

DIRECTORY OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

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CORFE VALLEY NEWS



FEBRUARY 2024

*An independent magazine for
the villages of Corfe Castle, Church Knowle,
Furzebrook, Kingston, Kimmeridge, Steeple and environs*

Printed by Octopress Printers Ltd

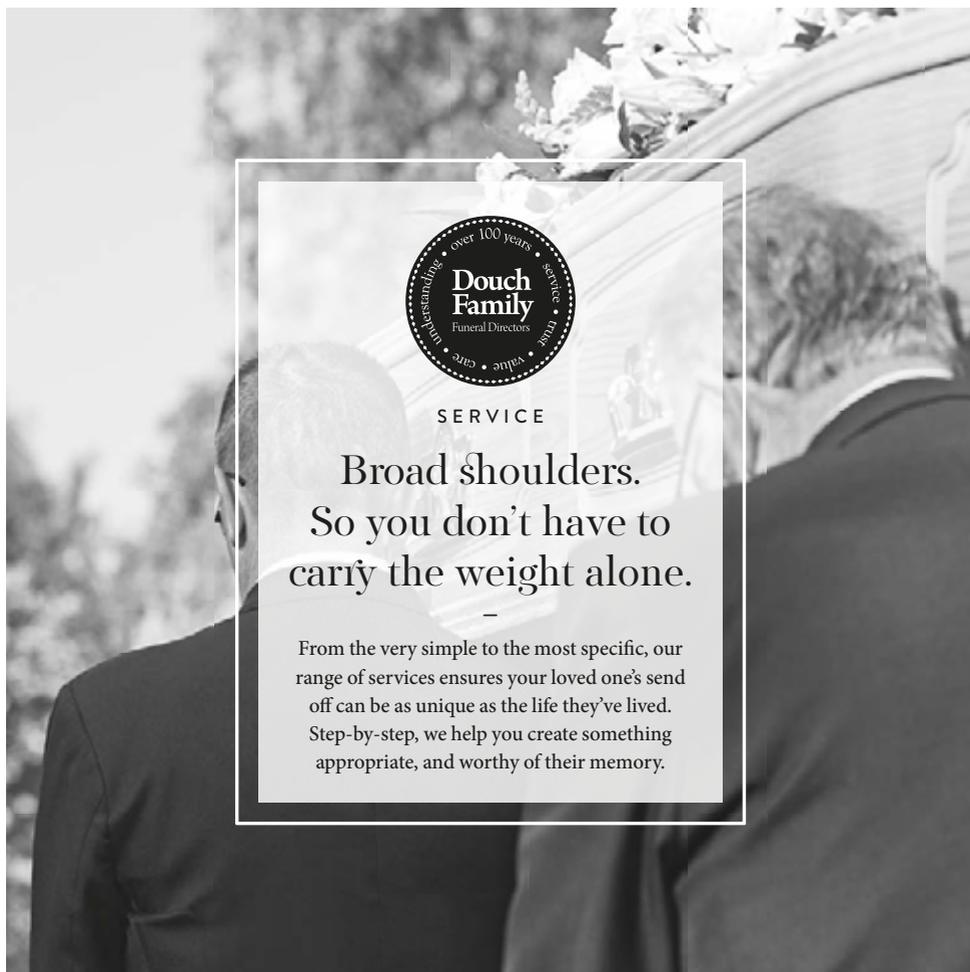
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Corfe Valley News

A monthly magazine providing news, information and items of interest for the villages of Corfe Castle, Kingston, Church Knowle, Kimmeridge, Steeple and environs.

Established June 1982
Issue No 502 February 2024

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James Kirkwood 1985-91
Geoff Marshall 1991-96
Kate Macdonald 1996-97
Linda Applin 1997 - 2004

Please send items for publication by 5 pm on the **15th** of the preceding month. All contributions can be left at 55 East Street or at The Post Office, Corfe Castle.

Preferably items should be e-mailed to **corfevalleynews@tiscali.co.uk**

Items received after the 15th may not be printed until the next issue

Editorial

We have a slight problem with deliveries at the moment. In particular, we are short of deliverers in the Creech area. If anybody would like to volunteer to become a deliverer, please call Hilary on 481265. In the meantime, we are leaving a number of copies of the magazine in the Furzebrook village hall and at the Look Out shop for people to pick up.

Most of you will be aware that there was flooding at the bottom of the castle mound in early January. The parish council is keen to try to resolve this issue, so they are hoping to gather information about how people were affected. They will then go to Dorset council to seek a solution. If you were affected, please get in touch with the parish clerk so that your information can be recorded.

As I write this, we have just completed a cold spell where we had clear blue sky and freezing nights. We are about to go back to gales and rain. I think climate change is definitely with us. Do have a look at the article entitled wet, wetter and wettest about rainfall during 2023 in this edition of the magazine.

Stephen

Some useful Telephone Numbers

(There are more in the middle of the magazine)

Police non-emergency call line	101
National Electricity Number	105
NHS Emergency Medical Care Service	111
In the event of Gas Leak	0800 111999
Electricity Failure	0800 0727282
Swanage Police Station - out of hours calls rerouted	422004
Swanage Hospital	422282
National Trust outside office hours	07970-595963
Wareham Hospital	552433
Poole Hospital	01202 665511
Bournemouth Hospital	01202 303626
Dorset County Hospital	01305 251150
Corfe Castle Community Library	480760
Citizens Advice Adviceline: Mon – Fri 10am – 4pm	08001448848
The Samaritans	01202 551999
Street Light Defect - SEC Contracting	0800 068 4145
Childline	0800 1111
Dorset Councillor – Cherry Brooks	07512897908

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The cover picture is a sketch of a restored version of the doorway in the Chapel of St Mary in the tower of Corfe Castle by H I Keates

JANUARY FOR CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL



Join Corfe Castle Parish Council

By standing for election on Thursday 2nd May 2024

If you care about where you live and are
Passionate about your community,
WE NEED YOU

Becoming a Councillor: Do you know by becoming a Councillor you will have input into your community in so many ways? For example: What play equipment should we have; and should we apply for a 20mph limited? Along with so many other projects across the parish. If you are thinking you could be a Councillor, why not attend the February meeting and see what a difference you could make.

January Meeting. There was no January council meeting due to the holiday period and there being no urgent agenda items for consideration.

Floods on 4th January. Were you affected by the floods around the Studland and Church Knowle turnings at the bottom of the castle mound on the 4th of January? If you were the Parish Council would like to hear from you, so please send any feedback to the Parish Clerk or come to the next meeting on Monday 12th February.

Next Council Meeting – Monday 12th February 2024, at 7pm in the Corfe Castle Village Hall, Bill Carter Room.

Parish Council contact details:

Clerk: Michelle Harrington, **Telephone:** 01202 670105,

Email: clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk,

Write: 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ,

Facebook: www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC,

Website: www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Member of the Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council

Who to Contact When:

If you have a problem, do you know who best to call to help deal with the issue? If not don't worry, the contacts below may help you.

My bin was not emptied:

Self Service Portal - <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-litter/report-a-bin-problem/missed-bin-collection>

Telephone: 01305 221040

A public litter bin is overflowing

Self Service Portal - https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/DWP_Report_a_public_litter_bin_problem

Telephone: 01305 221040

To report a pothole

Self Service Portal - <https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/Report-a-pothole> - Telephone 01305 221020

To report an overgrown hedge, tree or verge onto the highway

Self Service Portal - <https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/report-a-hedge-tree-or-verge-issue> - Telephone 01305 221020

To report a problem on a road or pavement

Self Service Portal - <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roads-highways-maintenance/report-a-problem-on-the-road-or-pavement>

Telephone 01305 221020

To request a highways gully clear

Self Service Portal - <https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/report-a-gully-drain-or-flooding-issue> - Telephone 01305 221020

To request a road sweep on a highway near you.

Self Service Portal - https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/DWP_Report_for_Mechanical_Road_Sweeper

Telephone 01305 221020

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ST EDWARD'S CORFE CASTLE QUIZ

FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY 2024

6:30 for 7:00 START
In the
Corfe Castle Village Hall



TICKETS £8
Coffee tea and nibbles

Bring your own drinks and glasses

Proceeds towards the upkeep of St. Edward's
Church

****RAFFLE PRIZES****

Tables of 6 or mix and match

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*NOT REAL PIGS

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DRAGONS BAKERY & CCFC REPRESENTATIVES**

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Church Knowle Parish Council - January Meeting

The January meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council took place in the Church Knowle Village Hall on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 6:30pm. It was attended by six members of the Council (Cllr Burt in the chair) and one member of the public

The main items of interest in the meeting were:

Vacancies on the Parish Council

There are still two vacancies on the Parish Council which has a full strength of nine and any interested parishioners can apply to clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk. No applications have been received this month.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Steering Committee has met and the process is continuing with the advice of the consultant. Parishioners are invited to join the steering group and can contact the clerk (clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk) or Cllr Carl Grice (carlgrice@yahoo.com) for more information. The Neighbourhood Plan has some statutory weight under the Localism Act 2011 and this is an opportunity for people in the parish to have real input into it.

Planning

The Council resolved to have no objection to P/HOU/2023/06579, a first floor extension at Shotts Meade.

Highways

Church Knowle Speed Limit. The area covered by the speed limit was discussed and it was agreed that it should run between the Church Knowle village settlement signs.

Corfe River Footbridge. This Council agreed to support the rebuilding of this bridge, known as the Orchard Bridge and will seek proposals and funding to achieve this. This bridge can be found at the crossing of the Corfe River on the footpath that runs from the Church Knowle Village Hall to Swyre Head. Any letters of support for rebuilding this bridge would be welcome as these will form part of the supporting evidence for grant applications.

Parish Precept

The expenses and projects for the coming year were examined and discussed.

The Parish Council runs and maintains the Playing Field opposite Margaret Green, runs and maintains the cemetery, owns and maintains the defibrillator at the New Inn, owns and maintains the two adopted phone boxes and the traditional highway fingerposts. It does whatever is possible to keep the parish in good order and support the interests of parishioners. The Parish Precept was set at £15,500.

Furzebrook Phone Box

This was decommissioned by BT and adopted by the Parish Council over a year ago and is available for new role. Suggestions for a use for this box are sought. Please contact the clerk and these will be put to the Parish Council to be implemented.

Tenders

The recent Playing Field inspection recommended that the wooden elements be treated with preservative. Tenders are therefore being sought for treating all of the timber at the playing field with an approved preservative. The timber will have to be sanded to remove any splinters first. Apply to the Clerk at clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk for details.

The January meeting finished at 8:03 pm. The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be at the Furzebrook Village Hall at 6:30 on 13th February 2024.

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National Trust

Corfe Castle shop closure for refurbishment

The National Trust shop at Corfe Castle will be closed for refurbishment from the 18th February and we look forward to being open again from early March.

Corfe Castle shortlisted for a Dorset Tourism Award By Eoin McDowell

We are delighted to be shortlisted for an Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Award by Dorset Tourism. Given the terrain in the castle, accessibility can be a challenge but the team have approached it with creativity and gusto and we have implemented the following:

- Purchased an all-terrain attendant propelled electric wheelchair which is suitable for all ages and has an electric assist, allowing users to traverse the hills and cobbled pathways in the castle more easily.
- Making written information boards more accessible through working in partnership with Remark UK, a Deaf Media Company, 7 videos were created replicating the written information into BSL and audio format.
- Creation of seven information videos which can be accessed by QR code in the Outer Bailey.
- Accessible toilets are at both the Welcome Centre and the Castle entrance with planning pending for a Changing Places toilet being installed at the Welcome Centre.
- Working with Access Dorset and social enterprise DOTS Disability; organisations led 'by disabled people for disabled people', to offer Disability Awareness Training to staff and ensure all reasonable adjustments are made to accommodate staff disabilities and neuro diverse needs.
- Walking poles available for visitors to borrow from both the welcome centre and castle entrance. They are height adjustable and lightweight, making them suitable for a variety of visitors.

- A new guide detailing a visual story from arriving at the car park through to what to expect at the top of the castle and village centre. This has been designed to help those with neurodiverse needs or with dementia, so that a visit can be more understood before they arrive and a less daunting prospect.

The awards are on the 1st February and we're up against some fierce competition but regardless of whether we win, it means a lot to be recognised and shortlisted. I'm so proud of the team effort and achievements in making everyone feel welcome at Corfe Castle.

Entry to the Castle and Teddy Bear zip wire

This is a reminder that there is free entry to the castle for Corfe residents. Just bring proof of address with you to get in free. The popular teddy zip wire is also back for February half-term; bring your own teddy or borrow a castle veteran. While in the castle join in the new Mission Conservation family quest to earn a conservation coin.



Walking poles at Corfe Castle

Corfe Castle Surgery

Patient Participation Group (PPG)

At the end of last year my husband and I were fortunate to visit friends in New Zealand and had a wonderful trip but I did need to visit a GP Surgery for a minor ailment.

I was very impressed with the care I received -open access, prompt and efficient, even as a visitor, but of course at a cost for both the local population and me. It made me reflect on the excellent service and care we receive from our own Corfe Surgery Team which we sometimes take for granted and don't always appreciate.

A poster in the Corfe Surgery reception area shows a diagram of the 'GP Practice Iceberg'. Please have a look at it if you are in the surgery.

As patients we see the tip of the iceberg (highlighted in just one third of the diagrammatic iceberg) - face to face appointments, busy phone lines and sometimes remote GP contact *but* the work actually being carried out in support of us, as patients, by the surgery Team is phenomenal (two thirds in the iceberg diagram)

There are too many headings to mention here in total but they include; Medicine reviews and prescriptions, reviewing results, home visits, referrals to other agencies, vaccinations and immunisations, training, HR and staff management, Community engagement, managing targets and working with the PPG, remembering that 90% of NHS contacts happen in Primary care.

As we begin a New Year may I thank the Corfe Surgery Team for the high-quality care we have received, hoping that 2024 is an easier year for the team with fewer pressures and successful recruitment.

Our PPG role is to ensure that by meeting together with health professionals patients are given a 'voice' within the GP Practice, to help patients take more responsibility for their own health, contribute to the continuous improvement of services and quality of care at the Practice and foster improved communications between the Practice and its patients -please do contact us if you wish us to raise any issues on your behalf or have an suggestions to make

Corfecastleppg@gmail.com

Sending every best wish for 2024,
Maggie Hardy, PPG Chair



Corfe Community Kitchen

Soup 'n Pud
A choice of Soups and a Roll
Followed by Puds with Custard

12.30 – 1.45pm

Saturday 3rd February 2024

Corfe Castle Village Hall

**Come and join local friends for a
simple, healthy, filling and
sustainable Free Lunch**



This venture is provided by volunteers, on a not-for-profit basis, in a friendly environment for local residents and aims to increase community spirit.

If you wish to make a donation, either financial or of surplus food, feel free, but it is not obligatory.

Our January Lunch was well attended despite being a 'low month' when the weather and post Christmas blues often reduce support for activities, but not a bit of it! Many regulars and some new faces attended and enjoyed both the food and company. Once again we had some local veg. and fruit donations of surplus food which augmented both the soup and puddings.

This month we asked attendees, both diners and voluntary supporters, to tell us the reason why they come to 'Soup 'n Pud' and we had some lovely answers. I will be adding a different comment to my missive each month. Below is the first one!

“It's warm and welcoming. Everybody very friendly. Food is delicious. What a lovely event for Corfe Castle Village.”

The next Soup 'n Pud will be on Sat. Feb. 3rd at 12.30pm straight after the Coffee Morning and as always we welcome any extra in-date fruit, vegetables and tins and will use them wherever possible to avoid waste but regret that we can't accept any pre-frozen food as we are unsure of the relevant dates.

There will be the expected tasty food and friendly chat accompanying the choice of soups and puds with bread rolls, as usual, from the Village Bakery and we will have our happy band of volunteers helping with serving etc, without whom we would be unable to manage. If you would like to join them we would be very happy to see you. Remember that you get a lunch as well!

WHY DON'T YOU COME AND GIVE IT A TRY??

Sandy Hill Arts

Sandy Hill Arts aims to be the centre for inclusive creative arts in Purbeck. As well as our resident artists and the Boilerhouse Gallery we are a growing hub for local creatives of all ages and backgrounds.



Join our volunteer team and help us develop this exciting new arts charity. We would love to hear from you whatever your skills but are particularly looking for PR and marketing, print design, web management and grant bid writing.

Come to our welcome event 11am to 2 pm on Saturday 24th February to find out more about the site and our plans. We are a 3 minute walk from Corfe village square, across from the station.

You could also email info@sandyhillarts.co.uk to express an interest. We would also love to meet other local creatives interested in running workshops and courses, holding exhibitions or helping with projects.

Artist Studios Events Exhibitions Education



Sandy Hill Arts is a Registered Charity Number 1193387

Corfe Castle Village Hall CIO, in association with **Artsreach**, is pleased to present:

Battling Butlers

This is Bash Street Theatre's poignant musical celebration of the changing relationship between a father-son double-act. **It is a unique blend of circus skills, original songs, live music and magical illusions.** It is also a story of the circle of life, as the old performer inevitably makes way for the new.

"What a great performance, absolutely fantastic! Loved the songs, the magic and the chemistry. You cannot beat a live show, and this takes some beating!" – Andy Shaw, Portland Royal Manor Theatre Company

"A substantial, beautifully crafted and poignant inter-generational story of life on the road, and within a family" - Ian Scott, former director of Artsreach

"Best show I have seen in years and years. Lots of laughs, brilliant for nostalgia, great story. Totally fab...something for everyone"

Light refreshments will be available.

Saturday February 17th 2024 at 7.30pm

Tickets (£12 adult, £5 12-17 yrs) available from www.artsreach.co.uk, the Village Stores or (between 3 & 6pm) from Rob on 07981 005319



Corfe Castle Primary School



The spring term has started well at the school with lots of new learning going on across the classes. For the next few months, we will do a class focus to share some of the learning and activities that are going on across the school.

Our **Early Years and Key Stage 1** class started their new science learning outside in our forest school area, however they had to get permission from the resident sika deer (thankfully she was very obliging). The Early Years are looking at how habitats can be homes to many different animals, whilst Key Stage 1 are looking at trees and plants.



The children were also very lucky to have a visit from the Swanage Fire Service, with some educational teaching, as well as seeing their amazing Fire Service Land Rover.

Children were able to try the fire helmet and squirt the hose - they also heard the sirens up close, which was a lot louder than they thought.

In the classroom, children were taught about keeping themselves safe in the event of a fire at home: get out, stay out, call 999. A good hint for parents: children

should know their home address in case they need to call an emergency service.

Do you have a child starting school next September?

Feel free to email corfecastle.office@coastalpartnership.co.uk or call 01929 480428 for a personal tour of the school.

No question is a silly question when it comes to your child starting school. Feel free to ask anything or have a good look around.

Thank you for your continued support.

The school vision: "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

Thank you for all your continuing support, Miss Amy Howe (Headteacher) and Mr Robert Stoner (Deputy Headteacher) and the whole team at Corfe Castle Primary School.



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Explore our gins..

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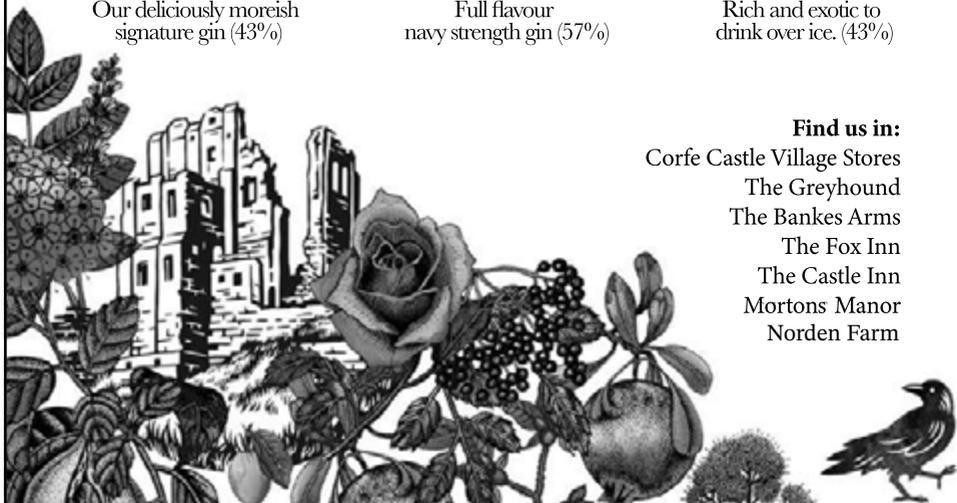
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9th January Meeting

The expected talk on a girl's best friend, 'DIAMONDS' sadly had to be cancelled as the speaker Ann from Why Jewellers had an accident. Gill stepped in to deliver a talk on the Bankes family history in Corfe Castle. But no, she went down with a sickness bug so it was a case of third time lucky and our Chairman Sue bravely stepped in to give a talk on Buddhism. It was an interesting insight into how it influences the way in which you lead your life and interact with people around you. Many of us knew very little about it and it was quite a calming session with lots of colourful photos. We even had a little practice at meditation. If anyone is interested in finding out more just contact Sue and she would be happy to help.

6th February Meeting

We will be presenting cheques to our two dedicated charities for this year, Livability and Corfe Castle Surgery. They will both give a short presentation about themselves.

Annual Spring Fair Saturday 20th April

This will run from 10.00 till 12.00. If anyone would like to have a stall at this year's Fair please contact us using the details at the end.

We are always looking for new members to join our friendly bunch of people who can come along to our monthly meetings for an interesting talk, a cuppa and a chat. We also have a monthly draw for the 50/50 club, book groups, walking groups and a lunch club. Why not come along for a taster session.

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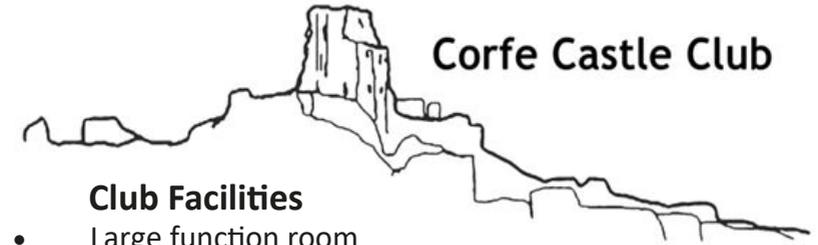


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Mon/Tues: 12.00 - 2.30pm & 6.00 - 8.00pm
 Weds/Thurs/Fri: 12.00 - 2.30pm & 6.00 - 11.00pm
 Saturday: All day 12.00 - 11.00pm
 Sunday: All day 12.00 - 7.00pm

Weekly Events

Poker Night: Wed 8.30pm
 One Card Bingo: Fri 8.30pm
 Beer/Meat Draw: Sat evening
 One Card Bingo: Sun 1.00pm

Forthcoming Events

Look out for future events on Facebook and the Club Notice Boards

Membership application forms are available from the Club Steward. Annual Membership is £10. Local beers, ciders and lager at very reasonable prices. Soft drinks, snacks, tea and coffee also available.

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It's not too late! You can still join in!



November 21st, 22nd & 23rd 2024 - Corfe Castle Village Hall, East St, BH20 5EE

It is never to late to join the team – particularly if you can look like a younger man or just fancy helping back stage!

We are carrying out preliminary rehearsals and blocking for this new play on February 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th at 7pm (till 9pm)

If you want to get involved in any way, please come along on those nights or if you can't make those dates just let us know that you still want join in.

If you are looking for a new hobby and would be interested in joining our friendly safe group for any event, please contact

David (chairman – 01929 480007) or email

doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com, for more details.

New members of all ages and abilities are always welcome!



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OPEN to everyone living in Dorset
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In just 500 words....
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Deadline for entries: Midday on Monday 18th March 2024

Full details and online entry:
www.treehousetheatre.com/shaftesburytales
or email louisa@treehousetheatre.com



Some stories will be adapted for performance in July: 'The Shaftesbury Tales',
staged in villages and towns whilst walking from Corfe to Shaftesbury

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OUR WINTER DEALS CONTINUE ...

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Meet up Mondays 5pm – 8.30pm

Meet up with friends and / or family and share a selection of bar snacks at **£5** each, as well as a selection of alcoholic and soft drinks, and a variety of non-alcoholic wine, cider, beer, lager and gin.

Wednesday Steak Night

X2 Rib Eye steaks, triple cooked chips, homemade onion rings, watercress, peppercorn sauce and a bottle of wine, all for £50.

Available every Wednesday through February,

INCLUDING Valentine's Day! 

TAPAS NIGHT

Join us for The Fox Inn Tapas Night on Tuesday 20th February from 5pm. Early booking advisable; this is a very popular event.

Mother's Day

Don't forget to book your table for Mother's Day,
Sunday 10th March – 11.30am – 8.00pm.



Corfe Castle Village Hall

general news:

Thanks to all those who attended the December VH Coffee Morning. £142.76 was raised for Village Hall funds.

The 100 club draw is made at the Coffee Morning. In December the first prize of £21 was won by member 49, with member 44 getting second prize £10 and member 8 winning the third prize £5. If you would like to become one of the many villagers who support their local village hall like this please contact Penny Barker on 01929 481477.

The village hall offers a large amount of secure storage space. Currently two storage units are available for hire. For more details please contact Judith on 01929 480216.

regular weekly events:

Monday mornings	Purbeck Dance Studio
Monday evenings	Double Act
Monday evenings	Purbeck Chess
Tuesday mornings	Toddlers
Tuesday mornings	Yoga
Tuesday evenings	Martial Arts
Tuesday evenings	Badminton
Wednesday mornings	Purbeck Crafts
Wednesday mornings	Pilates
Wednesday afternoons	U3A Pickleball
Wednesday evenings	Youth Club
Thursday mornings	Silver Swans adult ballet
Thursday evenings	Cubs
Thursday evenings	Alcoholics Anonymous
Friday mornings	Pilates
Friday mornings	Purbeck Dance Studio

regular monthly events:

1st Saturday morning	VH Coffee Morning
1st Sunday all day	Cameo Antiques Fair
1st Tuesday afternoon	Aquarius
1st Thursday evening	Gardening Club
2nd Monday evening	Parish Council
3rd Wednesday morning	Carers' Support (P Jones)
3rd Friday afternoon	Citizen's Advice bus
final Thursday morning	CC Carers Time

Artsreach date for your 2024 diary

Bash Street Theatre's intriguingly titled "Battling Butlers" show comes to Corfe Castle on Saturday 17th February at 7.30. Using a unique blend of circus skills, original songs, live music and magical illusions, The Battling Butlers is a story of the circle of life as the old performer makes way for the new.

To book a room at the hall, preferably use the email address david@davidjatin.plus.com. Alternatively ring David on 07590 352219.

News from the Library

'Shopping in Bygone Swanage'

A talk by John Patrick of Swanage
Museum



John Patrick is always a popular speaker at the library. This time he returns to us (at the request of many of you!) to explore the extensive range of shops in Swanage before the wide-scale arrival of supermarkets and chain stores. Back to an era when shops were run by local families and the 'shopping experience' of customers was very different to today.

The talk will be on Friday 16th February 2024 at 2.00pm in Corfe Castle Community Library.

Save the Date!: Advance notice of a **Charity Quiz Night** run by the inimitable Mr Barry Stocks. Proceeds will be split evenly between Corfe Castle Community Library and Weldmar Hospice. The quiz night will take place on **Saturday 13th April 2024** in the village hall. Ticket details will be in next month's Corfe Valley News.

Solar Panels

Some of you may have noticed that the solar panels on the library roof are up and running and saving CO2. This has been a successful project with help from Low Carbon Dorset.

Come in out of the cold for a free Cuppa and a Biscuit!

We will be offering a hot drink and biscuits for anyone who would like to come in to warm up and have a chat.

Normal Library Opening Hours

Monday 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.

Wednesday 10.00 -12.00 a.m. and 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.

Saturday 10.00 - 12.00 a.m.



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CERAMICS ON DISPLAY

There's an interesting selection of ceramic items to purchase at Furzebrook Studios. We have a small exhibition space displaying sea-inspired sculptures, organic forms created from local clay & many gift ideas. Please drop by if you're passing & take a look... browsers are very welcome!



My Pottery Studio is part of a lovely arts & crafts community with an exhibition area & lots of car parking. I'm usually there 9.30am-2.30pm Monday-Friday during term time... you're very welcome to drop in.

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News from The Castle

The shortest month of the year has arrived, but we're ready to pack a punch into it here at The Castle Inn. We'll be celebrating the Chinese New Year in true Castle Inn style on:

Saturday 10th February from 6pm.

We'll be decorating the pub, offering a delicious Chinese themed menu, and for anyone born in the Year of the Dragon, offering a free drink. Booking is highly recommended, so definitely one for your diary!

The month for love is also upon us, so fall head over heels at our "Love Week".

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February.

Enjoy a beautiful candlelit dinner with us and take advantage of our 2 for 1 offer on starters and desserts. Bookings are being taken now!

We will also be continuing our **40% Winter Sale** into February, Monday to Saturday; but be quick, the offer ends on Saturday the 17th of February.

Have a wonderful February, and we look forward to seeing you soon. From everyone at the Castle Inn.

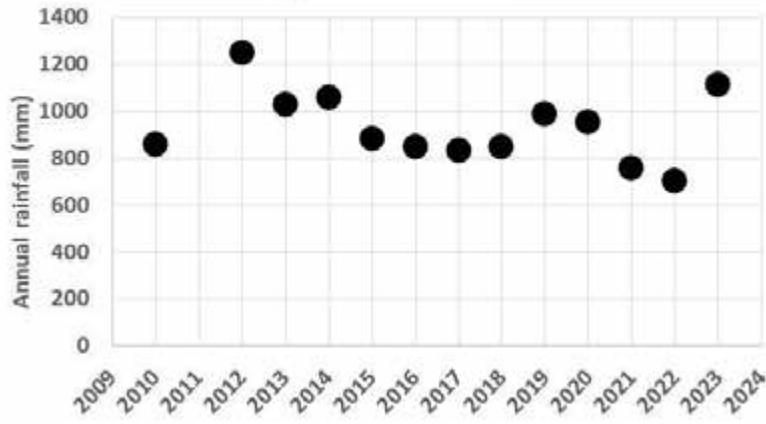


Wet, wetter, and wettest.

Three years ago, I reported on 11 years of rainfall data for Corfe Castle from 2010 – 2020. I had intended to produce an annual update but to quote Robert Burns “*The best laid schemes o’ mice an’ men, gang aft agley*”. Anyway, better late than never.

Although May to July 2021 was decidedly wet, 2021 turned out drier than any of the years I had recorded before with a total annual rainfall of 758mm. This was due to a fairly dry March, August and September in 2021 and there being just 3mm of rain in April 2021 and 11mm in November 2021. December 2021 was also the driest December in the last 7 years. 2022 turned out even drier than 2021 with a total annual rainfall of just 700mm. This was due to the continuation of the dry spell at the end of 2021 through January and February 2022 and to rainfall in each month from April to August 2022 being well below average. By the end of 2022 our average annual rainfall had dropped from 955mm (up to 2020) to 917mm. With 2012, 2013 and 2014 having been quite wet, there was the beginnings of a drying trend emerging from the data (Figure 1). But....

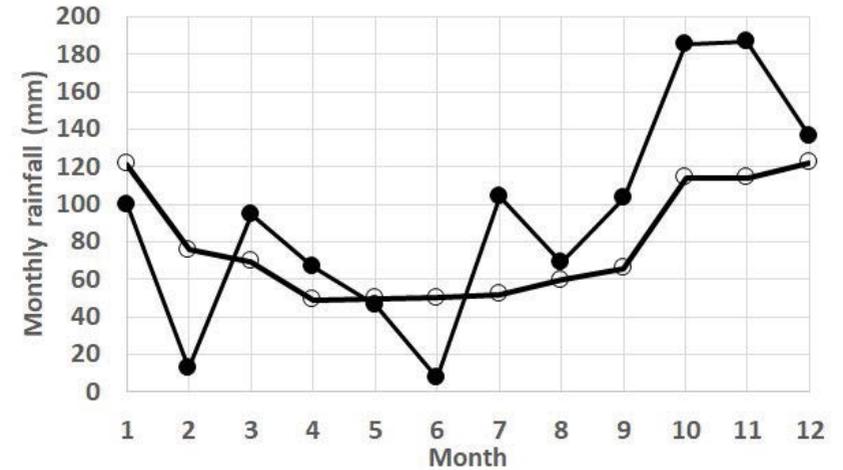
Figure 1 - annual rainfall



2023 blew that idea well and truly out of the water. 2023 started relatively dry – especially February - which, with just 12.5mm of rain, was by far the driest February I have recorded. In contrast, March and April 2023 gave us a pretty wet Spring (Figure 2), May 2023 was bang on average and then things went a

bit weird. In June 2023 there was just 8mm of rain (way below average) while in July 2023 there was a soaking 104mm, more than twice the average for that month. August 2023 was back to normal and then we had four months of wet, wetter, wettest & yet more wet (Figure 2).

Figure 2 - monthly rainfall: 2023 (solid dots), all years (open dots)



All that added up to 1113.5 mm in 2023 – the 2nd wettest year in my records – bested (or worsted) only by 1912. Our average annual rainfall since 2010 now stands at 932mm.

January 2024 started the way 2023 ended with another 60mm of rain in the first 4 days of the not so Happy New Year. This led, for the first time in a long while, to Corfe Castle being cut off when the rivers overflowed. So much for the dodgy drying trend. Another 10 years’ data needed. **Richard Caldow**



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FREE QUOTATIONS & ADVICE

Please check timings and other details with the information available elsewhere in this magazine or with the organisers.

If you know about any forthcoming events please let us know.

1	February	Thursday	7.30 pm	Gardening Club AGM and Quiz – Corfe Castle Village Hall
3	February	Saturday	10.15 am	Village Coffee Morning - Corfe Castle Village Hall
3	February	Saturday	12.30 – 1.45 pm	Soup and Pud – Corfe Castle Village Hall
5,12, 19, 26	February	Monday	7 pm	Double Act rehearsal of This Secret Isle – Corfe Castle Village Hall
6	February	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius – Presentations to supported charities – Corfe Castle Village Hall
10	February	Saturday	10.15	Double Act coffee morning – Corfe Castle village hall
10	February	Saturday	6.30 pm	Smiling Seas quiz night – Kimmeridge village hall
12	February	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
13	February	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Furzebrook Village Hall
16	February	Friday	2 pm	Talk by John Patrick of Swanage Museum – Corfe Castle Library
17, 18	February	Saturday, Sunday	10 am – 4 pm	Swanage Railway community weekend – Swanage Railway stations
17	February	Saturday	7.30 pm	Arts Reach Bash Street Theatre performance of “Battling Butlers” in CCVH
23	February	Friday	6.30 pm	St Edwards Corfe Castle Quiz – Corfe Castle Village Hall
24	February	Saturday	7.15 pm	Football Club Pig Racing - Corfe Castle Village Hall

All details are correct as at publishing date, but please check with the organization involved before attending any events.

7	March	Thursday	8 pm	Gardening Club – Growing happy veg and heritage seeds – Corfe Castle VH
8	March	Friday	7.30 pm	Keilidh – Kimmeridge Village Hall at Etches collection.
11	March	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
12	March	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Church Knowle Village Hall
18	March	Monday	Midday	Deadline for short story writing competition
13	April	Saturday		Library Charity quiz night - Corfe Castle village hall
20	April	Saturday		Aquarius annual spring fair – Corfe Castle Village Hall

More Useful Phone Numbers

Power and electrical - Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks:
0800 0727282 (free phone land line) or 0345 072 1905 (free phone mobile contracts or local rate for pay as you go)

Western Power Distribution:

0800 365900 (free phone land line and mobiles)

Water - Wessex Water:

03456004600 (free from most land lines or local charges apply dependant on the land line or mobile provider)

Gas - Transco - Gas Emergency:

0800 111999 (free phone, mobile phone charged as per the local provider rate)

Roads and highways - Highways England (including incidents A35, A37 and A31):

0300 1235000 (local call rate or 3p - 40p per minute from a mobile dependant on the provider)

Dorset Council (including incidents on the Dorset Council highway):

01305 221000 (10p per minute from a land line or 3p - 40p per minute from a mobile dependent upon the provider)

Flooding - Environment Agency - Flood Line:

0345 9881188 (calls are charged depending on the callers service provider and where there call is made).

Dorset Council out of hours Emergency Contact Number – 01929 556561

Dorset Council Self Service Portal. This portal can be used to report anything to do with Dorset Council and to request services and information from the council. The web address for the Dorset Council is also below.

<https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/en>

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/>

Reporting non injury collisions or near misses

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roads-highways-maintenance/road-safety>

Anti-Social Behaviour 01305 762439 email ASB@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Church of England

St Aldhelm's Benefice

Contact Details for St Aldhelm's Benefice

Hon Assistant Priest Anne Bond 01929 480249 rev.anne@outlook.com

Curate Nick Webb 07866 546162 fulloflifegardens@googlemail.com

Benefice Office: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Benefice Administrator: St George's Church, Langton Matravers

BH19 3HZ 01929 427822 office@purbeckbenefice.plus.com

Enquiries for Baptisms / Weddings / Funerals / Banns - contact Benefice Office and for the Corfe Valley parishes contact the Church Wardens

www.purbeckhillsbenefice.wordpress.com

 [St Aldhelm Benefice](#)

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Church Wardens in the Valley Churches

Corfe Castle: Penelope Smith 480109 John Lindsay 481498

Visit St Edwards Website - <http://stedwardscorfecastle.co.uk/>

The Reverend Anne Bond writes

Once upon a time my eldest son said to me, "I simply can't believe that all the activity that goes on in people's minds dies. There's so much of it, and it's so strong and – and *powerful* – it can't just *vanish* ..." (I think it may have been shortly after he fell out of a tall tree wearing a chainsaw, not wearing a helmet, and survived.) He was asking how the force of all that creativity, that energy, those original forward-thinking ideas that buzzed around in his head, could simply ... not *be* any more.

Well, in a way, the 'force' does go on, but not necessarily in the same minds where it originated. However, I don't think that's quite what he meant. He was asking how death could obliterate such a positive and powerful thing as consciousness, to which the obvious answer is that consciousness happens in the brain, and if the brain dies everything else dies with it.

In academic theological circles there is a phrase ‘The Great Christian Hope’ which is a lot less stuffy than it sounds. Briefly, it expresses the belief that the essence of one’s consciousness does go on after death, in a way we can’t during our living human present understand, to a new, different sort of life in another dimension.

Am I talking Sci-Fi here?

Um. I don’t know ... I don’t think so.

Anthropology (which my Chambers Dictionary defines as ‘the multidisciplinary study and analysis of the origins and characteristics of human beings and their societies, customs, and beliefs’) tells us there is evidence that ever since humans have existed there has been belief in a power beyond humanity known generally as ‘god’. Ancient belief systems understood ‘god’ in various forms and made representative images to be worshipped – all except ancient Judaism, which insisted there is only *one* ‘god’ in the whole wide world, who exists outside the confines of time and space, meaning he cannot be portrayed because he is pure spirit. Jesus Christ on whom Christianity is based, was a Jew.

For centuries before Jesus was born Jewish prophets foretold the arrival of a ‘Messiah’ who would be sent from the One and Only God to point humankind in the right direction. Jesus was put to death on a Roman execution cross for – in today’s parlance – disturbing the peace. Large sections of the general public believed he was ‘the Messiah’, which their Roman overlords found threatening. However, from three days after his public execution, for six weeks, Jesus was seen by many to be alive, walking, talking, and eating, before ‘disappearing’ in the presence of his disciples.

Before the arrival of Jesus the normal everyday ethic of life was that he who hit hardest would always win. But Jesus taught ‘love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, strength and soul and love your neighbour as you love yourself’. He referred to God as his Father.

After Jesus’s death his disciples wrote about him, books known as the Gospels. In the fullness of time the ancient Jewish Scriptures and the Gospels, together with other writings of mythology, history, prophecy, and many letters, were put together to become what is known today as the Bible.

‘The Great Christian Hope’ is that Jesus Christ’s six-week resurrection from the dead (which has never been disproved) is evidence enough of life after death; not, perhaps, life as we know it now; but also *not* the obliteration of all consciousness that was so objected to by my son.

With love, Anne

Bible Readings – February 2024

4 th February	Second before Lent Proverbs 8:1, 22 - 31 Colossians 1:15 - 20 John 1:1 - 14
11 th February	Next before Lent 2 Kings 2:1 - 12 2 Cor 4:3 - 6 Mark 9:2 - 9
18 th February	First Sunday of Lent Genesis 9:8 - 17 1 Peter 3:18 - 22 Mark 1:9 - 15
25 th February	Second of Lent Genesis 17:1-7, 15 - 16 Romans 4:13 - 25 Mark 8:31 - 38
3 rd March	Third of Lent Exodus 20:1 - 17 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 25 John 2:13 - 22

Sunday Services in February 2024

Sunday 4 February	Second before Lent
Corfe Castle 10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 11 February	Next before Lent
Steeple 9.30am	Holy Communion
Corfe Castle 10.30am	Morning Worship
Sunday 18 February	First Sunday of Lent
Corfe Castle 10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 25 February	Second of Lent

Corfe Castle 10.30am

Holy Communion

Sunday 3rd March

Third Sunday of Lent

Corfe Castle 10.30am

Holy Communion

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 1st MARCH - ST MARK'S

CHURCH, HERSTON at 11am

'I beg you, bear with one another in love'

The Christian Women of Palestine are calling us to connect with the land from where Jesus came; where he was born, ministered and died – and from where our faith began. Despite living in an area of the world where there is ongoing conflict and the future is very uncertain, the women of Palestine are sharing in love, a reminder that they are still there, and they want to give hope to everyone. The theme of the service 2024 'Bear with one another in love' seems very appropriate for these women who will not give up sharing the love of Jesus Christ. World Day of Prayer is an international, inter-church organisation which enables us to hear about their hopes, concerns, reconciliation work and prayers in the Middle East.

This was all meticulously prepared, translated, printed and distributed long before the current conflict which started after the massacre by Hamas in Israel on Oct 7th. This year, the World Day of Prayer falls on **Friday 1st March, 2024**. The theme for the 2024 World Day of Prayer is **"I Beg You... Bear With One Another in Love"** (Ephesians chapter 4 verse1) The WDP is celebrated on this day in over 146 countries. It begins in Samoa, then prayer in native languages travels throughout the world - through Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas before finishing some 38 hours later.

Please save the date and join us at 11am that day at St Mark's Church, Herston.

All are very welcome as the event is for both men and women and you have the option to stay also for a light lunch if you choose. Additional parking is available that day at the Baptist Church across the main road.

Judy Forgan

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MENU
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CORFE CASTLE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

LOVE THAT TRANSFORMS - A MESSAGE FOR YOU

As February unfolds, the world often turns its focus to love. On Valentines Day the world focuses on romantic love, which holds many expectations, chocolates, flowers, Dinner out, messages of love. But what if there are no flowers, no card or romantic meal. For many single people, Valentines Day can be a bitter reminder of their singleness and the desire for a relationship. Among those who celebrate Valentines Day, perhaps some are wondering what has happened to their love. Shattered relationships, broken covenants, love that is not what it should be and dreams that have come crashing down. All this gives love a bad name. This is sad, as True Love is not like that. Many are confused by Love and avoid it because of all the hurt, disappointments and sorrow it can bring.

While the celebration of human love is beautiful, there is a love that surpasses all understanding and transforms lives in ways we can't fathom – the love of God. I would like to share with you about God's Love which is a higher type of love because it never fails and is unconditional and available to all. It's a love which is ongoing for all times and doesn't leave anyone out. It's the greatest love of all and can be found in Jesus Christ. There is no greater love than laying one's life down for another. This is the Love Jesus has for us. He gave His life so we may live. It's a love that doesn't demand perfection. Through faith in Jesus Christ, we experience a love that forgives, redeems, and guides us on a path of purpose. No matter where you are in your journey, Gods Love is reaching out to you. It's a love that can fill the voids in your heart, provide hope in despair, and give meaning to your existence. Embracing this Love, is not adhering to rules but surrendering to a relationship that brings joy, peace, and eternal significance.

If you are curious or seeking answers, take a moment to reflect on God's Love this month. Open your heart to the possibility that a Love greater than any you have known is waiting for you. This divine love is not just a sentimental feeling, but a force that can heal the broken, mend the wounded, and bring purpose to the lost.

'Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not easily angered, and it keep no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes and always perseveres'

We often read this 1 Corinthians passage near Valentines Day or at weddings to remind us what love should look like, and God is the perfect demonstration of it.

John 3:16 says, *'For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life'*

May you all experience the True Love that Jesus has for You, a Love that can never be taken away...

<p>FEBRUARY SERVICES Sunday 4th & 18th at 3pm</p> <p>COFFEE MORNING Saturday 3rd & 17th - 10.30am - 12pm</p>	<p>Celia Taylor (Church Secretary)</p> <p>Fr_ee2talk@yahoo.co.uk</p> <p>Mob. 07908807115</p>
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Notices and Thanks

Corfe Castle Gardening Club.

As you know there was no meeting in January and no doubt you are all looking forward to happy and productive gardening as the spring approaches.

On Thursday 1st February at 7.30pm we will be meeting in the Village Hall for coffee followed by a short AGM at 8pm and Hazel's Gardening Quiz with prizes, which is always great fun. We are planning our year so come along and let us know if there is anything you would like us to cover or anywhere you would like to visit. We welcome your ideas. Our subs will remain at £10 for a year and visitors will be £3 per visit.

On 7th March – 7.30 coffee. 8pm. Growing Happy Veg and Heritage Seeds. Lucy Saunders will talk about the challenges of growing vegetables and Sharon Warden will be talking about the Seed Bank and sharing our seeds. This should be a fascinating and informative evening.

Meetings usually take place in the Village Hall, Corfe Castle, starting at 7.30 pm for coffee and starting the programme at 8pm. Non-members are welcome to join us for a small fee if they are interested in a particular talk. If you are interested in joining us please contact Chris Clarke on 01929 480095 or 07815 058880.

Chris Clarke



Citizens Advice – Here for Local Residents

With the on-going cost of living crisis, many people are increasingly worried about how they are going to pay bills, heat their home and put food on the table.

Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck would like to remind residents to seek help early on and that we are here to offer free advice and support.

Experienced advisers are available to provide support about a wide range of issues including, debt, energy advice, employment, benefits and housing. There is a range of support available particularly to low income households which many residents may not know about.

Advice is provided through multiple channels including telephone, email, video conferencing and face to face from our offices in Wareham and Wimborne and from outreach services including Swanage and Herston. Home visits are also offered to those more vulnerable people who are unable to access these services.

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
- Wimborne Citizens Advice - Monday & Wednesday, 10am-12pm
- Ferndown Library - Tuesday & Friday, 10am-2pm
- The Centre, Barns Road, Ferndown - Thursday, 10am-2pm

And by appointment only at:

Bovington Hive & Verwood Library.

For details of all of our outreach and drop-in locations visit

www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/in-person

For general advice and support call the **Dorset Adviceline freephone 0800 144 8848 (Textphone: 0800 144 8884)**, 10am-4pm weekdays or visit

www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk

Are you an Armed Forces Veteran?

If so, whichever service or branch you were in, there is advice and help from Dorset Council under the Armed Forces Covenant Programme.

There is so much to say about this programme it may just be better for you to read the information directly from their website.

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-community/the-armed-forces-covenant>

Corfe Castle Football Club

U17 Girls: The girls are continuing to enjoy their football; even if the results are not going their way. They are home on the 3rd and 24th Feb as well as the 2nd of March and would love to see you down there at 10am on Saturdays.

First team: The lads sit bang in the middle of the table with the season halfway through and they would also really like to see you at the fortress Saturday afternoons from 2. Please see local notice boards and social media for match details.

Vets: After a blistering start the vets have suffered back-to-back defeats on the road and as I write this will be away again to Blandford. Next month fixtures will be on the 4th and 18th of February, and they should be at home; fixtures not confirmed.

The biggest event of the year is back " Pig Racing " at Corfe Castle Village Hall on Saturday 24th February 7.15 pm start with a £10 admission to include food. I shall be the MC for the night so look forward to seeing you there for a great evening of racing.

Cheers

Pat Ward Chairman

Delivery Helpers Needed

We are sorry that there have been no deliveries in the Creech area. This is because there is a shortage of delivery helpers. If you, or anyone you know could help in delivering the magazine in the Creech area please get in touch with Hilary on 481265. In the meantime copies will be left for collection in the village hall and at the Lookout shop.

Can You Help?

David Kemp's Petra Trek for Julia's House Nov. 2-9, 2024

Next November I will be joining a group of about 15 volunteers to tackle the Petra Trek of about 48 miles over 5 days across the Jordanian desert. As a reward for the hot hard slog and basic camping, we finish at the ancient city of Petra, carved out of the rose-red sandstone **rock**, and featured in 'Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade'. The Trek is led by Julia's House fund-raising staff and members of the Different Travel Company, all experienced leaders. The prime function of the challenge is to raise funds for and awareness of Julia's House Children's Hospice in Broadstone. Julia's House is very highly regarded for its

excellent work throughout Dorset and Wiltshire but relies heavily on donations to maintain the high standards of service for which it is known.

My target is £2,900, to be raised by the end of next August. This figure will cover the expenses of the trek but more importantly provide a goodly sum for Julia's House.

I will be popping up at various village events over the next 9 months, selling **rock** cakes and post cards of Purbeck's **rocks** ('**Petra**' means '**rock**' in Greek), and inviting contributions towards the target. I have also set up a Justgiving page for donations on-line: www.justgiving.com/page/david-kemp-1694853078368. I am happy to accept cash or cheques at any time, and for anyone who would like to donate to me directly on-line, I can give you my bank details. All donations will go towards the target.

Many thanks!

David Kemp, 7 Colletts Close, Corfe Castle, 01929 480007



Calling all local traders!

Are you looking for a fabulous event to attend this summer? Would you like the chance to showcase and sell your goods, whilst supporting rescue animals in need? If so, then we may have the 'pawfect' opportunity for you!



We are very excited to be hosting our Country Dog Show at our Church Knowle centre, near Wareham, BH20 5NQ, again on **Sunday 4th August**, and we can't wait to welcome many of our wonderful supporters and their dogs back to the event for another fun-filled day.

With plenty of Dog Show classes, activities, and stalls to explore, the event is set to be a fantastic day out for all the family and their gorgeous canines.

If you are interested in coming along and having a pitch at the event, please email: comms@mgar.org.uk and our friendly team will be delighted to assist you.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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We're excited about 2024

- After a bumper Christmas it's now all about the season ahead – Spring!
- We have roses galore to brighten up any corner of the garden
- Loads more plants arriving each week from our trusted suppliers
- Our well-stocked Garden Barn is still impressing those that haven't ventured in yet – have you been in?

Farm Shop

- Valentine's = Chocs & booze, as well as flowers & a card!
- So head our way soon – we've got you covered @ Norden Farm :)
- As always, we have fantastic giftware, local spirits, wines & groceries galore!
- Big focus on the very best **local** produce
- Our impressive range of toys & treats is proving really popular – which cheeky little scamp are you going to treat?!
- **SALES & various offers continue on selected lines across the shop**

Delivery

- Order by 12pm on Monday to receive your delivery on Tuesday (£5 fee)
- Check our website or give us a call – The team will be happy to help.

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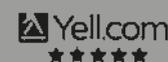


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Kimmeridge News

Pliosaur!

Following the amazing “Attenborough and the Giant Sea Monster” TV film on New Years Day, the world has been coming to Kimmeridge! Our volunteers & staff have been doing a brilliant job coping with the visitors and the parking! In the first weekend there were around 2000 visitors. The display closes on 19th Feb for fitting new displays & refreshing the collection – it will be even more special when it reopens in March. During this time there will still be lots going on at Museum with talks, history walks & much more – but hopefully the village will be a bit quieter!

Smiling Seas Big Winter Quiz Night 10th Feb

Avoid winter blues come and catch up with great people, in the warm for a fun fundraising evening. Start the year right with Smiling Seas at big winter quiz night! Saturday 10th February at 6.30pm in the Village Hall at The Etches Collection in Kimmeridge. Tickets are £5 per person. This includes your place in the quiz, refreshments and a warm welcome. There will also be a raffle to enter, last year’s prizes included some lovely treats including champagne, vouchers, days out, art work, chocolates, all sorts of goodies largely donated by the very kind locals and business- THANK YOU. By supporting Smiling Seas you help to fund ongoing commitment to preserve the Jurassic coast and aim to keep it clean from plastic pollution. It is a vital movement in order for wildlife to safely live in their natural habitat, as well as a better way of life for ourselves and future generations.

Eyes to the Skies

Well with 2023 over its now time tot up my species totals for the year and I've managed to beat last years total by just one bird, achieving a total of 54 species for the tollgate alone plus an extra 16 around the bay/beach area giving me a grand total of 70! Now I'm resetting the count back to the beginning and full of excitement about what 2024 will bring my way.

Let's hope for less rainfall and a few more cold/ bright days more in keeping with the winter season. This season I have added another bird to my tollgate winter wish list so along with brambling I'd also like a waxwing, so keep your fingers crossed for me please. At the time of writing this (13/1) I've just seen two reports that the white-tailed sea eagles have been seen back at church Knowle and around the Bradle area, which is amazing, I have recorded them at Kimmeridge before but usually in December or Feb/ march time. So enjoy your birding and don't stop filling up your feeders just because the sparrowhawk visits, it's got to eat too!.
Cheers, Rose & Pat

Kimmeridge Keilidh

Our next Dance is on Friday March 8th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Live music from Arish Mel with caller Malcolm Churchill. No Bar, so bring your own seasonal drinks & mince pies! Tickets on the door £7.50 for adults, £2.50 for children. All profits go to support Kimmeridge Village Hall & The Etches Collection.

Steve & Helen Earwicker



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SUNDAY ROASTS

TWO COURSE SUNDAY LUNCH* for | 21.95
MAIN COURSE & DESSERT

ROAST TOPSIDE OF "KIMMERIDGE" BEEF | 19

Roast potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, chantenay carrots, honey glazed parsnips, buttered mange tout and garden peas, braised red cabbage and mashed swede. Served with a pan gravy and horseradish sauce.

ROAST LEG OF "KIMMERIDGE" PORK | 18

Roast potatoes, crackling, stuffing, Yorkshire pudding, chantenay carrots, honey glazed parsnips, buttered mange tout and garden peas, braised red cabbage and mashed swede. Served with pan gravy and apple sauce.

TRADITIONAL ROAST TURKEY BREAST | 18.5

Roast potatoes, stuffing, pigs in blankets, Yorkshire pudding, chantenay carrots, honey glazed parsnips, buttered mange tout and garden peas, braised red cabbage and mashed swede. Served with pan gravy and cranberry sauce.

TRIO OF ROASTS | 22

Beef, Turkey and Pork with all of the trimmings.

VEGETABLE WELLINGTON (V)(VG on request) | 18.5

Roast potatoes, chantenay carrots, honey glazed parsnips, buttered mange tout and garden peas, braised red cabbage and mashed swede. Served with homemade gravy and cranberry sauce.

CHILDREN'S ROASTS (BEEF, TURKEY, OR PORK) | 10 (Under 12s)

DESSERTS

LEMON POSSET & SHORTBREAD (V) | 8.5
(GF by request)

CRUMBLE OF THE DAY & ICE CREAM | 8.5
(GF) (VG)

STICKY TOFFEE PUDDING & VANILLA
ICE CREAM (V) (GF) | 8.5

BELGIUM CHOCOLATE CHEESECAKE
& BLOOD ORANGE SORBET (VG) | 9.5

LUXURY BREAD & BUTTER PUDDING
WITH VANILLA ICE CREAM (V) | 8.5

SOUTH COAST ICE CREAMS &
SORBETS (V) per scoop | 4
Vanilla, honeycomb, chunky chocolate, rhubarb and
custard, lotus biscoff, lemon sorbet (VG) or blood
orange sorbet (VG)

DISARONNO AFFOGATO | 10
Espresso, vanilla ice cream, biscotti & amaretto
almond liqueur (over 18's)

VALENTINES MENU

Available for Lunch & Dinner 9th, 11th & 14th February 2024



STARTERS

SOUTH COAST SCALLOPS
Minted pea purée & crispy pancetta

DUCK & PLUM SALAD
Mixed leaves & a plum & honey dressing

CHICKEN LIVER & REDCURRANT PARFAIT
Mixed leaves, toasted brioche & fig chutney

SEAFOOD PLATTER
King Prawns in a lemon butter, salt & peppered calamari, grilled mackerel, smoked salmon & lobster & crab bisque shots. Served with dressed leaves, rustic bread, lemon mayonnaise, sweet chilli, & Marie rose dips (£5 supplement)

WILD MUSHROOM RISOTTO
Truffle oil & Parmesan shavings

PASSION FRUIT SORBET PALATE CLEANSER

MAIN COURSES

PAN FRIED HALIBUT
Tender stem broccoli & a champagne cream sauce

KIMMERIDGE PORK TENDERLOIN
Apricot & Brandy stuffing, & a cider cream sauce

RACK OF KIMMERIDGE LAMB
Herb crust & a redcurrant & port jus

KIMMERIDGE BEEF WELLINGTON
Tender fillet steak, pate, duxelles, puff pastry, & a Madeira sauce (£5 supplement)

BABY VEGETABLE MILLE-FEUILLE
Roasted red pepper sauce

ALL SERVED WITH DAUPHINOISE POTATOES, HASSLEBACK POTATOES & SEASONAL VEGETABLES

| 35 per person

**BOOKING
ESSENTIAL**

| 5 deposit
per person

DESSERTS

RASPBERRY & PISTACHIO SEMIFREDDO
Mixed berry coulis

CHOCOLATE & MORELLO CHERRY ROULADE
Chocolate & Amarena ice cream

PASSION FRUIT & COCONUT MERINGUE TARTLET
Clotted cream ice cream

SALTED CARAMEL CHEESECAKE
Baileys pouring cream

SELECTION OF ENGLISH CHEESES & BISCUITS (£3 supplement)

VALENTINES AFTERNOON TEA

Available 14.00 - 17.00, Available 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th & 14th February 2024

GLASS OF PROSECCO

ASSORTED SANDWICHES

Honey glazed ham with mustard mayonnaise
Coastal cheddar cheese with chutney
English Cucumber with cream cheese dill & mint
Coronation chicken
Scottish smoked salmon with a lemon creme fraiche
Egg mayonnaise & watercress

SAVOURY SELECTION

Chicken liver parfait & house chutney on toasted brioche
Miniature savoury quiches
Brie & Cranberry parcel

SWEET SELECTION

Freshly baked fruit & plain scones
Dorset clotted cream & strawberry preserve
Selection of miniature cakes, pastries & tartlets
Vegan & Gluten-free options available on request

SELECTION OF DORSET TEAS & COFFEE

Breakfast Tea | Camomile | Foraged Fruits | Earl Grey Tea | Green Tea
| Blackberry Syllabub | Mint | Ginger & Sunshine Tea

| 25 per person

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

| 5 deposit per person

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MOTHER'S DAY LUNCH MENU

Available Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th March 2024

STARTERS

POACHED SALMON

With a champagne hollandaise sauce

DUCK & PLUM SALAD

Mixed leaves & roasted plums

SPICED BUTTERNUT SQUASH SOUP (VG)

Crusty bread & butter

CHICKEN LIVER & REDCURRANT PARFAIT

Mixed leaves, toasted brioche & chutney

SOUTH COAST SCALLOPS

Minted pea purée & crispy pancetta (3 supplement)

All starters GF by special request

MAINS

ROAST KIMMERIDGE TOPSIDE OF BEEF

With Yorkshire pudding & horseradish sauce

ROAST KIMMERIDGE LEG OF LAMB

With Yorkshire pudding a port & redcurrant jus (3 supplement)

ROAST KIMMERIDGE LEG OF PORK

With Yorkshire pudding, stuffing, crackling & apple puree

POACHED SALMON IN A VERONIQUE SAUCE

(grape, white wine & cream)

BEETROOT WELLINGTON (V) (VG by request)

All GF by special request

All served with roast potatoes, parsnips, chantenay carrots,
mange tout, garden peas, swede & red cabbage |

Add dauphinoise potatoes | 5, Add cauliflower cheese | 5

DESSERTS

Lemon Posset with handmade shortbread (GF by request) |

Raspberry & pistachio semifreddo with mixed berry coulis (GF) |

Salted caramel cheesecake & vanilla ice cream | Classic Tiramisu |

Mixed fruit crumble & ice cream (GF) (VG by request)

2 Courses | 27 3 Courses | 32

Children's (under 12's) 2 courses | 15

BOOKING ESSENTIAL | 5 deposit per person

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MOTHER'S DAY AFTERNOON TEA

Available Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th March 2024

Available from 4pm onwards

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

ASSORTED SANDWICHES

Honey glazed ham with mustard mayonnaise

Coastal cheddar cheese with chutney (v)

English Cucumber with cream cheese dill & mint (v)

Coronation chicken

Scottish smoked salmon with a lemon Crème fraîche

Egg mayonnaise & watercress (v)

SAVOURY SELECTION

Chicken liver parfait & house chutney on toasted brioche

Miniature savoury quiches

Brie & Cranberry parcel

SWEET SELECTION

Freshly baked fruit & plain scones

Dorset clotted cream & strawberry preserve

Selection of miniature cakes, pastries & tartlets

Vegan & Gluten-free options available on request

SELECTION OF DORSET TEAS & COFFEE

Breakfast Tea | Camomile | Foraged Fruits | Earl Grey Tea | Green Tea

| Blackberry Syllabub | Mint | Ginger & Sunshine Tea

| 20 per person

Treat yourself

CHAMPAGNE AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon tea and glass champagne

| 25 per person

BOTTOMLESS AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon tea & unlimited Prosecco

| 35 per person

| 5 deposit per person

INCLUDES A FREE GIFT FOR ALL MUMS



Last year you kindly included an article about TWAM – TOOLS WITH A MISSION, so I would like to take this opportunity to update people. There have been several generous donations of surplus garden tools, electrical tools, mechanical items, a compressor, at least 7 sewing machines and 3 knitting machines, carpentry tools, welding equipment, and some haberdashery supplies. The charity collects from us on a regular basis to take donated items to Rugby or Ipswich, where they are checked, refurbished, combined with donated goods from across the UK, put into full kits, ready to start the journey to Africa. A big thank you to all who have contributed recently.

There is an on-going need, so we are always pleased to hear from you with offers of usable tools of all types, which can be transported to Malawi, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe and DR Congo. These refurbished tool kits help to transform rural communities through running skills centres, training and the provision of tools. This year already a container has also been taken to Malawi for distribution. If you look on the website www.twam.uk you can easily check which items can be donated. There is also a need for **Fully working IT equipment** (running a minimum of Microsoft Windows 7), such as desktop computers, laptops, tablets, networking switches and routers, (but not printers or scanners). Also, **Bibles** - in a modern English version are appreciated.

Please contact your local collector via email:- richardf@twam.uk or by phone on 07590 903922 to arrange a convenient time.

Thank you once again for recent contributions and please feel free to pass on TWAM details if you know somebody locally who is trying to downsize or no longer needs various equipment. If you would like a talk at your Church or group, or an informative temporary display, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Judy and Richard Forgan



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The garden is shown on John Hawsteed's early 1600s map and explains why the soil has been disturbed as there is now a large pond filled with water from the mill leat.



Louise Haywood



COMMUNITY WEEKEND TO GIVE PUBLIC RARE OPPORTUNITY

TO GO BEHIND THE SCENES ON THE SWANAGE RAILWAY

Dedicated Swange Railway volunteers are to stage a fascinating two-day Community Weekend giving the public the rare opportunity to go behind the scenes of the award-winning heritage line that has been rebuilt since 1976.

The special event takes place on Saturday and Sunday, 17 and 18 February, 2024, - between 10am and 4pm - with staff at Swange, Herston, Harman's Cross, Corfe Castle and Norden stations taking part.

Half-price standard travel train tickets for the Community Weekend are available in advance from the Swange Railway website, at swanagerailway.co.uk, for people living in the BH and DT postcodes with proof of BH and DT residence having to be supplied when purchasers pick up their tickets from Swange Railway ticket offices on the day.

With advance booking of tickets recommended at swanagerailway.co.uk, there will be the chance to drive a 1950s heritage diesel shunter at Swange for £20, watch a train guard or on-train travelling ticket inspector perform their duties for £5 (additional train travel ticket purchase required) as well as enjoy £5 behind the scenes tours of the award-winning signal boxes at Harman's Cross or Corfe Castle stations.

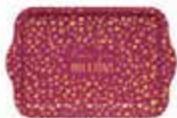
Non-advance bookable free (donations appreciated) attractions will be guided access to the footplate of a steam locomotive at Swange, visits to 1960s heritage telephone exchanges at Harman's Cross and Corfe Castle stations (both subject to volunteer availability) between 10.30am and 3.30pm as well as the chance to have a go at signalling at the Corfe Castle signalling museum (subject to volunteer availability).

Visitors will also be able to chat to volunteers at Herston Halt – which is only accessible on foot or by train - about the development of the Swange Railway's first station since it welcomed its first train from Swange in 1984.

Other non-advance bookable free (donations appreciated) attractions on the Saturday and Sunday include the chance to chat to the restorers of heritage coaches and wagons at Corfe Castle station as well as watch demonstration lifts – between 10.40am and 3.30pm - by 1940s and 1950s railway cranes at

Happy Valentines! 

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Norden station, one of which relaid the Swanage Railway tracks from Herston Halt to Furzebrook between 1983 and 2002.

Demonstration narrow gauge diesel trains will also be operating between 11am and 3pm at the Swanage Railway Trust's Purbeck Mining Museum, next to Norden station, which explains and celebrates the 2,000 year history of Isle of Purbeck ball clay mining.

Event organiser and volunteer guard Clare Collins said: "Our Community Weekend is a different and interesting day out for all the family - a rare opportunity to see behind the scenes of a working heritage railway, explore some of the many different roles required to operate the Swanage Railway and find out about varied volunteering opportunities.

"Volunteering on the Swanage Railway is very fulfilling, it's a great way of meeting new people while assisting with worthwhile community projects at what has become one of Dorset's major tourist attractions," added Clare who is also a volunteer director of the Swanage Railway Trust which manages the heritage line and is a registered charity.

Swanage Railway Trust chairman Frank Roberts said: "It takes more people to operate, maintain and develop the Swanage Railway than many people realise. Our Community Weekend is the first of several special events across 2024 that we hope will be attractive to a wide variety of people of all ages.

"I have been lucky enough to have been a Swanage Railway volunteer for more than 40 years and I find volunteering very fulfilling and enjoyable while working with a splendid group of people of all ages.

"With the Swanage Railway contributing more than £15 million a year to the local economy, we are delighted to give people across the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset and beyond the chance to enjoy a behind the scenes view of a very special heritage railway," added Frank who helped to install the Swanage Railway's lineside telephone system in the 1980s and 1990s while now being the lead volunteer maintaining and developing Herston Halt on the outskirts of Swanage.

More details about the Community Weekend's varied events – as well as terms and conditions for some of the activities and visits - can be found at swanagerailway.co.uk.

Anyone interested in finding out more about volunteering should contact the Swanage Railway volunteer recruitment and retention officer Lisa Gravett on 01929 475212 or email

iwanttovolunteer@swanagerailway.co.uk. Details about volunteering can also be found at swanagerailwaytrust.org/volunteering.



SR Catering volunteers



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All pictures courtesy Andrew P M Wright

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Ramblings of a local gardener

In February the weather is very unpredictable and with the changing weather patterns we have to expect everything gales, snow, frost, rain, fog and hopefully some sun -everything! With the lengthening days, there will be more signs of spring each day and I find it interesting seeing which plants are coming up and are healthy, do they need moving dividing or throwing away. Does the garden have gaps that need filling then I have to find seeds or order more plants. It is fun looking up for new plants that will take whatever weather we get.

Looking at the RHS magazine I see there are a lot of shrubs and small trees of all sizes that would be happy in the ground or in a pot. I was very interested in the nut trees that are successfully growing in Devon and should grow well in Dorset. They recommended pecan nuts 'Carson No 3' or 'Lucas'. Nuts are rich in proteins, vitamins and fibre and are expensive to buy. May I also suggest white walnut, cob nuts and hickory nuts, I have ordered some of these, and a selection of apple trees so I can have fresh apples for 10 months of the year.

Broad beans, early peas and onion sets need sowing on good days, on wet days sow lettuce and other tender plants to put in (when warmer), wherever you have gaps. I put up bird feeders where I can see them from inside the house there is lots to watch all day, blue tits, great tits, blackbirds, dunnocks and lots of house sparrow's despite of a daily visit from a sparrow hawk! I even have woodpeckers, nuthatch and goldfinches some days. In the sky I watch many seagulls, crows, magpies, hawks. Great time wasters, and relaxing.

Don't make your garden too tidy as doing less is often better for wildlife. Plant bulbs in grass and only mow when the leaves die and/or leave mower fairly high. Clover copes well in dry and damp times it feeds the soil, stays short, gives nectar for bee's moths and butterflies, and pigeons will eat clover. One of my blight resident potatoes was covered with nasturtiums all summer and when I dug it up in November, I got 14lb! I was expecting very little.

Other ideas: Put in some grow lights, (use silver foil to reflect/maximise light) to grow food inside in the winter. Install big water tanks and dig over excess flow ponds to prevent water runoff which depletes the nutritional soils, and fills the stream/rivers lower down the system. I am happy to give suggestions by coming to your garden or patio in Purbeck.

Rachel 01929421681

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Pioneer View

Dear friends,

In this month's Pioneer view, I want to take the opportunity to promote some of our groups and activities as well as our vision for 2024. All our groups and activities are fully inclusive and open to all.

The Growing Compassionate Community's charity has developed a vision and agenda for 2024. The vision is ambitious, it really needs to be to meet the significant challenges that are before us all in 2024, particularly around mental health wellbeing, loneliness, and isolation.

A quote about vision that helps me:

"Vision is the art of seeing the invisible." - *Jonathan Swift*

This is what we seek to do within the Growing Compassionate Communities team. We provide a space for the vision to grow organically in order to challenge unjust structures as well seeking to respond to identified community need. Our key aim is to work towards inclusiveness for all diverse groups and people. So, below is a summary of the 2024 GCC vision:

- The Growing compassionate communities' charity will plan and open a trauma centre to support rural communities and promote mental health wellbeing in local farming and the wider community.
- We will seek to partner with Town Councils across Dorset to create hidden disability friendly towns and places.
- Our carpet bowls event continues to meet at the Broadstone Memorial Hall 2pm -4pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month. It restarts in April.
- GCC will plan and deliver 3 workshops to inform and raise awareness of loneliness and isolation in our communities.
- The community allotment is well under way in Corfe Mullen and will be open to all diverse groups and people around April time.

All these projects seek to grow hope in the communities in which we seek to serve.

Perhaps you could reflect on your vision for your journey in 2024.

Go well.

Peter

What's On at Harmans Cross Village Hall

For those of you reading this early, we have our first Stalls at the Hall before the end of January:

Stalls at the Hall – Saturday 27 January 9.30-Noon

Join us at the Hall for local produce, crafts, curios, conversation, cake and coffee (and tea!!). Free entry and free parking with doors open from 9.30am. For anyone interested in taking a table (just £5), please contact our new Bookings Guru, Kelly King on either 07384 848 419 or email at bookings@harmanscrosshall.co.uk. Doors open at 8.15am for tables set up.

Movie Night – Tuesday 13 February – Oppenheimer

The biopic of Oppenheimer was one of the major blockbusters of 2023.

There are two basic storylines, and the film shifts back and forth between them. "Fission" is shot in colour and follows Oppenheimer (Cillian Murphy) through his early years as a graduate student and college professor; his leadership of the Manhattan Project culminating with the Trinity Test; his simultaneous triumph and torment in the wake of Hiroshima and Nagasaki; and the eventual loss of his security clearance thanks in large part to early Communist connections and his outspoken opposition to developing a hydrogen bomb.

"Fusion" is shot in IMAX black-and-white analog photography and follows the 1959 Senate confirmation hearing of Lewis Strauss (Robert Downey Jr.), former chair of the Atomic Energy Commission who—as the film gradually reveals—played a critical role in stripping away Oppenheimer's security clearance five years earlier, angering many in the physics community. The black mark against Oppenheimer's name wasn't fully cleared until December 2022.

It is a long film – 3 hours and 1 minute!! But well worth it and we will have our usual intermission.

Doors and bar open at 7pm with the film starting at 7.30pm as always, and entry on the night remains just £5.

Future dates for your diaries

Coffee Junction – Thursday 8 and 22 Feb from 10.30am

HXVH Church – Sunday 18 Feb at 6pm

Movie Night – Tuesday 12 March – Mission Impossible: Dead Reckoning

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REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL

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- Ballett – Miranda Hindson telephone 07919441836
mjballet@gmail.com
- Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00
bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com
- Shotokan Karate – www.warehamskc.co.uk

TUESDAY

- Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 –
bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com
- Pilates – Alex Moore telephone 07536103364
almoore1@live.co.uk

WEDNESDAY

- Say so Drama 10:30 – 12.00 Adults with learning difficulties
- Emma 07725942609
- Yoga - Pam Steele – 01929 556714
steelepamela08@gmail.com

THURSDAY

- Shotokan Karate www.warehamskc.co.uk

FRIDAY

- Weekly Health Qigong Fitness 9.30 & 10.45 am – Penny Youssef 07969925502
- Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 –
bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com

SUNDAY

- Purbeck Antiques Last Sunday of each month – 01929 761398

Church Knowle Parish Council meetings take place at Furzebrook Village Hall February, April, June, August, October and December 2024 (2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6.30).

January, March, May, July, September, November 2024 meetings will be held at Church Knowle Village Hall (2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6.30)



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- Specialist medical equipment
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The Trustees will also consider applications for assistance in connection with the following :

- Education and Training
- Domestic and Family expenses
- Grants to organisations

For further information please contact:

The Clerk to the Trustees,
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2 Battlemead

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The Corfe Valley News is a non-profit making organisation run entirely by volunteers. We therefore rely on advertisers, organisations and societies to contribute to the costs of production. We are also greatly helped by the donations made by individuals each year. Thank you to those who have already done this. You may like to know that donations can be made by BACS payment: the Sort Code and Account numbers are provided below. You can make your donation anonymously if you prefer but it would help if you could enter 'Donation' in the reference field.

As the Corfe Valley News is run by volunteers the main overhead is the cost of printing, and particularly the cost of paper, which is rising all the time. We have not increased our advertising charges since December 2018 but the recent increase in paper prices has forced us to review our charges. The new rates shown below will be effective from the 1st September 2022.

Organisations and societies that make a yearly contribution to production costs will in future receive a breakdown of the actual costs of their articles and reports. We hope that where possible you will try to increase your contributions in line with these actual costs.

Thank you to everyone who helps to keep us viable by their contributions.

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Regular events in Corfe Castle & environs

	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
MONDAY			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre school	The Pre School
Each	10.00-11.00am	Coffee Morning	Springwell Close
Each	2.30 - 4.30	Whist and tea	Springwell Close
Each	10am – 1pm	Pottery Class	Furzebrook Studios
1st	7pm	Double Act	C C Village Hall
2 nd	7pm	CC Parish Council	C C Village Hall
TUESDAY			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre school	The Pre School
Each	9.15 – 10.45am	& 11am – 12 Yoga	Langton Scout Hut
Each	9.30 - 11.30	Intermediate yoga	Swanage - 477169
Each	10.30-noon	Parent & Child Group	C C Village Hall
Each	6.15-7.45pm	Brownies (term-time)	C C Village Hall
Each	6.30 – 7.30pm	Adult Ballroom Dance	C C Village Hall Donna 01202 243803
Each	7.45 – 9.15pm	Badminton	C C Village Hall
1st	2 pm	Aquarius	C C Village Hall
2 nd	7.30pm	CK parish Council	Odd months Furzebrook VH; even CK
WEDNESDAY			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre school	The Pre School
Each	9.30am- noon	Intermediate yoga	Kimmeridge 477169
Each	9.45am-12.45	Wool Workshop	C.C. Village Hall
Each	7-9pm	Youth Club	C C Village Hall
Each	8.30	Poker	Corfe Castle Club
THURSDAY			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre school	The Pre School
Each	10.00 - 11.30am	Busy Bees	CC Primary School
3rd	11.30am	Probus Club	Mortons Manor
3rd	7 pm	CC Environment Gp	Mortons Manor
Each	6.30 – 8.00 pm	Yoga (439041)	Harmans Cross VH
Each	10.00 – 1.0 pm	Pottery Class	Furzebrook Studios
Alternate	7.30pm	Bingo	C C Village Hall
FRIDAY			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre school	The Pre School
Each	10am – 1pm	Pottery Classes	Furzebrook Studios
Each	8.30pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club
SATURDAY			
1st	10.30am	Village Coffee Morning	C C Village Hall
SUNDAY			
Each	1.00pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club

Please send any alterations to this list to the Editor, at the address in the front. Whilst care is taken to establish our advertisers are bona fide, readers are advised to take their own precautions before entering into any agreement