholeheartedly believes in giving as much time and energy to helping charitable organisations in the community as possible. At the age of 17 Dave joined the Coastguard Marine Cliff Rescue Team, a couple of years later he became a member of the Swanage Lifeboat crew and is one of the RNLI's longest serving crew members in the country.

He is a founder member of the Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership which in the 8 years since inception has raised considerable funds that has enabled the placing of 36 defibrillators throughout the Isle of Purbeck.

John Corben

All photos courtesy of Swanage RNLI

Top to bottom:

*Back row: Mike Bonfield, Nick Harris, Chris Haw and Terry Pond
Front row: Dave Corben, Martin Steeden, Des Fitzgerald, Adrian Bird*

Left to right: Martin Steeden, Chris Haw, Colin Marks, John Deare, Neil Hardy and Dave Corben



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

Langton Matravers Parish Council



REPORT ON DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Present: Cllr P. Christie in the chair, D. Pearson, P. Loudoun, I. Vaughan-Arbuckle, P. Golob & M. Sutton.



Being reintroduced: Choughs
- pronounced 'Chuffs'

NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

Tom Clarke reported that the National Trust has a continued relationship with the activity providers at Spyway Car Park and is negotiating a changing solution for the participants; and that the toilet will be returned from April to October. The National Trust are looking at setting up a working group to look at visitors, nature and economics (sustainable landscapes) in south Purbeck. The reintroduction of choughs into South Dorset is still ongoing and looks promising.

PLANNING MATTERS

Application no: P/HOU/2022/07435. Location: Englishcombe East Drove Langton Matravers, BH19 3HF. Proposal: Erect rear extension. Install new roof on house with gable ends. Demolish existing garage. NO OBJECTION.

PLAYGROUND

It was noted that although remedial repair works have been done at the playground, new turf and rubber matting has yet to be laid on the mound. The clerk is to follow this up.

SPYWAY DEVELOPMENT

It is understood that six sets of keys have been allocated for the houses at Spyway. The clerk is to investigate how many of these houses have been allocated to local people.

PARISH SURGERY

Cllr Sutton proposed a parish surgery (the full report for which can be found on the website). It was agreed that this was a good idea in principle but that more work needed to be done.

HIGHWAYS REPORT

As part of the village's 20 mph bid there are currently monitors at the top and end of the village, because Highways want to know the average speed of vehicles in these areas. There has been the theft of a SID (Speed Indicating Device) (like the one in the village) locally, and parishioners are asked to remain vigilant and to report anything out of the ordinary to the Parish Clerk or parish councillors. The lines on the B0169 have been worn away. This has been brought to the attention of Highways who are to conduct a survey.

OLD MALTHOUSE SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT

Prior to the Langton Matravers Parish Council Meeting on Thursday Feb 9th 2023, Parishioners are invited to attend a brief introduction by Mr. Marcus Clarke of the SATAO Group (owners of The Old Malthouse Site) regarding his wish to involve the community in the choice and scale of housing that we would like for this site.

This consultation is not part of the Parish Council meeting, and will be convened in the Village Hall between 18:30 – 18:55 (prompt). Should there be sufficient interest indicated by Parishioners, a separate Public Meeting would follow at the earliest opportunity.



COUNCIL MEETINGS

Langton Matravers Parish Council meet on the second Thursday of every month at 7 pm in the Village Hall. The next meeting will be 9th February.

Jenny Marshall, Parish Clerk

<http://langtonmatravers-pc.org/contact-us/>

The Swanage + Purbeck Development Trust and Swanage Area Forum are delighted that the Langton Parish Council have decided to join our Purbeck-wide Newsletter. This is the first contribution of many.



Friends of Wareham Hospital

'A New Year, new challenges but also new opportunities and lots to celebrate' - a message from the Chair of Friends, Maggie Hardy.

We ended 2022 with a great result from our Raffle which was drawn at the weekly Saturday coffee morning held at the Parish Hall in Wareham. Thank you to all those who helped us to raise £475 which will be used to support Purbeck services either in the hospital or the wider community.

In early January we heard the wonderful news that Mary Buck, a nurse of many years who worked at Swanage Hospital and at the Purbeck Vaccination Centre at Wareham Hospital had been awarded a British Empire Medal (BEM) in the King's New Year's Honours. We are delighted for Mary and send her our congratulations on this well deserved recognition of her many years of service to us all in Purbeck. In the last two years, Mary has screened a high proportion of those attending for Covid vaccinations - over 100,000 covid vaccinations have been done at Wareham Hospital in that time.

At the time of writing the Vaccination Centre has held its last session for the time being with the hope that



Sue Whitton and Mary Buck

vaccinations will begin again in the Spring and Wareham Hospital will continue to be the venue for our local service as it is sited in the centre of the health locality of Purbeck.

The end of the last session provided a wonderful opportunity for Rafael Meta, Operational Manager to thank the team and to congratulate both Mary on her award and



Mary Buck, Rafael Meta and Sue Whitton

to wish Sue Whitton (a past Sister at Swanage Hospital) who has been regularly vaccinating at the centre since January 2020 and has probably given the highest number of vaccines, every best wish for a special birthday later this month.

In early January I was delighted to be joined by Deirdre Selwyn, Chair of the Swanage Hospital Friends when we were interviewed together by Thelma Deacon at Purbeck Coast Radio. This was an important 'first'. Whilst we have no intention of merging the two Purbeck Friends groups we are planning to work more closely together in support of Purbeck Services. To this end we are also planning the formation of a new Purbeck group to bring together Friends Groups, Practice Patient Participation Groups (PPG's) and other local Purbeck groups (e.g The Purbeck Dementia Friendly Group (which will be formally merging Swanage and Wareham groups in March '23) to help us identify local services and give us a stronger local voice in the maintenance and preservation of Purbeck services.

Our new group will be entitled '**ACTION FOR HEALTH AND CARE IN PURBECK**'

Both Friends' groups would welcome new membership.

In Wareham we can be contacted through the hospital in Streche Road, by phone 01929 557550 or by email; friendsofwarehamhospital@gmail.com

At a time of significant challenge for the NHS, the Friends of Wareham Hospital will continue to work hard to support our local services and the staff who provide those services and as importantly to keep Purbeck 'in profile' so that we do not get forgotten by those 'higher up' making decisions about our future.

Every best wish for 2023,

Maggie Hardy, Chair

A BIG ROTARY NEW YEAR THANK-YOU!



As a New Year unfolds, we'd like to take a moment to look back as well as forward. We want to say a very big thank you to everyone who has supported the work of Swanage & Purbeck Rotary in 2022 - whether through the generosity of your donations, sponsorships, or lending a hand with our various activities and events. We couldn't do half as much without your kind help.

With your support, we were able to send over three hundred Christmas shoeboxes to underprivileged children in Moldova, Romania and Montenegro, and to Ukrainian children who have found sanctuary in Poland. You've also given generously to the Rotary Santa Sleigh as it has toured the streets of Swanage, Langton, Worth & Corfe. And you've shopped at the Christmas Market, posted your local cards via our Charity Mail, and purchased Christmas treats at our pop-up shop in Station Road.

Thanks to you, we've already donated over £28,000 in the past year to many good causes, and in the coming weeks we'll be looking at how we can provide further assistance to our local community in these challenging times. We're also finalising plans for our Spring programme. On Sunday 5 February the local round of the **Rotary Young Musician** competition will be taking place from 2pm. at Swanage Methodist Church. And on the afternoon of 25 February, our very popular **Silver Saturday** will be honouring our community's senior citizens with a slap-up afternoon tea at Emmanuel Baptist Church. We're also planning to hold an open meeting in March to outline how we've been helping the community and to thank everyone in person.

Chris Le Fevre
 President, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary

If you'd like to join us for any of these events, there is more information on our website: www.swanagerotary.org/cio

M.U.S.I.C. CHARITY EVENTS

(**M**usic **U**nlimited for **S**wanage **I**ndependent **C**harities)

VENUE: NEWTON MANOR HALL (170 High Street)**
 (free tea/coffee and cookies, in return for a donation to Charity!)

DATE	TIME	CHARITY FOR THE DAY
TUE 07 FEB	2 - 5 pm	Can Care (based in Swanage)
TUE 07 MAR	2 - 5 pm	Dorset Air Ambulance
TUE 04 APR	2 - 5 pm	Forest Holme Hospice
TUE 02 MAY	2 - 5 pm	Friends of Swanage Hospital
TUE 06 JUN **	2 - 5 pm XX	Can Care

** **Special Guests: Swanage Jazz Machine trio**

** **ENTRANCE ON HIGH STREET, OPP. COW LANE. NOT THE MANOR !!**



Greengage Community Garden



What a great 2022 we had, with various events and craft workshops that took place in our garden and our large greenhouse facility.

CHRISTMAS FAIR.

Our Christmas fair, held on the 9th December, was a great event, despite the cold weather. It was very well attended and visitors enjoyed the many plants, lovely home made wreaths, and what was thought to be the the worlds first and only Reindeer Raffle. There were also hot drinks and home made cakes available. As always at Greengage, everything was by donation, or suggested donation for larger items.



FOOD BANK STORE

Our food bank has been busy at times through the various seasons, and this year we want to develop this resource to further help others in the community.



LAST VOLUNTEER / SOCIAL DAY OF 2022

Despite being a cold day, it was lovely and clear for our many volunteers to enjoy hot mince pies and other goodies around our fire. It was a nice sociable couple of hours for everyone to chat over the years events.

The garden was then closed, apart from the occasional watering of plants in the greenhouse.

The garden will re-open in late February, where we aim to continue to encourage gardening for wellbeing, and for people to come along for a chat with us or just to enjoy the garden.

WORK PARTIES FOR 2023

NEW NATIVE HEDGE

On the 27th January there will be a work party of volunteers planting a new native hedge along the back of the site. In time this will not only provide a natural boundary, but also create a wildlife corridor linking the two other established hedgerows.

WORK PARTY

On 10th February there will be another work party of volunteers cutting back the existing boundary hedges, and also pruning the apple trees.

WEB SITE

Although it has only been live for a few months, the site www.greengagecg.co.uk has been a very successful venture. It has already had 1,145 visits, which is a very good result, especially as it has only been generated by either telling visitors to the garden, or by word and mouth.

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

December 6th Saw us having our usual Christmas fun with mulled wine and mince pies and some dressed in a variety of Christmas hats. We all arrived armed with a ruler and a pencil ready to make a presentation envelope that when opened up became a heart shape. We had a template to follow which we used as a base to size up, if preferred, and lots of sparkly bits to decorate it into an attractive gift to hang on the Christmas tree.

Sue showed us the 'Wonder Bag' that she had made and told us how she had cooked pumpkin soup in it. Basically she cooked it for 10 minutes on the stove then wrapped the pot in this beautifully insulated cover and left it for 3 hours to cook unaided. It is a slow cooker without the need for power and is a very economical way to cook, based on the old idea of hay boxes, used in the pas, in rural settings.

At our **January 3rd 2023** meeting we started the New Year trying to work off some of the Christmas feasting by learning and joining in a simple Qi Gong programme. This helped to balance both our minds and bodies. We first had a demonstration from Penny Youssef in standing and then we followed in an upright sitting posture; nothing too demanding but enough to get our Yin and Yang functioning well. We also learnt a bit about this ancient Chinese movement art, developed initially about 3000 years ago as an adjunct to traditional Chinese medicine. Tai Chi has since developed this technique further by encompassing martial arts' postures.

This meeting was slightly rearranged from the usual format, starting at 1.45pm rather than 2pm to allow us to



get our cups of tea and some lovely cake before we had the monthly notices and then the demonstration and activity. We will see how this new arrangement pans out and what feedback the members will give about it. It was our annual open meeting for partners and other visitors to join us.

February 7th – Sadly the Village Hall still does not have internet access, so the talk on the 'History of the Carry On Films' by Steve Dimmer has had to be postponed and instead Jacquie Hall, the Lady Town Crier from Wareham, will entertain us with stories about her interesting and amusing role. It should be fun.

Our satellite groups of walkers, strollers, book clubs and lunch club have all continued with their monthly meetings. The Sewing Group is making a welcome return on Friday January 27th at 11am in the Bill Carter Room when Sue Sedgley will give us the pattern to make the 'Wonder Bag' cooker. We just need to provide the materials and our sewing machines. These smaller groups of members provide an additional source of camaraderie.

We, of course, always welcome new members, so if you are interested in joining us in the future, please email 2008aquariusbodies@gmail.com or contact me on Tel: 01929 480007

Christine Kemp



Langton Matravers Local History and Preservation Society

We are very pleased to report that Langton Matravers Local History + Preservation Society (LMLHPS) are back in action!

We started our programme for the year on 26th January with a brilliant talk by Ben Buxton on 'The Mysteries of Creech Barrow'. In February and March, we have three fascinating events, all at Langton Matravers Village Hall:

Thursday 16th February - NICK REED talk on EAST INDIAMAN WRECKS OF THE DORSET COAST, including the 'Earl of Abergavenny' and the 'Halsewell'.

Thursday 23rd March - MARY SPARKS talk on THE SALE OF WORTH MATRAVERS in 1919, followed by a short HISTORY OF WORTH VILLAGE SCHOOL.

Doors will open from 7pm, talks begin at 7.30pm. £3 members, £4 non-members. You can join the Society or renew your membership on the door !

On Tuesday, 28th February at 10.30am. there will be an OPEN meeting for Museum custodians and 'interested others' in the Events room at Langton Village Hall. ALL are welcome to attend: do come along to find out more about the Society, about volunteering and getting involved. Refreshments will be served. Put the date in your diary now, and we look forward to seeing you there.

Another Date for your Diary: The Stone Museum in St George's Close will re-open on 1st April.

Mary Sparks, Daryle Pearson,
Publicity and Communications for LMLHPS

The work of Purbeck Connect Ukraine



For one year now, fleeing the war in Ukraine, refugees have made their way to Purbeck - women and children, and a few men, too.

When they've arrived with hardly any money to buy food, we've delivered parcels from the Foodbank.

When they've been in need of a cuppa and a chat, we've invited them to our social meetings so they can get to know one another.

When they've still been strangers, we've put them in touch with host families and helped with the paperwork.

When they've found that none of their clothes are suitable for the season, we've supplied them with clothing from the Wardrobe Foundation and other donors.

When they've wanted to know what to do if they become sick, we've helped them register with the medical centre.

When they've found themselves in a place they never envisaged they would be, we've visited them and offered our support.

Join with our volunteers in continuing this timeless work for as long as it takes

For more information, please contact:
purbeckconnectukraine@gmail.com
tel. 07506 837141



Corfe Community Kitchen

Soup 'n Pud

Free Lunch

Saturday 4th February 2023
12.30 - 1.45pm
Corfe Castle Village Hall

Come and join your friends for a simple lunch.
Families especially welcome.

A choice of 2 soups, one vegetarian and one with meat, plus roll
Followed by
A choice of puds with custard

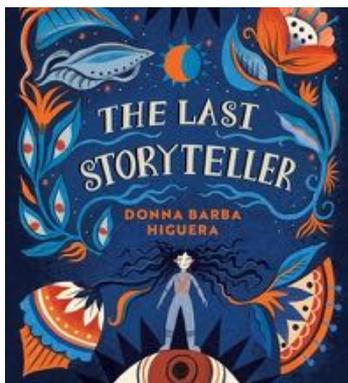
Corfe Community Kitchen (CCK) is an independent not-for-profit group set up by Chris, Sue and Gill.

CCK aims to provide free monthly Soup 'n Pud lunches using healthy and sustainable ingredients. It serves the community of Corfe Castle Parish and is supported by local businesses, individuals and organisations.

If you wish to make a donation feel free to do so but it is not obligatory.

National Storytelling week Stories and crafts

Join us for stories and crafts and receive a free copy of *The Last Storyteller*. Ages 3 and above.



Swanage Library

Saturday 4 February
2:00pm - 3:00pm



Booking available via Eventbrite

For more information 01929 423485

Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent or carer.

@DorsetLibraries DorsetLibraries



dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries

Pop-in

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

Food for Thought

– a community comes together

For so many now, just getting by is a struggle. The BBC reported recently that food prices are rising at their fastest rate for 45 years. Energy and fuel costs are also high. Times are tough for hard pressed families.

Yet, in Swanage and Purbeck, our community has come together to support those who are food insecure.

“Food for Thought Purbeck” has been set up under the umbrella of the Swanage and Purbeck Development Group.

A steering group, composed of Town Councillors, church leaders, members of community organisations and representatives from schools, oversees the initiative. A grant has been obtained from Dorset Council, whose community engagement officer has warmly welcomed the project.

Research, confirmed by Dorset Council’s own analysis, clearly confirms the need for “Food for Thought” in Swanage and Purbeck. In order to ensure a response which is timely and immediate, contact has been made with FareShare, a national charity recycling good quality surplus supermarket food.

The first FareShare Mobile Larder called in at St Mark’s Primary School on Monday 9 January. Swanage parents signed up as FareShare Members purchased good quality food at low cost – for example a bag of 20 items for a family of 4 or more cost £5.

Initially membership of FareShare is being offered to families through schools. All four schools in Swanage – together with schools in Langton and Corfe – have enthusiastically embraced the initiative.

Keen to offer a good deal to their families, our schools have already requested more memberships than one mobile Larder can accommodate. Our schools deserve praise – they are truly at the heart of their communities.

If demand requires it, FareShare has indicated we may be able to secure a second mobile Larder.

Food for Thought volunteers can signpost attendees to CAB for further support if needed.

The measure of a community is surely how it reaches out to those in need of support, to those who are vulnerable or in need.

It is heartening, therefore, to see “Food for Thought Purbeck” so well supported and welcomed – as Anne Frank said – “no one has ever become poor by giving”

Chris Bradey
Chair, Food for Thought Purbeck

Photos courtesy of Swanage.News





Museum visitors greeted by a Double Act!

Sue and Derek Double are enjoying a much-needed winter break after another season looking after visitors to the Purbeck Mining Museum at Norden. With visitor numbers continuing to grow, Sue and Derek are part of the Front of House team, greeting visitors and providing information about the museum.

“Last year was very enjoyable year for everyone connected with the museum after the hiatus from the lockdowns, and the venue is continuing to go from strength to strength,” says Sue, who has been actively involved with the museum since 2015.

“We’re now hosting more and more group visits and it’s always fun tailoring our tours and discussions for different age groups, although many visitors still like to discover the secrets of our clay mining heritage for themselves. Visitor feedback has been really positive and this year we’re hoping to extend our opening hours so are expecting to see visitor numbers continue to climb.”

“The Museum is run entirely by volunteers,” adds Derek. “We are always looking out for new people to join our enthusiastic team – not just meeting, greeting and advising visitors, but also helping to maintain and develop our facilities and resources as well as the surrounding landscape. You don’t have to be an expert in clay mining or the heritage of the Purbecks to become involved. It’s really a case of enjoying being part of a team and meeting new people from all over the world who may know very little about this beautiful part of the country. Now that Sue and I are both retired, enjoying the outdoors and doing something so worthwhile is also really good for the soul!”

More information on the Purbeck Mining Museum can be found at <http://purbeckminingmuseum.org>. If you are keen to join the Museum’s team of volunteers, just complete the form on the website.

For further information or any additional photos, please contact:

Ron Dyson: 01935 83622; ron.dyson@auroracomms.net



Sue and Derek Double work as part-time volunteers at the Purbeck Mining Museum in Norden.



Derek Double likes helping with work around the Purbeck Mining Museum when he is not working with Sue at the Museum’s front of house.



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans



LANGTON MATRAVERS VILLAGE HALL

Happy New Year from all at Langton Village Hall

We are pleased to announce the following regular events in the Village hall

MONDAY EVENINGS - 7 - 9pm. TABLE TENNIS all welcome. For more information contact Collette on 01929 422832

TUESDAY EVENINGS - 7.30 - 9.45pm. COUNTRY DANCING. Contact Mike on 01929 421913 email. mhwalshaw@talktalk.net

FRIDAY EVENINGS- 7 - 9pm SHORT MAT BOWLS. Please contact Beryl on 01929 425226 or Peter on 01929 427328

TUESDAY MORNINGS 9 - 12noon. PILATES WITH JOHANNA. Contact Johanna for more details 07920 421783

2nd and 4th WEDNESDAY MORNING. 10.00 - 12.00noon COMMUNITY LIBRARY in the Memorial Room - we have a good selection of books, DVDs and Puzzles to borrow and there is always a welcome cuppa and biscuits waiting for you. All welcome.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

LANGTON MATRAVERS HISTORY SOCIETY will be hosting exciting talks in FEBRUARY and MARCH. 7-00 for 7-30pm £3.00 for members, £4.00 for guests ALL ARE WELCOME

Our beautiful Village hall is available for hire . We also have two smaller rooms, the Events Room and the Memorial Room which can also be hired. We have a brand new kitchen complete with fridge, dishwasher, large cooker and a warming cabinet and a good supply of crockery, glasses and cutlery.

For more details please contact either Daryle - 07786 433442 or Collette 01929 422832 - or visit the website www.langtonvillagehall.co.uk

Thursday 16th FEBRUARY - NICK REED talks on the EAST INDIAMAN WRECKS OF THE DORSET COAST. Including the HALSEWELL and the EARL OF ABERGAVENNY

Thursday 23rd MARCH - DR. MARY SPARKS talks on THE SALE OF WORTH 1919 and the SHORT HISTORY OF WORTH VILLAGE SCHOOL

Following on from last year's very successful **ARTSREACH** Events, LANGTON VILLAGE HALL are pleased to announce that the following acts will be appearing -

Sunday 12th FEB - 7.30pm - JANICE BURNS & JON DORAN These rising folk stars, Janice Burns & Jon Doran are an Anglo-Scottish duo who came together after discovering a shared love of traditional music. They find their songs in archives that span the depths of our history .Their compelling storytelling comes alive through tight vocal harmonies and sensitive interplay between mandolin, bouzouki, and guitar.

Saturday 4th MARCH - 7.30pm - LATCHEPEN Latchepen are born out of a collective admiration of Django Reinhardt and anything that swings. Acoustic by nature, Latchepen perform jazz on strings, with influences ranging from Romani music through to bebop. They regularly play at Ronnie Scotts, and tour all over the UK playing arts venues and village halls as well as all over the world at festivals such as the Django Reinhardt festival, Turin Jazz Festival and March Manouche (UK).

Tickets for sale from Trevs Deli, Kings Arms, Langton Matravers, Keith Coombes 01929 423834 or via Artsreach website - www.artsreach.co.uk

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

Thanks must go to our Purbeck Community who are continually so Generous

Christmas is over and the New Year started with a huge amount of food donations to sort and date: which, once again, means an equally huge thanks to all our community which has given so generously.

Many food banks are struggling to provide for their clients, but Swanage Food Bank has been blessed both financially and with food items.

Our main difficulty is limited storage, and we really can't accommodate any more baby nappies and female sanitary products. Social Services have contacted us as they, too, have been overwhelmed with the quantity of these items given to them. However, at Swanage Food Bank, we have recently been able to re-allocate the baby items to a toddler's group, and the feminine hygiene goods have been collected on behalf of our Ukrainian visitors. .

Our current needs are limited, but we always need jars of instant coffee (decaff and with caffeine), tins of

Swanage Food Bank



corned beef, Spam, chopped pork, chicken in white sauce, minced beef in gravy, and Irish stew. We have plenty of pasta and sufficient rice for the present, but are short of instant noodles. Tins of baked beans and soup are also fully stocked so not needed for the time being.

You'll appreciate if you have followed some of our updates, that our needs greatly vary from month to month. But we always need fresh apples and other fruit, veg, and eggs - donations of these should be brought to SFB at the Salvation Army lower hall in King's Road East on Mon, Wed or Fri - between noon and 2.00 pm when our Team is on Duty there. Thank you.

Finally, may we wish you all, clients and donors, a peaceful, healthy and hope-filled New Year.

Pauline Werba, Chair SFB



Any Questions?

Rev. Professor James Woodward
Principal of Sarum College
asks the question:

'Ageing: Blessing or Burden?'

Tuesday 7th February
Swanage Methodist Church
Swanage High Street

DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM AND
PRESENTATION FROM 7PM

Any Questions? Ageing: blessing or burden?

The very next Any Questions? Swanage is on the highly pressing topic of Ageing, and the church's response to this ever-increasing demand on our culture, our resources, and our hearts.

Join us on Tuesday, 7th February at the beautiful Methodist Church in Swanage (High Street) to hear the Principal of Sarum College - The Revd Canon Professor James Woodward speak truth into an issue we will all face: Ageing: blessing or burden?

We'll gather from 6.30pm and the presentation will begin at 7.00pm.

If you'd like to prepare some questions to ask James, you can email Lex in advance: lex@swanage-urc.co.uk and he promises he'll capture the answers even if you cannot attend physically.

Everyone welcome



What's On in February 2023



Tickets for live shows and movies are bookable from the front page of www.themowlem.com

THE MOWLEM OPEN DAY 2023

SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 11am to 4pm

We are excited to open up The Mowlem for Swanage residents, businesses and visitors to meet staff, volunteers and trustees on Saturday, 11th February. On the day, there will be information stalls upstairs in the community room, talks and demonstrations on stage in the auditorium and activities in The Showbar. Visitors will also be able to learn more about our vision and aims for The Mowlem.

LIVE SHOWS and MUSIC:

- **Artsreach Present She'Koyokh** - She'Koyokh is an international, virtuosic and award-winning band comprising seven expert musicians who play klezmer and traditional music from the Balkans and Turkey.
Friday 3rd at 7.30 pm
- **Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years** - Critically acclaimed as one of the greatest tribute shows in the world, Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years will take to the stage with iconic songs inc. The Sound of Silence, Mrs Robinson, The Boxer and the smash hit Bridge Over Troubled Water.
Friday 10th at 7.30 pm
- **The Addams Family - The Swanage School** return to The Mowlem, bringing you the kooky, upside-down world of the Addams Family. In one fateful, hilarious night, secrets are disclosed, relationships are tested, and the Addams family must face up to the one horrible thing they've managed to avoid for generations: change.
Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th & Saturday 25th at 7.30 pm
Matinée on Saturday 25th at 2.30 pm

EVENTS IN THE SHOWBAR (Upstairs at The Mowlem)

- **Rob Mill's Trackside Cooptimists plus DJ Paul Angel**
Led by Baritonista Rob Mills, The Cooptimists present a fundraising evening on behalf of Food For Thought Purbeck's new Mobile Larder. Expect Funky, Jazzy Grooves, Live looping, Saxophones, Bongos, Congas, Afro beats, Latin rhythms & good vibes!
Saturday 18th Feb at 7.30 pm - FREE ENTRY, donations encouraged!

MOWLEM VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

- **'Formation' - The next Visual Arts exhibition is from Sally Maltby.** Moving to the Jurassic Coast was a revelation to Sally, who has always been fascinated by rocks and their formations and the colours and history, expressing the seemingly permanent affected by accelerated erosion.
The exhibition will be free to explore from January 27th through March 21st.

MOVIES

- **Empire of Light (R)**
A moving drama about the power of human connection during turbulent times. Set in and around a faded old cinema in an English coastal town in the early 1980s.
Friday, 27th January to Thursday, 2nd February at 7.30 pm (excluding Sunday)
- **A Man Called Otto (15)**
Based on the comical and moving New York Times bestseller, A Man Called Otto tells the story of Otto (Tom Hanks), a grumpy widower whose only joy comes from criticising and judging his exasperated neighbours.
Saturday, 4th February to Thursday, 9th February at 7.30 pm (excluding Sunday)
Monday Matinée on Monday 6th at 2.30 pm
- **Aftersun (12A)**
At a fading vacation resort, 11-year-old Sophie treasures rare time with her loving and ideological father, Calum (Paul Mescal), in Charlotte Wells' superb and searingly emotional debut film.
Saturday, 11th February to Friday, 17th February at 7.30 pm (including Sunday)
- **Living (12A)**
In 1950s London, a humourless civil servant decides to take time off work to experience life after receiving a grim diagnosis.
Starring Bill Nighy.
Monday 20th, Tuesday 21st & Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30 pm
- **The Fabelmans Film (12A)**
Growing up in post-World War II era Arizona, Sammy Fabelman aspires to become a filmmaker but soon discovers a shattering family secret and explores how the power of films can help him see the truth. Directed by Steven Spielberg and starring Michelle Williams.
Monday, 27th February through to Thursday 2nd March at 7.30 pm
Monday Matinée on Monday 27th at 2.30 pm

CLUBS and SOCIETIES:

- **The Making Memories Dementia Friendly** cafe is Tuesday 7th & 21st February, at 10.00 am in The Showbar.
- **The Flower Club** will meet on Thursday, 16th February, at 9 am in the Community Room.
- **Health Qigong Fitness** with Penny meets every Wednesday at 2 pm & 3.30 pm during February in the Community Room.
- **Slimming World** is held every Wednesday through February at 6 pm in the Community Room.



Latest News from Corfe Castle Parish Council

Proposed 5G telecom technology in Corfe Castle Parish: The Council recently received a letter from a third-party drawing our attention to a proposal by Cellnex to install mobile phone communications apparatus at Rollington Hill. The Parish Council has written to the communications company and asked them to join us at our next full council meeting in February to give us a talk through the proposal and answer some questions we have on the safety of the technology.

Kings Coronation: The Kings coronation working group for the Parish Council, will hold a meeting (no date confirmed) to discuss possible celebration events. The Parish Council would welcome help to organise an event from other local organisations / groups as well as individuals.

Anyone interested in helping should contact the Clerk.

20mph Speed Limit in Corfe Castle Parish: Corfe Castle Parish Council support the national campaign to reduce the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph in towns and villages and have established a working group to research the following:

1. An application to Dorset Council for a 20mph speed limit through Corfe Castle village and other surrounding areas.
2. The viability of CCPC making a joint application for a 20mph speed limit through all Purbeck towns and villages

Community Speed Watch: In the last 6 months the Community Speed Watch Teams have carried out 7 roadside sessions, some with the presence of a Dorset Police Speed Camera Operator. In total 4995 cars have been checked with 14 registered as traveling above the speed limit threshold. Of the 14 cars speeding 12 warning letters have been issued by Dorset police to the vehicle owners.

Annual Parish Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting date and format has been set for 2023. The meeting will take place on Monday 22nd May 2023 from 7pm in the Village Hall (Main Hall), The format will be very similar to previous years, where a few local groups will be invited to give a 3-minute presentation showcasing their group, followed by an update from the Parish Council on the work we have achieved this year and future plans, followed by question from the Members of the Public. The Annual Parish Meeting is your opportunity to let us know what projects you would like to see the Parish Council investigate. Any local group wishing to showcase their group should contact the Clerk via email, spaces will be limited to 6 groups maximum.

Discouraging More Second Homes: The Parish Council's motion supporting proposals in the Levelling Up Bill to discourage the growth in second homes was agreed by the AGM of the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils and is being sent to MPs and other organisations.

Traffic Management & Parking Plan: The Parish Council are working with Purbeck Transport Action Group, the National Trust and Dorset Council on a variety of issues including: Drop-down kerb requirements, A drop-off / pick-up point for restricted mobility passengers, Parking restrictions in West Street & East Street, Improved public bus services & infrastructure, Better rail service integration with other travel modes, Measures to cope with holiday traffic, inconsiderate / illegal parking, 20mph Speed Limit, Cycle routes on / off road from Swanage to Poole, & EV Charing points. If there is a specific issue which affects you please contact the Clerk.

Planning application & Treework application update: The following applications have been received by Corfe Castle Parish Council.

Application No: P/HOU/2022/07821, Location: Filbank Corner, Halves Cottages, Corfe Castle, BH20 5EY Recommend: No objection.

Application No: P/FUL/2022/07893, Location: Peake House, Valley Road, Harmans Cross BH20, Recommend: No objection.

Application No: P/PABA/2022/08043, Location: Westwood Farm Access to Westwood Farm, Corfe Castle, Recommended: No Objection.

Application No: P/LBC/2022/07692 (withdrawn) now P/HOU/2023/00112, Location: 2 South St, Kingston. Recommend: The shed be painted a darker colour and the hedge be restored with new planting to provide visual barrier from the road, otherwise no objection.

Application No: P/LBC/2022/08042, Location: Vineyard Farm Cottage BH20 5DY, Recommend: No objection

Application No. P/LBC/2022/08015, Location Corfe Castle Town Trust Town Hall West Street Corfe Castle BH20 5HE. Recommend: No objection.

Application No: P/LBC/2022/07894, Location: 37-39 West Street, Corfe Castle, BH20 5HA. Recommend: No Objection

Full details for all planning applications can be found on the Dorset Council website, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning>

Next Council Meeting – Monday 13th February 2023, at 7pm in the Corfe Castle Village Hall, Bill Carter Room. To start the meeting is a public half hour, so please come and join us and have your say.

Parish Council contact details:

Clerk: Michelle Harrington,

Telephone: 01202 670105, **Email:** clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk, **Write:** 34 Egmont Rd, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ



Oak Tree for the Queen Jubilee: On a cold snowy December day, 'Crazy 4 Corfe', Suttle Stone Quarries, Holme for Gardens & Corfe Castle Parish Council, planted an Oak Tree in Gods Acre in honour of the late Queen's 70-year reign.



Citizens Advice Can Help with Winter Worries Swanage residents are reminded that free support and help is available this winter if worried about debt and paying bills.

Cost of Living and Debt: The cost of living crisis is an ongoing concern and this combined with worrying about paying bills can cause additional worry and stress. If, like many, you have debts and find you can't afford to reduce these after paying your priority bills and essentials, seek advice as soon as possible. Don't feel you have to manage your situation alone. Our debt advice is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. We also hold free Income Maximisation advice sessions by appointment at locations across Dorset. Specialist advisers are able to advise on a range of money-related topics with the aim of helping people to budget and manage finances more confidently.

Energy: The ongoing increase in energy costs has resulted in many people feeling anxious and worried about paying energy bills. Citizens Advice have a team of energy advisers who can help if you are struggling with energy bills or your supplier. We can offer advice and check to see if you are eligible for extra income or benefits. We can also offer energy saving tips and advice. If you would like to speak to an energy adviser,

call the Energy Line on 01929 775500, leave a message and someone will return your call. Or email:

energy@edpcitizensadvice.org.uk

Mobile Advice Bus: Our new mobile advice bus will soon be out and about providing vulnerable residents with access to free advice and support. The cost of living crisis has meant that many more people are in need of advice with some unable to access current services due to rural isolation, restricted mobility, cost of fuel or limited access to public transport. The mobile advice unit will deliver a service to rural areas in and around Purbeck & East Dorset, for those who cannot easily access outreaches, local libraries or are digitally excluded.

Drop-in Locations: Local residents can call into one of the drop-in sessions at the following locations. Advice is free and no appointment is necessary:

- Swanage Library - Wednesday 10am-12pm (except first Wednesday of the month)
- Herston Village Hall, Swanage – Monday 10am-2pm
- Wareham Citizens Advice – Tuesday & Thursday, 10am-12pm
- Lytchett Matravers Library - Friday 10am-12noon
- Lytchett Minster & Upton Town Council – Tuesday 10am-12pm
- Upton Library – Wednesday 2pm-4pm

For more information about Citizens Advice services visit www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk or to speak to an adviser, call the Dorset Adviceline Freephone on 0800 144 8848, 10am-4pm weekdays.

Ukraine Relief – Goods for Ukraine



Imagine that you were living without power for 20 hours a day or worse, in a bombed out house or refugee shelter. Just think what sort of things you might want especially in bitterly cold conditions (which will last for at least the next 3 months).

Ukraine Relief (ukrainerelief.org.uk) is a large charitable organisation operating out of the old Argos building in Castlepoint shopping centre. They have lorries taking 20 tons of goods out to Poland/Ukraine roughly every week to a large network of distributors. They are also sending over as many generators as possible costing approx. £500. Any donations, large or small can be made online by the Donate button on their website ukrainerelief.org.uk

We are collecting goods from the Swanage & Corfe Castle environs and delivering them to Castlepoint. So now is a good time to clear out all those things you or your friends have been keeping 'just in case'. The following list is a good starting point although it's not comprehensive.

Waterproofs, winter coats/fleeces, warm woollies, scarves/hats etc., boots, candles - used or otherwise as they get melted down, torches & batteries, bandages, painkillers, sanitary products, small electrical goods, mobility aids, any longlife food, sleeping bags or mats, tents plus camping equipment, household items including pots, pans & disposable cutlery, toys and pet related items. Also old laptops/tablets etc. which will be taken back to factory settings before being sent out.

Please let me know if you, or any family or friends, have anything to donate and we can collect, if necessary. My contact details are sallyhc3@gmail.com or 07920436420.



The passing of Bob Field - a truly inspirational man

IT IS with great sadness that we of The Swanage Museum Committee have to announce the sudden death of Robert (Bob) Field aged 83 at his home on 24th January.

Bob was one of the three members of the original production team of The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust's and Swanage Area Forum's newsletter, using his amazing graphic artist skills, until he decided to shed some of his volunteering activities in January 2021

Bob as a crucial volunteer for the Swanage Museum, was the original inspirer for the rebuilding of The Albert Memorial on the Swanage Downs. His pioneering dedication to this project lasted many years and was eventually taken up by a generous local benefactor and with the professional assistance of The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust, the project was completed in 2021.

Bob was also the Art Director for the Swanage Museum and in his period of governance an amazing amount of research was done culminating in an Encyclopaedia of Purbeck Art, of which one version is on display at The Swanage Museum's Heritage Centre and another at The Swanage Museum's History Centre's Art Gallery. His eye for perfection is there to be seen.

Bob loved passing on his knowledge, having spent his earlier life as a teacher. Other activities for the Swanage Museum included giving brilliant talks on history and Art to many local organisations. He also produced the graphic work essential for most of the Swanage Museum's public display boards, including the recent 'Swanage in Bygone Days' with displays not just at the Museum, but in the front windows of many local businesses. His dedication to meticulously creating high quality and informative work was second to none and was also evident in his work with mosaics and his own creative paintings.

Dear Bob will leave a huge gap in the Museum's volunteer work force and Swanage will miss his enormous contributions to community life, for Bob was not only a dedicated and talented volunteer, he was a great humanitarian. His graphics' work and general educational skills for other organisations in Swanage included in pre-Covid times, working with clients at The Swanage Day Centre.

In December last, Bob was awarded a plaque by The Dorset County Museum's Association 'Dorset Museums Volunteers of the year award' for his dedicated services for Swanage; so richly deserved.

Bob, though he has now passed, will always be part of The Swanage Museum and also part of the town he loved; his modesty, his cheery smile and twinkling eyes, will be remembered with great fondness. His legacy lives on

Mel Norris (Chairman-Swanage Museum & Heritage Centre)



Photo: courtesy of Dorset Life

What a fun start to the year we've had



So much rain, so much ice. Brrrrr !

In between there have been some amazing sunrises and sunsets. If you haven't been out yet to enjoy one, make some time to. Durlston, Old Harry, Peveril Point and West Hill in Corfe... and there many more secret local spots.

Last year we found ourselves involved more than ever with stuff going on in the local community. My colleague, Alex, was closely involved with the fantastic work Wellbeing Swanage have done to try to pull together resources to help people with the cost of living – they'll also feature in this newsletter, so do make sure you read their updates!

With The Swanage School and St Marks School, we're working together in different ways, looking to improve the lives of the children who attend through providing better access to our spaces/or involvement in our cause. The highlight for me was teaming up The Swanage School with a Dorset Rap artist and streetdancer to produce a work in response to their experience of Studland dunes! With much closer links established, hopefully we'll continue to work together well.

The new year heralds new things. Depending on your view, change is not always a welcome thing. Yet, living in a coastal location means that we are not always in charge of the pace of change. We're experiencing that at Middle Beach Studland, the first in a number of projects that will take place across the Studland peninsular responding to the changing coast and rising sea levels (and brutal easterly storms). Swanage is facing into the changes too. It can be very unsettling and not every change feels better than what went before.

Over the winter I have found myself browsing books and the internet for stories about Purbeck. It's dark and cold outside. I came across the online annual reports for the health boards of Swanage, and Wareham & Purbeck via the Wellcome Collection's website: [Wellcomecollection.org](https://www.wellcomecollection.org) (search Swanage). They are from 1930s to 1970 and track a time when supplying clean water, sewerage and habitable homes were an aspiration. Not all change was welcome at the time, and not everything was easy. Some of the changes weren't that successful initially. But, over that period an ongoing programme of work did deliver beneficial changes to the Purbeck population that were transformational (I'm sure some of the details here are debatable!) and provided clean water, sewerage and habitable homes. That took a lot of people a lot of work to deliver, and those who started out with the vision and drive probably weren't around to see it completed. Some change takes a long time!



Shell Bay at dawn

Enjoy the spring that is coming...

Tom Clarke, National Trust



FRIENDS OF SWANAGE HOSPITAL

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

January started on a really positive note, when we were delighted to hear that Mary Buck was awarded the British Empire Medal (BEM) in the New Year Honours List. Mary, who, for more years than she would care to remember, worked as a Theatre/MIU Nurse in the Hospital and still remains on the Nursing Bank to assist in MIU when needed. Very well done, Mary.

January also saw the beginning of a new group in Purbeck ('Action for Health and Care in Purbeck') initiated by the Wareham Friends, which brought together representatives from the GP surgeries' Patient Participation Groups, as well as other Purbeck organisations linked to Health or Social Care. The purpose of this group is to campaign to retain current services

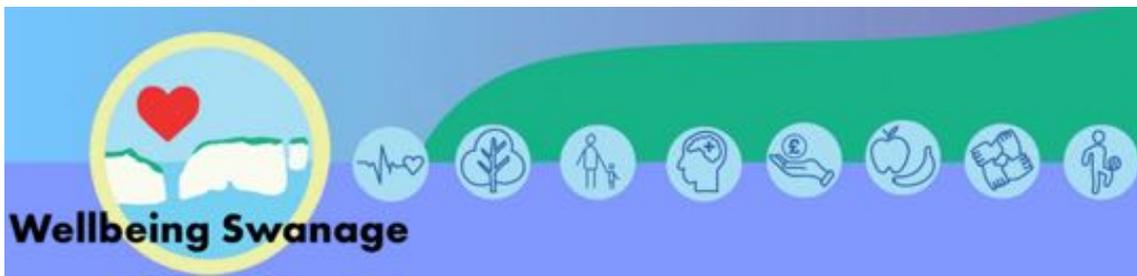
and influence the development of new services in Health and Social Care within Purbeck and we, as Friends of Swanage Hospital, are pleased to be part of this.

Many of you may have read of the recent appointment of a Joint Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to lead both Dorset County Hospital and Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust (the organisation who own and run Swanage Hospital). After a rigorous selection process, Mathew Bryan, who has extensive experience in working across both Acute and Community services was selected. We look forward to him visiting Swanage Hospital to meet both the Staff and our Friends' Committee.

Finally, we say a massive 'thankyou' to our caring, dedicated staff (nursing, therapy, ancillary and Office) at the hospital, who during the recent industrial action taken by nurses, ensured that the inpatients on the Stanley Purser Ward were not adversely affected at all.

Wishing you all a "Healthy" 2023.

Deirdre Selwyn, Chair, Friends of Swanage Hospital



Wellbeing Swanage – A project of Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust

Well that was a whirlwind few months here at Wellbeing Swanage, we have been very busy working with the SPDT and other projects to get things moving locally again.

Cost of Living Crisis: we were able to work with other community partners to put together the report for the Town Council on how the cost of living is affecting our local community. From this networking event, the community has been able to provide a coordinated offering of **warm spaces** across the town and outlying villages. These are open to everyone and a great friendly space to meet others, have a cuppa and a warm. Not visited one yet, why not? They would love to see you and say hello. **Food for Thought Purbeck** Fareshare scheme gained momentum and is now providing a service at Herston. **Warm the person** fabulous knitters and makers have been busy crafting blankets, hats and draft excluders for the local community, distributed through the Community Pantry at Herston. **The Community Pantry** now has a community fridge that helps reduce the local surplus food. **A Community Purse** working with the Rotary to create a fund to help local projects from donations of winter fuel payments. This is to name just a few; we are excited to be supporting others to take forward more local ideas. The full report will be available on the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust website <https://www.sandpdt.org.uk/>

Not surprisingly one of the biggest findings was that a lot of information and support is available out there but not necessarily accessible to everyone. This is where we are aiming to help with the updated Wellbeing Swanage website, which is due to re-launch in late February, we are looking to provide a place where the local community can access information to support their health and wellbeing and much more.

Part of the website is **The Directory** – which hosts information about low or no cost groups, services and support in Swanage and local area, as well as information about regional and national organisations across a broad spectrum of subjects. We will be contacting any groups currently on the directory to check your information ready for the new website. If you are a local group or service and would like to be included, please email us at spdtmain@gmail.com



www.wellbeingswanage.org

Community Connector Information Sessions – how often do you find yourself having a conversation with someone and sharing information about a group, an activity, or some helpful information you have heard about? Why not join one of our information sessions to find out about how the community connectors work? Helping us to create a community of connectors for Swanage and the surrounding villages. We will be offering online and face to face sessions in the coming months, lasting for about fifty minutes it is a great way to link up with other local people to find out more. Contact us at spdtmain@gmail.com to find out more and book a place.

Already a community connector, we hosted our first refresh session last week, which was a great success, we will be looking to host our second in April. An email invitation will be sent out again to all registered connectors, join us for an opportunity to find out about what is happening locally and share information. Not had an email invitation? please let us know spdtmain@gmail.com



DEADLINE
for contributions to the March 2023 issue
of the Newsletter
FRIDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2023

Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans