

## DIRECTORY OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

AQUARIUS CORFE CASTLE WOMEN IN TOUCH	SUE SEDGLEY	289102
BADMINTON	CHRISTINE KEMP	480007
BUSY BEES	SAM COLE	481631
CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES	STEFF ROBINSON	07584079401
CHURCH KNOWLE FOOD FAYRE	ANN WAINWRIGHT	480567
CHURCH KNOWLE PARISH CLERK	ANDREW PARSONS	208215
CHURCH KNOWLE VILLAGE HALL	ANGELA BOON	480534
CHURCH KNOWLE READING ROOM BOOKINGS	ANGELA BOON	480534
EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	CELIA TAYLOR	07908807115
CORFE CASTLE CHARITY	MANDY MEAKER	480873
CORFE CASTLE CLUB	BAR STEWARD (CHUBBY)	480591
CORFE CASTLE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST	ALISON PALMER	480096
CORFE CASTLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY		480760
CORFE CASTLE CE PRIMARY & PRESCHOOL	AMY HOWE (Headteacher)	480428
CORFE CASTLE FOOTBALL CLUB	KEVIN REYNOLDS	480179
CORFE CASTLE GARDENING CLUB	CHRIS CLARKE	480095
CORFE CASTLE RINGERS	JOHN BEAUCHAMP	480915
CORFE CASTLE SURGERY	Dr MARK LEPPER	480441
CRAZY 4 CORFE	DENISE FULLER	477247
CORFE CASTLE LATIN AMERICAN & BALLROOM	DONNA DEBELIUS	07518 056149
CORFE CASTLE LINE DANCE	DONNA DEBELIUS	07518 056149
CORFE CASTLE PARISH CLERK	MICHELLE HARRINGTON	01202 670105
CORFE CASTLE TOWN TRUST	LOUISE HAYWOOD	481375
CORFE CASTLE TOWN HALL BOOKINGS	JOHN LINDSAY	481498
CORFE CASTLE YOUTH CLUB	DONNA BICKERSTAFF	07814013747
CORFE CASTLE TODDLER GROUP	CHERYL THAKE	07745242511
CORFE CASTLE VILLAGE HALL	DAVID ATKIN	07590352219
CORFE CRAFTERS	CHERYL THAKE	07745242511
DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST KIMMERIDGE	JULIE HATCHER	481044
DOUBLE ACT drama group	DAVID WATSON	481265
DORSET BLIND ASSOCIATION	LEAH CROSS	01202 712869
FRIENDS OF C C COMMUNITY LIBRARY	ALISON ALLWRIGHT	480123
FRIENDS OF THE SURGERY	KATHY MORRIS	425890
FURZEBROOK HALL BOOKINGS	TINA BEST	07935068881
FURZEBROOK WHIST DRIVES	EILEEN CAKE	552392
GOD'S ACRE CLERK	MICHELLE HARRINGTON	01202 670105
KIMMERIDGE VILLAGE HALL	OFFICE	270000
LOCAL HISTORY GROUP	LOUISE HAYWOOD	481375
MARGARET GREEN ANIMAL RESCUE	HEAD OFFICE	480474
MILLENNIUM PAVILION BOOKINGS	DEBBIE REYNOLDS	480179
NATIONAL TRUST	PURBECK OFFICE	450002
PARISH CHURCHES		208578
POTTERY IN PURBECK	RACHEL FOOKS	480455
PROBUS CLUB	STAN LAYTON	480038
PURBECK ASS'N of the NATIONAL TRUST	DAVID COLE	550488
PURBECK CHESS CLUB	STEVE PEIRSON	552504
PURBECK GARDENING CLUB	CYRIL HARRISON	552105
ROYAL BRITISH LEGION	GEOFF VARNEY	480591
SPORTS TRUST	DENISE FULLER	477247
SWANAGE AND PURBECK ROTARY	DEIRDRE SELWYN	480279

# CORFE VALLEY NEWS



## MAY 2025

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

FAMILY OWNED FUNERAL DIRECTORS

## ALBERT MARSH

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Your loved one's day.  
Your loved one's way



Douch  
Family

Est.1910

Every service we arrange is customised to reflect the unique life being celebrated. Whether it's incorporating your loved one's personality and preferences or honouring their passions, we'll create a meaningful and personalised farewell.



★ Trustpilot



ALBERTMARSH.CO.UK • 01929 552 107

OFFICE@ALBERTMARSH.CO.UK • ST MICHAELS ROAD, WAREHAM BH20 4QU

## 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 517 May 2025

### Editor

Stephen Dru Drury  
55 East Street,  
Corfe Castle  
Tel: 480074

### Deputy

Emma Lacey  
45 Halves Cottages  
Corfe Castle  
Tel: 480196

Email: [corfevalleynews@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:corfevalleynews@tiscali.co.uk)

Website: [www.corfevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.corfevalleynews.co.uk)

### Treasurer and Advertising

Karen Spooner  
Meadowside  
129 East Street  
Corfe Castle, BH20 5EG  
07849402973

Email:- [Cvntreasurer129@gmail.com](mailto:Cvntreasurer129@gmail.com)

### Distribution

Hilary Watson  
Wessex House  
Calcraft Rd  
Corfe Castle  
481265

### **Delivery helpers**

Mrs Sally Feben-Smith (Kingston), Mrs Sara Fuller, Ms Holly Gilmour-Cox, Mr Cross, Mrs Dowland (Creech), Mrs Mitchell, Mr & Mrs Batchelor, Mrs Finch, Ms Ann Cooper, Mrs. Earwicker (Kimmeridge), Mrs Spinney, Mrs Steff Robinson, Mrs Hull (Church Knowle), Mrs Withers, Mr D Ryder, Mr & Mrs Watson, Mrs Proudman, Ms Abigail Baker, Mr and Mrs Leach, Mr Jim White, Mrs Teresa Neal, Mr Alan Neal, Mr & Mrs Eady, Ms Jayne Wilson, Mr & Mrs Fuller.

### **Past editors**

John Parsons 1982-85  
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](mailto:corfevalleynews@tiscali.co.uk)

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

## **Editorial**

Last month I mentioned that we would soon be sending out the contribution envelopes and I said that each copy of the magazine costs £14. That is the annual figure rather than the monthly one. The magazine actually costs £1.20 per copy per month to produce, so please return the envelopes with whatever you can afford, but £14 would be great.

Everyone is invited to the Annual Parish meeting which is at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> May. Come along to hear what is being said and learn about what is going on within the village.

The Easter weekend was very busy, and it was good to see that the National Trust opened North Field to provide extra parking near to Castle View. The parking was well used. Hopefully traders did well over the weekend.

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 – Ben Wilson	07767 398627

## **Corfe Valley News**

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

Established June 1982  
Issue No 517 May 2025

## **Contents**

6-9	Corfe Castle Parish Council
10	VE80 Celebrations
13	Corfe Castle Environmental Group
14-17	National Trust
18-19	Church Knowle Parish Council
22	Corfe Castle School and Preschool
23	Corfe Castle Club
25	Double Act Drama Group
26	News from the Library
31	Aquarius
33-34	Corfe Castle Surgery and PPG
36-37	Purbeck Film Festival
38-39	Purbeck Youth Music
39	Corfe Castle Village Hall
41	Corfe Community Kitchen
42-43	Centre Page Calendar
44	Useful Phone Numbers
45-48	Church of England
52-53	The Pioneer View
53-55	CC Charities' Land at East Woolgarston
56-60	Notices and Thanks
63	Chapel on the Green
67-68	Kimmeridge News
70-71	VE Day in Corfe Castle
77	Harmans Cross Village Hall
74-76	Swanage Railway
79	Furzebrook Village Hall
81	Corfe Castle Charity
82	Advertising Information
83	Regular Events in Corfe Castle and environs

The cover picture is a view of Smedmore House.  
The sketch is from Unknown Dorset by Donald Maxwell dated 1927.

## APRIL FOR CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

As spring settles in across Corfe Castle Parish, the Council continues its work on local matters that impact our daily lives, from protecting our beautiful byways to planning for long-term housing needs and greener community spaces. Here's a round-up of what was discussed and decided at the most recent full council meeting, held in April.

### **Protecting the Rights of Way and Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT):**

Corfe Castle Parish Council supports Church Knowle's initiative encouraging responsible use of Rights of Way and Byways Open to All Traffic (BOATs). A joint application for funding from the Dorset Police & Crime Commissioner to install signage discouraging anti-social behaviour will be submitted soon.

**Corfe Castle Parish Council Opposes Sale of Rented Homes:** Corfe Castle Parish Council has voiced strong opposition to the sale of rented properties, due to the potential loss of vital rental accommodation within the village. The Council is particularly concerned about the distress such sales can cause to long-standing tenants and believes that evictions should be avoided wherever possible. Recognising the importance of maintaining a stable and accessible rental market, the Council is open to discussions and committed to exploring alternative solutions. The Council express a willingness to work collaboratively with landlords, housing associations, and other third parties to help protect and expand the availability of rented accommodation within the parish.

**BMX / Skate Park:** The Parish Council has recently been approached with a suggestion to create a BMX and skate park within the village. While no decisions have been made, we are keen to hear from residents before exploring this idea further. Your thoughts, whether supportive or not, are important in helping us understand the level of local interest and any concerns. Please get in touch to share your views.

**New adult exercise equipment:** The Council has approved in principle a new adult fitness area by the Sports pavilion with five exercise machines. It has provisionally allocated £15k from reserves. Planning permission will now be applied for.

**Tree Planting:** The Council has agreed to plant trees in several locations later this year using funds in the Environment group reserve. The locations are listed on the agenda papers for the April meeting.

**Council wins bus grant:** The council has provisionally been awarded £5k from Dorset Council to investigate and run a shuttle between Purbeck Park and the

village. Any new service could not operate until 2026 and this timing has to be agreed with Dorset Council.

**Water Recycling Centres:** Corfe Castle Parish Council received updates regarding Wessex Water; upgrades are approved but may not be completed until after 2030. An invitation was extended to visit a recycling site in April, which Cllr Sumbler accepted.

**Financial Matters & Audit:** The Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2024/25 was reviewed and approved. The AGAR documents will be submitted to BDO LLP for an intermediate audit. Accounts are open for public viewing between 3<sup>rd</sup> June and 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025. Please contact the Clerk via email to book a viewing appointment.

**Planning application update:** Full details for all planning applications can be found on the Dorset Council website, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning>. The following applications have been received by Corfe Castle Parish Council:

**Application No:** P/TRC/2025/01555, **Location:** Corfe Castle Railway Station, Station Road Corfe Castle BH20 5EJ **Proposal:** T1 Yew - Fell. **Comment:** On grounds of safety no objection.

**Application No:** P/NOTP/2025/01600, **Location:** West Street Corfe Castle Kingston East Holme, **Proposal:** Removal of three phone boxes, **Comment:** No comment.

**Application No:** P/HOU/2025/01344 & P/LBC/2025/01345, **Location:** 78 East Street Corfe Castle BH20 5EQ, **Proposal:** Raise and replace roof on existing single-storey rear addition and install new French doors. Remove coal bunker to rear and infill blockwork. Remove hanging basket metalwork to front. Remove bathroom window and install skylight. Replace staircase and removal of chimney cladding. Remove internal kitchen wall and further wall below internal window. Erect new internal wall to facilitate WC. New floor infill and internal partition walls at first floor. **Comment:** Corfe Castle Parish Council have no objection. The removal of the hanging basket metalwork will facilitate maintenance and replacing the polycarbonate roof and U-PVC doors with a flat roof, roof lantern, and timber French doors enhances the building's character. The use of timber in place of U-PVC is more appropriate for the listed setting.

The proposals align with pre-application advice and are supported by the conservation officer. There is no harm to heritage assets, and the alterations support the continued use and upkeep of the property.



**Application** No: P/FUL/2025/00932, **Location:** Wytch Farm Gathering Station Access Road to Wytch Gathering Station Corfe Castle BH20 5JR, **Proposal:** Installation and operation of a replacement produced water pipeline between Wellsite B2 and the Gathering Station, Wytch Farm Oilfield, by horizontal directional drilling., **Comment:** Corfe Castle Parish Council have no objection, as Perenco plans to use Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) rather than an open trench, which will reduce site disturbance.

**Application** No: P/HOU/2025/01896, **Location:** 58 West Street Corfe Castle BH20 5HE, **Proposal:** Single storey wrap around rear extension, **Comment:** Corfe Castle Parish Council have no objection, as this is a reduction in size of the extension from the original application and is welcomed with the new scheme being more proportionate to the size of the site. The use of pebbledash as the external finish is in keeping with the existing building.

**Application** No: P/TRC/2025/02167, **Location:** 38 East Street, Corfe Castle, BH20 5EQ, **Proposal:** G1 Group of 3x Lawson Cypress in hedgerow - Remove to ground level., G2 Group of mixed elder and dead / small living Lawson cypress (approx. 15 small hedge plants) - Approx. 7m length to be removed to ground level. T2 & T3 Elders - Fell to ground level. T4 Plum - Reduce 1x main stem by approximately 2m, as indicated on submitted photograph. T4a Sycamore (self-seeded sapling in brambles) - Remove to ground level. T5 Plum - Remove to ground level. **Comment:** No objection.

**Dorset Council Updates:** Dorset Council have appointed a new Chief Executive Dr Catherine Howe. Dr Howe has a varied background in both Commercial and Local Authorities. Dr Howe will join in August.

**Street Lighting:** A consultation has been launched on Street lighting including the use of different light bulbs. All residents are encouraged to respond. Survey closes 4th May 2025

**Affordable Homes:** Dorset Councillors support an approach to double the number of affordable homes in Dorset. This will be achieved through use of council-owned land and buildings and by leasing more homes across the county.

**Council Tax** – Dorset Council have a dedicated web page for Council Tax ([www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/council-tax](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/council-tax)). If a resident has any queries, they should first visit this page.

**Cost of Living Help** – Dorset Council are again offering free, confidential, and impartial support on: money worries, accessing affordable food, housing and employment rights and looking after your mental health. Please visit <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/cost-of-living-help>  
Dorset Council are also working with the Dorset Citizen's Advice to offer advice and support on: money and benefits, access to food, housing, support for children,

mental health and wellbeing, energy, water, phone, and broadband costs, managing debt, employment, and general help

**New trip poster:** As part of our campaign to get our pavements re-laid properly, we need to tell Dorset Council about the trip hazards people face. See our poster below. If you have an accident please tell us.

**Next Council Meeting:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025, at 7pm in the Corfe Castle Village Hall, Bill Carter Room. To start the meeting is a public session, so please come and join us and have your say.

And don't forget the Annual Parish meeting on 19 May at 6.30 pm!

**Parish Council contact details:** Clerk: Michelle Harrington,  
**Telephone:** 01202 670105, **Email:** [clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk),  
**Write:** 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ,  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC](http://www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC),  
**Website:** [www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)



**TRIP HAZARD**

**TELL US ABOUT A FALL OR STUMBLE WHEN OUT AND ABOUT AROUND CORFE CASTLE.**

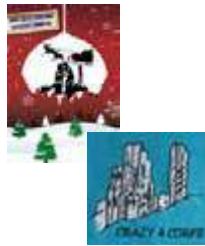
The Parish Council are investigating the pavements in and around Corfe Castle and we need your help.

If you have had a fall or stumble, please email the clerk and let us know. If possible let us know the day, time and weather conditions along with the severity of your injury and how long it took you to recover.

We are interested to hear about all incidents, no matter the severity of the injury.

Scan to email the Parish Council

Corfe Castle Parish Council  
email [clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)



**A day of commemoration / An evening in the Castle grounds**

09.00 Flag raising ceremony in village Square  
 18.00 Bellingring to herald the evening event  
 18.30 Gates open, free entry, bring chairs/rugs/picnic/torch  
 19.00 Entertainment from DoubleAct and 'Big Bake' judging  
 19.30 A ticketed fish & chip supper – SEE BELOW!  
 20.30 Entertainment and 'Big Bake' prizegiving  
 20.45-2100 Proclamation, Beacon lighting and singing of hymn

Refreshments  
 (hot and cold drinks)  
 by Aquarius

**FISH & CHIPS!** We will pay tribute to the fisherman that braved the dangerous seas, along with the farmers and Land Girls that farmed the fields (Fish and Chips was one of the very few foods not rationed by Prime Minister Churchill during the dark days of WWII). *300 portions of fish & chips will be available in exchange for free tickets which can be collected at Coffee Mornings, Soup & Pud lunches, Aquarius, Probus meetings and at Corfe Castle Club in April and maybe early May. There is a strict limit of 300 and maximum of 5 tickets per household (all adult portions, so sharing is possible). Once the tickets have gone, that's it, but you can still bring along a picnic if you are unlucky. Serving will be by ticket number groups to avoid a stampede.*

**Enter the 'BIG BAKE' competition** Celebrate Britain's women's incredible effort during WWII by making the **Official Women's Institute VE Day 2025 Orange and Ginger Cake**. Recipe on the VE80 website: <https://ve80.com> This is a simple and classic bake and is made using the Rubbing In Method not often seen these days. Just bring along your entry on the night.

**PLEASE NOTE:** All cakes will be given to the Aquarius refreshment stall, and available to sample for a suggested donation, after judging.

We encourage representatives from local organisations to be involved If you have not already been contacted please email [CCVE80@gmail.com](mailto:CCVE80@gmail.com) to register interest in this community event!

## CORFE CASTLE PARISH MEETING

**19  
MAY**

PLACE OF THE EVENT  
 Village Hall



TIME OF THE EVENT  
 6.30pm

[WWW.CORFECASTLEPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK](http://WWW.CORFECASTLEPARISHCOUNCIL.GOV.UK)

The Parish Council would like to invite you to the Annual Parish Assembly. This meeting is an opportunity for the community to come together to celebrate, talk to the different village groups and organisations, share ideas and to suggest ways of making our village even better.

Come and enjoy a FREE cup of tea or coffee with a cheeky little biscuit!!

# QUALITY AND RELIABILITY FROM YOUR FRIENDLY, LOCAL PRINTING COMPANY

*Help and advice with your layout, logo, design or  
print work is always a pleasure*

**BUSINESS CARDS AND FORMS • BROCHURES • FLYERS  
BANNERS • FLAGS • SIGNS • STICKERS • POSTERS  
INVITATIONS • BOOKS • GREETING CARDS • MENUS**

Please contact Tim Lacey on  
**01202 622220**  
or email [print@octopress.co.uk](mailto:print@octopress.co.uk)

**Octopress  
Printers**

Unit B10 • 46 Holton Road • Holton Heath • BH16 6LT

## Purbeck Landscapes

**Complete outdoor design and project management**

Patios	Groundworks
Paths and driveways	Purbeck stone walling
Landscaping	Fencing
Decking	Foundations
Lawns	Timber structures
Artificial turf	Raised beds and planters

Call today to see how we could improve your outdoor space

**[www.purbeckld.co.uk](http://www.purbeckld.co.uk)**

**01929 253112**



## Environmental Group Update



**Have you seen the wind turbines turning in Dorset's only  
Wind Farm, right here in Purbeck?**

After 20 years in the making, the four turbines at Alaska Wind Farm at Masters Quarry in East Stoke, near Wareham, are now fully operational. They are expected to generate clean electricity until 2045, enough to meet the estimated average demand for over 5,000 households every year.

[Photo courtesy of Alaska Wind Farm / Infinergy]

**Below is a reminder of our next two confirmed event dates:**

**Wednesday 7th May meet at West Street Car Park at 8pm**

Join us and the National Trust as we head to Corfe Common to see (hear!) bats! The National Trust will bring their audible bat detectors and use these not only to locate the bats but also hopefully to identify what species they are. We are also going to try to borrow a thermal imaging device so we can actually visually track the bats as they fly past us – great fun!



**Friday 6th June meet at Corfe Castle Village Square at 7pm**

As a follow up to Richard's April talk, we will be hosting a swift spotting walk around Corfe Castle village led by both Richard and Julie Hatcher of the Swift Group, and as part of this will investigate if we can identify any suitable sites for swift nest boxes.

**Events still in the planning stage:**

**Late May**– a plant survey of the “wild” bank on the right hand side of God's Acre to compare with our 2023 survey.

**June / July** – walk and picnic on the Common

**October** – fungi spotting walk. **November** – hedge / tree planting session(s).

**All events are free and everyone is welcome!**

**Get in touch:** Parish Clerk (Michelle) -  
[environmentgroup@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:environmentgroup@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Facebook:** “Corfe Castle Environmental Group”

**Core Members:** Helen, Tom, David, Luke & Richard





**National  
Trust**

## Young environmentalists meet minister

Students from the Purbeck School were among the first in the country to gain qualifications in the new Environment Leaders Programme. Under the guidance of the National Trust, the 13 sixth form students worked on initiatives across the Purbeck Heaths. They included projects to raise awareness of threats to ground-nesting birds, tree planting, tracking the grazing pigs and creating an Instagram account to encourage other young people to get out into the countryside.

The students reported that the scheme had helped build their self-confidence and leadership skills, as well as ignite a passion for nature and the outdoors. The award presentation was attended by local MP, Lloyd Hatton.



*Environment leaders –  
photo Cathy Lewis*



*Photo: James Broomfield*

### **Adders – shy and secretive snakes**

This stunning photo of an adder was snapped at Corfe Castle! Now is a good time to glimpse these rare snakes, especially in the mornings when they bask in the sun to build up their energy.

Adders are venomous, but their venom is used to immobilise the small animals they prey on. They aren't aggressive and will usually disappear when they hear your footfall.

Remember:

- Never try to handle adders.
- Keep to paths rather than walking in long vegetation.
- Discourage your dogs from exploring in long grass, heather or gorse.
- If you are bitten, seek medical help immediately, or likewise take your dog to a vet.

Find out more here: <https://www.arc-trust.org/facts-and-advice-on-adder-bites#D>

## **Mystery of puffin decline**

Despite extensive footage from remote cameras last year, the reason for the decline of the puffin colony near Dancing Ledge remains a mystery.

The cameras were installed in 2024, in the narrow fissure on the cliff where the puffins nest. The hope was that footage would reveal why pufflings (chicks) aren't surviving to fledge, with predation by rats thought to be the most likely cause. Volunteers have since combed through over 70,000 photos – but no rodents were captured on film.



*Puffin on ledge caught by  
remote cameras*

The investigations have been led by marine ornithologist, Dr Richard Caldw. Although

disappointed that the cameras didn't reveal what the problem is, he and a team of volunteers are continuing monitoring this year. We're also asking boat operators to share any photos which show exactly where the puffins are nesting. Then we plan to reinstate the cameras next year, using better equipment in more precise locations.

### **Wildfire risk warning**

As you'll probably have seen on the news, there is high risk of wildfires on the commons and Purbeck Heaths at the moment. Sadly, there have been several cases of arson on other heaths in Dorset, so please be vigilant and call 999 if you see any suspicious activity. (Note, there are no more controlled burns until November.) Help keep everyone safe and protect our precious wildlife.

If you have any queries about wildlife or how we are looking after the Corfe Commons and Purbeck Heaths, email us on [purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Cathy Lewis, the National Trust





National  
Trust

## News from the Castle.

### May fair

We're looking forward to welcoming you all for the Village May Fair on Monday May 26<sup>th</sup> organised by the Corfe Castle festivities committee. The castle opens from 10am to 5pm and as we're also open to the general public, please don't forget to bring your proof of address for entrance. Entry is free to the castle for those living within Corfe Parish postcodes only.

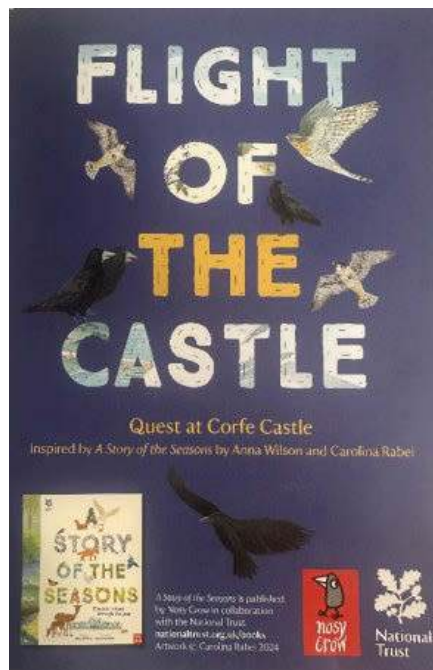
King John originally granted the villagers of Corfe an annual fair in the square and then at some point it moved to the castle. Pam White reminded us that in 1989/90 the third tower was excavated and remnants of coconuts from a coconut shy and coloured glass from decorations were found. There are lots of stories throughout the years (including a dancing bear tethered under the Outer Bridge!) and if you have any memories or stories that have been passed down, please contact Pam White on [pam.white@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:pam.white@nationaltrust.org.uk) who would be keen to hear them.

### Family quest

Our new quest asks visitors to explore the ruins and discover the birds that call the castle home. Each quest board features illustrations from the book, *A Story of the Seasons* which is published by Nosy Crow

### Medieval Mayhem!

Our early May Bank Holiday event is called Medieval Mayhem and we're inviting visitors to help replicate the ruins with loads of Lego, dance around our disco maypole, play garden games such as archery and construction blocks, explore the ruins with our family quest and to come dressed as your best medieval knight, princess or peasant (or borrow outfits when you arrive)!



On Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May, around seventy members of the Dorchester and Bridport Rock Choirs are set to perform (11.30am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm). One member of the choir, Belinda Tatchell has had family on the Isle of Purbeck for five generations. Belinda said "Corfe castle is close to many of our hearts – my father was a Purbeck stonemason here and we're really excited to be singing within its' walls"

2-5 May | Free entry to National Trust members and local community | 10am - 5.30pm

### May half term

As part of VE day commemorations, John, our brilliant storyteller is taking families on a fun and interactive tour of the castle to show how the castle played its last defensive role using secret agents, cunning weapons and battles for the sky.



### Guided walks

There are two guided walks during May: Corfe Castle to Kingston on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1-3.30pm and The Purbeck Ridgeway and East Corfe Common on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1-3.30pm. Booking via website.



**SELF STORAGE UNITS**  
(for private use)

**Insulated, Individually Alarmed for  
Furniture, Classic Cars or Documents**

**East Stoke, Wareham**  
**Telephone: 07836 369969**

E - [mb@malcolmbarnes.co.uk](mailto:mb@malcolmbarnes.co.uk) Web - [www.purbeckselfstorage.co.uk](http://www.purbeckselfstorage.co.uk)

## Church Knowle Parish Council

The April meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council took place in the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 6:30pm. It was attended by six members of the Council (Cllr Burt in the chair), four members of the public and the Dorset ward councillor Ben Wilson.

The main items of interest in the meeting were:

### Public Discussion

Cotness Lakes. Mr Elwood enquired about the status of the work at the Lakes. The people undertaking the tree work are in close contact with the Forestry Authority and have been awarded a grant to assist with the woodland maintenance. They are liaising with the Parish Council planning specialist about any planning requirement for future work.

Roadside stakes at Blue Pool. Oak stakes have been installed on the roadside verge at the Blue Pool. The question of whether these required permission from Dorset Highways was raised.

Damage to Unsurfaced Roads along the ridge. This is ongoing and a plan of action co-ordinated with other interested councils is in hand.

### Planning

An application was received for a garage at 4 Tyneham. The council had no objection but supported the conservation officer's recommendations that it have a pitched roof.

A statutory application for camping at the New Inn was received. This is allowed under the regulations and the council was not required to comment.

### The Neighbourhood Plan

This is progressing under the chair of the Steering Committee, Mrs Pippa Edwards. The parish wide housing needs survey is being processed with help from Dorset Council.

### Report from Dorset Councillor

Dorset Council has a new chief executive Dr Catherine Howe.

### The Corfe River

A technical site visit to the Corfe Treatment Works is organised for 23<sup>rd</sup> April.

### Vacancies on the Parish Council

There is still one vacancy on the council which has a full strength of nine and any interested parishioners can apply to [clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk).

The meeting finished at 8:05 pm. The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be at the Church Knowle Village Hall at 6:30 on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place before this at 6:00 in the Village Hall.

**WALX is a Purbeck based company taking the UK by storm**

**Come and join us for pole walking, rehabilitation, mindfulness or simply a friendly way to exercise safely outdoors**  
*All levels welcome*

Works upper body

Engages the core

Reduce pressure on joints

Lighter on your feet

**WALX**

**POWER OF POLES**  
90 MINUTE COURSE

All kit provided plus  
**10% DISCOUNT**  
to buy your own

T. 0333 1234 540

**w a l x d o r s e t . c o . u k**

## NORDEN FARM SHOP & GARDEN CENTRE

Open seven days a week!  
8.30 – 6.00



### Garden Barn / Mini Garden Centre

- New plants arriving each week from our trusted suppliers.
- Fully stocked with gardening tools and compost.
- Large selection of seeds and plant supplements available.
- Summer bedding and Vegetable plants arrived.
- Our well-stocked Garden Barn is still impressing those who haven't ventured in yet – have you been in?

### Farm Shop

- As always, we have fantastic giftware, local spirits, wines & groceries galore!
- Big focus on the very best **local** produce.
- Large range of Lucy's Farm gifts
- Expansion of lines with the camping season approaching.
- Our impressive range of toys & treats is proving popular amongst the little ones...and grown-ups too!

### Delivery

- Order by 12pm on Monday to receive your delivery on Tuesday (£5 fee)
- All Barn, Pet or Garden items are limited to maximum of 10 bags/bales per delivery. Kerbside delivery
- Check our website or give us a call – The team will be happy to help.

shop@nordenfarm.com - 01929 480098 - www.nordenfarmshop.com



## HEARTWOOD

Tree Management

### Expert Arborist & Tree Surgery at Competitive Prices

Based in Purbeck and covering Swanage, Wareham and most of Dorset.

We deliver a service of the highest possible quality using the latest equipment and techniques, your trees receive the best possible care.

Cost is important and that's why we offer competitive prices without compromising on the quality, providing free, no-obligation quotes for all of our services, so you can make an informed decision without any hidden costs.

We are fully insured for complete peace of mind.

### Our Services Include



**Tree Work**



**Fencing**



**Stump Removal**



**Site Clearance**



**Landscaping**



**Commercial Work**



**Hedge Work**



**TPOs** (Tree Preservation Orders)

**We also sell Local Kiln Dried Logs  
and Wood Chip Mulch**



**Contact us today to discuss your tree care needs  
and for a free, no-obligation quote.**

**Call Dickon Hannant on**

**01929 480995**



**info@heartwoodtreemanagement.co.uk**  
71 Furzebrook Rd, Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5AR



**For emergency tree removal please call: 07920 146 322**

**www.heartwoodtreemanagement.co.uk**





## Corfe Castle CE Primary School & Pre-School



Another month has raced by and it has been a joy to see the blossom and buds bloom and the return of the cuckoo and other wildlife filling the world with song and joy.

The Easter break seems like an eternity ago and before long it will be half-term again!

As is often the case, I take myself away at different times of the year to reflect on my service to the school and our children. This Easter I spent the Easter weekend across Lincoln Cathedral, Peterborough Cathedral and Norwich Cathedral – all of which have become meaningful and important to me following recent events in my life.

It gave me time think on our vision here at the school of *"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

I was unable to attend the last Quiz Night but I am extremely grateful to Martyn Jessop and the village for money raised to support the playground development. This has been an ongoing project to secure funding before submitting plans and ideas – each donation helps us edge that much closer to the final goal.

I am so thankful for the community of Corfe, the parents, the children and other stakeholders who support me in serving our families and children here.

Upcoming date for your diary:

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Summer Fair

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





## Corfe Castle Club

### Club Facilities

- Large function room
- Free Wi-Fi, Pool Table, Dartboards and Table Games
- Garden with seating and 2 Boules Pitches
- Large screen TV for showing major sporting and other key events . We also have : 
- Chubby's rolls & pies
- Families welcome

### Opening Times

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  
Chase the Ace Draw: Sat 9.00pm  
Meat Draw: Sat evening  
One Card Bingo: Sun 1.00pm

### Forthcoming Events

Sat 10 May 3pm—The Land Girls  
Sun 25 May 2pm—Knockout  
Doubles Boules Competition  
Sat 19 July—Beer Festival

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.

## Wessex and Channel Islands

# CAMRA Club of the Year

## 2024



Address: 70 East Street

Telephone: 01929 480591

We are still home to the Corfe Castle branch of the Royal British Legion

## *The Castle Inn*



63 East Street, Corfe Castle BH20 5EE

Call 01929 480208

[www.castleinn.co.uk](http://www.castleinn.co.uk)

### *News from The Castle*

May is here, the weather is getting warmer, and our beautiful pub garden is ready to welcome you for an al fresco lunch or a glass of your favourite beverage! See what we have going on in May below.

#### **Friday is Fish Night**

If you enjoy delicious fish & shellfish dishes, sourced from as local as we can get, then this is the night for you! Every Friday we host a fabulous fish specials board, with lots of options to get those tastebuds going! You might even find oysters & mussels on the board! Get your table booked today.

#### **Sunday serving Roast Dinner's All Day**

Sunday's we serve delicious roast dinners all day long from midday. Offering a choice of Chicken, Pork, Beef, Nut or mixed, our roasts are second to none! If roasts aren't your thing, don't worry as we have an alternative menu on offer, plus kids meals. Sundays are usually quite busy, so we would definitely recommend booking a table!

From everyone at the Castle Inn, we hope you have a beautiful month.



#### **Double Act Wins NODA Award Again!**

We are thrilled to announce that last November's production of **'This Secret Isle'**, written and directed by Peter Smith, has won the District Achievement Award! The District covers all Dorset apart from Bournemouth, Poole Christchurch, and Ferndown. This is a well deserved accolade for all those involved in the very successful play, but especially of course for Peter, who devised, researched, wrote (and re-wrote!) and directed **'This Secret Isle'**, as well as having a major acting role in it.

We have started on next November's production now – **'Alice in Cuckoo Land'** – a Christmas pantomime by Peter Nuttall. The Director, Paulette Stephens, writes:

*"This colourful and lively production brings together some of Lewis Carroll's best loved characters intertwined with a curious plot to stifle Christmas - can Santa Claus be rescued from the evil Queen of Hearts?"*

*This family favourite is brought to life with colourful sets and costumes, thrills and spills and all the fun that you expect from this successful amateur production company. There will of course be plenty of opportunities for audience participation, with games, music and songs for all to enjoy.*

*The dates for this laughter-filled Christmas Pantomime are Thursday 27th to Saturday 29th November with a matinée on Saturday afternoon."*

Our next meetings are **Monday May 12<sup>th</sup> and Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup>** at 7pm, for read-throughs and casting. **PLEASE NOTE NEW DATES!!!**

Have you bought your Quizine yet? The closing date has been extended to May 31<sup>st</sup>, so dig out your spare £1 coin soon and pick up a copy from Season's Green, The Sweet Shop, The Village Stores, or the Library, or at the next Village Hall Coffee Morning or other event.

Look out for Double Act at the VE80 event on May 8<sup>th</sup>, The Parish Meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup>, and the May Fair on May 26<sup>th</sup>. Don't miss the Murder Mystery Walks in the Summer Holiday!

If you would be interested in joining our friendly safe group or for more details, please contact the chairman, David Kemp 01929 480007, or secretary David Watson 01929 481265 - or email [doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com](mailto:doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com)  
*New members of all ages and abilities are always welcome!*



## News from the Library

### A Beginners Guide to Beekeeping

Studies have shown that 90% of the 'honey' sold by major UK retailers is actually composed largely of sugar syrup. Up to a third of the world's honey is now thought to be fake, with syrups made from rice, beetroot and other cheap crops used to dilute the real thing. While these products are safe, they don't contain the flavour and nutrients of real honey.

Are you interested in learning how to help bees make the 'real thing' in your own hive, in helping bees generally or in just buying some locally produced bee products? Local beekeeper Patti Sandham will be giving *A Beginners Guide to Beekeeping*.

Bee products such as honey cake, bees wax and, of course, local honey will also be on sale. If you want to learn more about bees, beekeeping and bee products, come along to the Library in Corfe Castle at 2.00pm on Friday 16th May to listen to



#### *A Beginners Guide to Beekeeping*

By Patti Sandham

Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> 2025 2.00 p.m. at the Library

Admission is free and open to all

Come in for a free Cuppa and a Biscuit!

We will be offering a hot drink and biscuits for anyone who would like to come into the library and have a chat (or even quietly browse through the bookshelves!)

#### 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.







Dog friendly cafe  
Tues - Sun 10 - 5

We have a varied menu from pasties, an all day breakfast bap with our own homemade sausages or our ever popular quiches. A good selection of coffees and Dorset teas with a generous offering of homemade cakes. Soft serve or Marshfields ice cream. All set in a beautiful, tranquil location. We look forward to welcoming you.

Hartland Stud Soldiers Road Wareham BH20 5DU

### Alexander Technique

#### Saturday Morning Workshops

Wareham

10.00 – 1.00pm

12 April and 3 May

Would you like to live a life of greater freedom and ease?  
Come and find out how to enhance your co-ordination  
in everything you do throughout your day.

£50 per participant. For more information contact:

#### Kate Brailsford

ITM Alexander Technique Teacher

Mobile: 07798 791985 E-mail: [Kate.Brailsford.at@gmail.com](mailto:Kate.Brailsford.at@gmail.com)

<https://WessexAlexanderTechnique.uk> : [www.itmalexandertechnique.org](http://www.itmalexandertechnique.org)

Member of the Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council



## Facing a relationship breakdown?

Our specialist lawyers will help you understand your options to make informed decisions.

› Divorce › Child Custody › Cohabitation Agreements  
› Financial Settlements › Prenuptial Agreements

A Swanage T 01929 423301 E swanage@hklaw.uk  
A Wareham T 01929 552141 E wareham@hklaw.uk

hklaw.uk



## SF CONSTRUCTION

General Building and  
Landscaping



Landscaping  
Groundworks  
Patios  
Fencing  
Stone Work  
Brick Work  
Extensions  
General Building

**Sam Fooks**

07772794056

samfooks1988@icloud.com



FULLY INSURED HETAS REGISTERED INSTALLERS WITH OVER 35 YEARS COMBINED EXPERIENCE  
DELIVERING SAFE, PROFESSIONAL AND HIGH QUALITY WORK IN ALL MATTERS RELATING TO SOLID  
FUEL INSTALLATION, REPAIR AND NEW BUILD WORKS IN PURBECK AND DORSET.

### OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- WOODBURNING STOVE AND MULTI-FUEL STOVE INSTALLATIONS
- LINER REPLACEMENT
- CHIMNEY REPAIR
- CHIMNEY RE-BUILDS OR CONSTRUCTION
- OPEN FIRE REPAIRS / INSTALLATIONS
- CCTV CHIMNEY INSPECTIONS
- THATCH INSURANCE INSPECTIONS
- THATCH AND LISTED PROPERTY STOVE AND FLUE INSTALLATION / REPAIR WORKS
- NEW BUILD / NEW CONSTRUCTION CHIMNEYS AND INSTALLATIONS

WHETHER YOU HAVE A REDUNDANT FIREPLACE YOU WANT TO BRING BACK INTO USE, HAVE NO  
CHIMNEY AT ALL OR HAVE JUST ALWAYS WANTED A WOODBURNING STOVE, OUR EXPERIENCED  
TEAM ARE ON HAND TO ASSIST WITH ALL ASPECTS OF A PROJECT FROM START TO FINISH.

CALL US FOR A FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTATION AND ADVICE TO GET YOUR PROJECT STARTED.

**Tel: 01929 792445 / 07890 071149**

Email: [support@quantumchimneyservices.co.uk](mailto:support@quantumchimneyservices.co.uk)

Website: <https://quantumchimneyservices.co.uk>



Company number: 13488818

VAT number: 422671314



Spring into Summer with...  
Griegs & Debussy + Gilbert & Sullivan + Elgar + Mozart and...

**the BELVEDERE SINGERS**  
Music Director Clive Watkiss

special guest  
**Miro Treharne**  
Mezzo - soprano

**Saturday 17<sup>TH</sup> May**

St Mary's Church Swanage 7.30  
tickets £9 - under 18's free  
from choir members or on the door

retiring collection for Dementia Friendly Poole & Bournemouth

## Ceilidh and Cake!

**Bank Holiday Monday  
5th May, 3 - 6 pm**

Corfe Castle Village Hall  
67 East Street, Corfe, BH20 5EE

**with ceilidh band 'Maiden Oak'  
and caller Sue Perigo**

Doors open at 3.00  
Dancing starts at 3.30

**£7.50 in advance  
£10 on the door  
Children free**

**Bring cash for tea, cake and raffle**

**Special guest Lloyd Hatton MP**

For tickets contact Lucinda Neall  
lucinda@neallscott.co.uk 01929-423965

Hosted by your local branch of the Labour Party



In April Mary Van Collier talked about her book 'Downstream Dorset'. She arrived at the title because she traces the course of the rivers in Dorset from their source and through all the many interesting towns and villages they flow through. The book has lovely photographs and many interesting bits of information about buildings and places. Her love of Dorset was very clear.

**NOT TO BE MISSED and open to non members the next meeting on  
6<sup>th</sup> May - '50 Years in Television' by Roy Norton.**

This promises to be a very entertaining talk. Roy opens the shutters on highlights of a long career in television and is a former senior producer both at BBC and ITV. He promises uncensored behind the scenes revelations, hilarious anecdotes and even some scandals!! His experiences include working on Churchills funeral, Charles and Diana weddings, 66 World Cup and the assassination of Bin Laden. There is a small charge of £3 for non members.

## Future Programme of Speakers

4<sup>th</sup> June – 'Ooh Matron' a History of Carry On by Steve Dimmer  
1<sup>st</sup> July – Historical Murders 'The Murder of Sydney Spicer' by Paul Stickler  
5<sup>th</sup> August - BBQ  
2<sup>nd</sup> September – Belly Dancing Extravaganza

We are a friendly group so please come along and join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of each month from 2pm for an interesting talk followed by a cuppa and a chat.

**Contact:** [2008aquariussladies@gmail.com](mailto:2008aquariussladies@gmail.com) for more information.



## Bug Busters Pest Control

### Who YOU Gonna Call?

Wasps, Ants, Flies, Mice, Fleas,  
Cockroaches, Squirrels, Bedbugs,  
Fumigations & Disinfections  
Professional, Reliable, Prompt &  
Efficient

All Dorset Areas Covered



Tel: 01929 460011

Mob: 07973 407027

[www.bugbustersdorset.co.uk](http://www.bugbustersdorset.co.uk)

## West Dorset Mobile Foot Clinic



Unable to reach or cut your own Nails?  
Foot Pain when you walk?

Then why not have Professional treatment within the  
comfort of your own home!

- Nail Cutting, including Diabetic Feet
- Thickened Nails
- Ingrowing Nails
- Fungal Nails
- Corns & Calluses
- Cracked Heels
- Hard Skin Removal



**Book your home appointment TODAY!**

**07903 722542** Roy Fox  
SAC Dip FHP, SAC Dip FHP, MRHP

**07712 525058** Christine Fox  
SAC Dip FHP, SAC Dip FHP, MRHP

wdmfc@icloud.com

[www.westdorsetmobilefootclinic.com](http://www.westdorsetmobilefootclinic.com)



**Arbor Nature**  
Tree surgery and Garden maintenance

- Tree Surgery
- Forestry
- Garden maintenance
- Landscaping
- Fencing
- Hedge Cutting
- Planting
- Grass Cutting

FULLY QUALIFIED AND INSURED  
NPORS QUALIFIED City & Guilds LEVEL 3 QUALIFIED

Contact Harry Cuke on  
07582407190  
harry@arbornature.co.uk  
www.arbornature.co.uk

FREE QUOTATIONS & ADVICE

**Stephen Silcock**  
**Painting & Decorating**

Established 1982

Wallpapering Hand painted Kitchens etc. Spray Finishing

Knapp Cottage, 14 Church Street, Wareham BH204nf

Tel.07710467610



Tel: 01929 480 597  
kate@purbecklettings.co.uk  
www.purbecklettings.co.uk

**WANTED - PROPERTIES TO LET FOR WAITING TENANTS**

Contact us for a free no obligation valuation on your home or for further information on the services we provide which include long term letting, rent collection, full management and vacant management.

**Please contact Kate Anson on 01929 480597**

The Estate Office, South Street, Kingston, Wareham, Dorset BH20 5LQ

## Surgery and Patient Participation Group

At our recent Corfe Surgery PPG meeting it was pleasing to note that we now have good representation at meetings from across the wide surgery catchment area but it would be helpful to have more male committee members - please do contact me through the surgery if you would like to join our meeting which we hold on average every four months .

As a PPG we are required to act as 'critical friend ' to the surgery but also to offer help and support as best we can and provide a link between the surgery and patients if required .We know that we are very fortunate to be registered with the Corfe Surgery which under Dr Lepper's leadership continues to provide us with 'sit and wait' surgeries and 'face to face' consultations ,something that the majority of us welcome and would not like to see changed .However the new GP Contract focuses a lot on 'digital ' communication which may well be suited in larger practices but does create concerns for Dr Lepper and his team who prefer the personal approach. It is recognised that for working people a more *on line* service may be preferable so an **access survey** is therefore going to be prepared shortly to seek the views of surgery patients, please do look out for it and respond so that the right balance of access to surgery appointments can be sought.

Whilst October seems a long way off, we did also discuss flu jabs at our meeting which will be available to over 65's and the 'at risk' group during that month. We were reminded that the Surgery is required to purchase the flu vaccines well in advance to meet the needs of the practice population at a cost of £15 per vaccine and were asked to promote the surgery flu vaccination service (which the PPG members support on the usual Saturday morning sessions). If patients receive their vaccines in alternative settings, the surgery is left with a surplus of vaccines which are then wasted. So please do use the Corfe Surgery for your flu vaccinations, a record of the vaccination will be placed immediately in your patient record and together we will be helping to maintain the financial viability of our surgery.

In recent weeks, in my role as Chair of the Friends of Wareham Hospital, I have met the South Dorset MP - Lloyd Hatton. Lloyd is very keen to promote the services provided in our local community hospitals and try to re-establish those services recently lost. The Chemotherapy service once provided at Wareham Hospital is one such service which we are all keen to see in place again as it provided a local Purbeck based clinic saving the need for patients to travel to Poole or Bournemouth



Hospitals at such a vulnerable time. No positive news yet but we remain optimistic.

PPG's and Friends of local hospitals and other local organisations are currently working with the Primary Care Network (PCN) to develop the **Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT)** where the team will aim to bring together people and services to improve population health and wellbeing. Patient engagement will be an important aspect of this work. I have been pleased to receive emails through our PPG email address so please make use of this if you would like to make contact with the PPG.  
[corfecastleppg@gmail.com](mailto:corfecastleppg@gmail.com)

Kind regards  
Maggie

PPG Chair

A poster for the Corfe Castle May Fair. At the top, there is a large, colorful arch of balloons in shades of red, yellow, blue, green, and purple. Below the balloons, the text 'Corfe Castle' is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font. Underneath that, 'May Fair' is written in a similar bold font. Below 'May Fair', the date '26th May 2025' is written in a bold, black sans-serif font. Further down, the text 'In the castle grounds – 10am to 4pm' is written in a bold, black sans-serif font. Below this, there are two lines of text: 'Normal National Trust admission rules apply' and 'Villagers free admission with proof of residency'. Then, 'Grand raffle, refreshments, stalls, entertainment...' is written, followed by '...something for everyone'. Below this, the text 'For information regarding stalls' is written in a green sans-serif font, followed by 'please email or message' in the same green font. Then, the email address '[ccmayfair24@gmail.com](mailto:ccmayfair24@gmail.com)' is written in a blue sans-serif font. At the bottom, there is a Facebook logo on the left, followed by the text 'Official Corfe Castle May Fair' in a blue sans-serif font, and a purple speech bubble icon on the right.



## **Cinema Under the Stars - the Purbeck Film Festival returns for an unforgettable season**

The Purbeck Film Festival is thrilled to announce the return of its much-loved summer screenings, bringing the enchantment of cinema to breath-taking outdoor locations across Purbeck. This year's line-up offers a fantastic selection of films for all ages, set against some of the region's most iconic backdrops.

Join the team for a spellbinding evening at Corfe Castle with *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* or embark on a heart-warming adventure with *Paddington in Peru*. Enhancing the experience, a special Swanage Railway service, the "Sunset Shuttle," will be available for both screenings. Stay tuned for more details, including exciting plans for unforgettable evenings at the dreamy Blue Pool.

Other exciting screenings include:

- *Wicked* by the pool at Knoll House – an enchanting setting for this beloved musical.
- *Moulin Rouge!* at the Blue Pool – a dazzling spectacle in a breath-taking location.
- *A Complete Unknown* at Careys Secret Garden – a mesmerising cinematic journey set amidst stunning natural beauty, capturing an energy as fresh and resonant as his greatest songs.

The Festival has had a great start to 2025, receiving the **South England Prestige Award** for Best Film Festival 2024/25. This award is a testament to the dedication of its volunteers, the support of the community, and the Festival's commitment to bringing exceptional films to extraordinary locations.

Commenting on the award and launch of this year's summer programme, Andrea Etherington, Chair of the Festival, said:

*"We are thrilled to share that the Purbeck Film Festival has been recognised with the South England Prestige Award for Best Film Festival.*

*"This honour reflects our ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality, accessible film experiences for both our local community and visitors alike.*

*"This year's Summer Screenings bring together an incredible mix of films, stunning locations, and the community spirit that makes the Purbeck Film Festival so special.*

*"Whether you're rediscovering a beloved classic or experiencing a new favourite for the first time, there's something truly magical about watching a film under the stars."*

The Festival's summer screenings are made possible by an incredible team of volunteers. As a not-for-profit charity, the Purbeck Film Festival relies on the support of its audience to keep the festival alive and thriving. By attending a screening, the public are not just enjoying a fantastic film— they are also supporting one of the region's favourite film charities.

For more information, tickets, and volunteer opportunities, visit [www.purbeckfilm.com](http://www.purbeckfilm.com) or follow them on social media [@PurbeckFilmFestival](https://www.instagram.com/PurbeckFilmFestival).



## **Buds of Mave**

Florist for weddings, funerals and bouquets .

Call Caroline on 07966 462974.

Or email [c.f.m.finch@icloud.com](mailto:c.f.m.finch@icloud.com)

## Singing for Joy! – Purbeck Youth Music

There was standing room only when Purbeck Youth Music's Singing for Schools project produced concerts in Swanage and Wareham at the end of March. It was a delight to hear almost two hundred primary school children in each concert '**Singing for Joy**' under the direction of Susannah Nettleton. The schools taking part were St Mary's RC, Swanage Primary, St Mark's, St George's Langton, Corfe Castle Primary, Stoborough, Wareham St Mary, Wool C of E and Wool SMSJ Primary. The teachers had worked hard to practise the songs which Susannah had taught them during her visits and the result was most impressive.

Parents and grandparents came to see and hear their children perform the songs they have been learning with Susannah in two schools' workshops in the spring term. Each school had a solo spot as well as the songs they performed all together. In one particularly lively song there was also audience participation. It was indeed joyful!

The children aged between 7-9 have been learning to sing in harmony which is challenging for young ears....it's always easier to sing the tune. They also learn to listen to each other, watch the conductor, follow directions and how to behave on the platform. All useful life skills.

The Singing Schools project has been funded by the Valentine Trust, the Vinehill Trust, Swanage Town Council, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary, as well as other generous individuals and groups.

Purbeck Youth Music will stage two end of year concerts; the first, an informal concert providing an opportunity for soloists of all ages to perform in the United Reformed Church Swanage on June 26th from 5.30 to 7pm and the second, in Swanage Methodist Church on June 30th at 7pm. This will showcase advanced soloists including the winner of the Swanage and Purbeck Rotary Young Musician competition as well as string, wind, brass and choral groups.

In the meantime, on May 21st key stage two children will have the opportunity to see their local world class Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in action when they attend a concert for schools in the Lighthouse, Poole. Transport to this is funded by PYM, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary and the BSO.

We rely on the generosity of the Purbeck Community to make such important opportunities happen. Please support us! If you have a Co-op card you can vote for us on their website as PYM is one of their chosen local charities this year. Or you can donate easily via our website

[www.purbeckyouthmusic.org](http://www.purbeckyouthmusic.org)

Dilys Thomas (PYM Trustee)

## Corfe Castle Village Hall

### general news:

The VH Coffee Morning in April raised £177.05 for VH funds. Thanks to all those who attended, especially our loyal team of helpers. **Would you consider helping them - it's only once a month?**

April's 100 club draw was made at the Coffee Morning. First prize of £20 was won by member 6, with member 91 getting second prize £10 and member 84 winning the third prize £5. **If you would like to join the many villagers who support their local village hall in this way please contact Penny Barker on 01929 481477.**

We offer a large amount of secure storage space. For news on future availability please contact Judith on 01929 480216.

### regular weekly events:

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

### regular monthly events:

1st Saturday morning	VH Coffee Morning
1st Saturday lunchtime	Soup 'n Pud
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)

### Fund-raising news

Work on our own fund-raising for the kitchen refurbishment continues. In addition to the recent offer of very substantial donation from Corfe Castle Charity, we also have received a promise of financial support from Imery's. The silent auction sale of items kindly donated from various sources raised over £500. Trustees are now working on a bid for National Lottery support.

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





# The Old Curiosity Shop

*Gifts & Souvenirs - Antiques & Collectables*

**Bought and Sold**

- Ceramics
- Sculpture
- Paintings
- Jewellery & Silverwares
- Collectables
- Furniture

*Expansive two-floor showroom located in the heart of the square*

Open seven days a week  
11am to 5:30pm

Tel: 07854 487967 / 07864 019134  
Email: corfecuriosities@outlook.com

Address:  
The Old Curiosity Shop, The Square, Corfe Castle, Wareham, BH20 5EZ

**Other services**  
House Clearance • Antique Valuations • Probate & Insurance Valuations

It's our 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday on the 15<sup>th</sup>



We really appreciate the huge support you've shown us over a decade.

**Thank You So Much!**

Pop in on the day to share some love –  
There's a free wooden heart with any purchase over £3,  
or a heart-shaped chocolate if you're just saying hello\*!

(\*Whilst stocks last)

**Shop Online**  **Delivery options**  **Click & Collect** 

www.seasonsgreen.co.uk 01929 477228



**Gift Shop & Gallery**

Open Daily  
10:30 - 5:00  
14 West St.  
Corfe Castle




**Corfe Community Kitchen**  
**Soup 'n Pud**  
**A choice of Soups and a Roll**  
**Followed by Puds with Custard**  
**Corfe Castle Village Hall**



**VE80 Celebration Sat. May 3<sup>rd</sup> '25**  
**12.30 – 1.45pm**

**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 to increase community spirit. If you wish to make a donation, either of food or money please feel free but it is not obligatory.**

April's Soup and Pud had a bit of an Easter flavour with chocolate sweets to accompany the teas and coffees. It was well supported, as usual, and everyone enjoyed the tasty fare. Thanks are once again due to our willing volunteers and Dragon's Bakery for their bread rolls.

In May we will have a VE80 themed lunch which will commemorate the 'make do and mend' and 'dig for Britain' era of very much home grown and simple fare! Feel free to dress accordingly if you want. There may be a bit of red, white and blue in evidence!

We are supporting the Annual Parish Council Meeting on Mon. May 19<sup>th</sup> in the Village Hall by providing the light refreshments so please come along and join us and others experiencing a lot of the activities provided by groups within the immediate local environment.

With the summer months approaching the gardens and allotments should be flourishing. Please remember if you have any spare produce we would be only too pleased to use it for you in our soups and puds, to add delicious local flavour.

Of course we also really value any other donations towards our Saturday lunches both in money and kind but most of all we look forward to welcoming lots of you at our simple but hearty meal. It is great to see the local camaraderie engendered over a good Soup and Pud!

**WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A TRY?**

## CORFE VALLEY NEWS

## CALENDAR for MAY 2025

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

1	May	Thursday	7.45 for 8 pm	Gardening Club - Phil Broomfield - the garden at the Russell Coates Museum CCVH
3	May	Saturday	10.15 am	Village Coffee Morning Corfe Castle Village Hall
3	May	Saturday	12.30 – 1.45 pm	Soup and Pud Community Lunch Corfe Castle Village Hall
4	May	Sunday	2.30 pm	Karen Grant VE Day concert – St James Church Kingston.
5	May	Monday	3 – 6 pm	Labour party Ceilidh and cake with the MP - Corfe Castle Village Hall
6	May	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius talk - 50 Years in Television' by Roy Norton – Corfe Castle Village Hall
7	May	Wednesday	8 pm	CC Environment Group Walk on the Common - meet at West Street Car Park
8	May	Thursday	6.30 pm onwards	Victory in Europe 80 years on – In the Castle – Beacon Lighting 8.45 pm
9	May	Friday	7.30	Kimmeridge Keilidh Kimmeridge Village Hall
12	May	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
12	May	Monday	7 pm	Double Act read through meeting Corfe Castle Village Hall
13	May	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Church Knowle Village Hall
16	May	Thursday	2 pm	A beginner's guide to Bee keeping – Patti Sandham – Corfe Castle Library
16	May	Friday	5pm	Church Knowle Village Hall AGM Church Knowle Village Hall
17	May	Saturday	10 am – 1 pm	Valuation Opportunity – St Edwards church
17	May	Saturday	7.30 pm	Belvedere Singers concert - Songs for Spring – St Mary's Swanage
19	May	Monday	6.30 pm	Corfe Castle Annual Parish Meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
18	May	Sunday	7 pm	Double Act read through meeting Corfe Castle Village Hall
24 May – 8 June				Purbeck Art Weeks
26	May	Monday	10 am – 4 pm	Corfe Castle May Fair In the Castle

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

6	June	Friday	7 pm	CC Environment Group Swift spotting walk around the village – Meet in the Square
9	June	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
10	June	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Furzebrook Village Hall
28	June	Saturday	2.30pm – 5 pm	Steeple Manor Gardens open

### 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](mailto:ASB@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

# Church of England

## St Aldhelm's Benefice

### Contact Details for St Aldhelm's Benefice

**Rector Richard and Louise White**      [revrichardwhite@outlook.com](mailto:revrichardwhite@outlook.com)  
   [revlouisewhite@outlook.com](mailto:revlouisewhite@outlook.com)  
   01929 208578

**Associate Priest Nick Webb 07866 546162**  
   [fulloflifegardens@gmail.com](mailto:fulloflifegardens@gmail.com)

**Pioneer Associate Priest – Lindy Cameron 01929 208469**  
   [revlindyjane@gmail.com](mailto:revlindyjane@gmail.com)

**Benefice Office: Tuesday and Wednesday 9.00am - 1.00pm**

**Benefice Administrator: St George's Church, Langton Matravers**

**BH19 3HZ 01929 427822      [admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org](mailto:admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org)**

**Enquiries for Baptisms / Weddings / Funerals / Banns**

**For Kingston contact the Parish Administrator**

**[admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org](mailto:admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org)      01929 427822**

**For Corfe and the Valley Churches please contact Lynette McCallum**

**[lynettereas21@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lynettereas21@yahoo.co.uk)**

**[www.staldhelmpurbeck.wordpress.com](http://www.staldhelmpurbeck.wordpress.com)**

### Church Wardens in the Valley Churches

Corfe Castle: Penelope Smith 480109      John Lindsay 481498

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

---

### **Revd Louise writes**

Easter might feel long gone, but the church celebrates a whole season of Easter for forty days. This year that includes the whole month of May. May, that month of amazing abundance of life all around us, as the leaves on the trees show a multitude of greens, and the flowers, like lilac and peonies, roses and wisteria, burst into blossom. I do love May!



Easter, for Christians, is about the hope of abundant life that Jesus offers to us. Jesus dying and then rising again, showing that He has overcome death by bursting into life out of the tomb. Then offering us the gift of life in all its fulness: the kind of life that overflows with His love and peace and will last forever. We have passed through the darkness of Good Friday, the seeming end of hope, with the suffering and death of Jesus, to the light and joy of Easter Sunday morning. We have listened to the despair of Mary Magdalene, when she discovers that Jesus' body has gone from the tomb, and then with His appearance to Mary in the garden, we have felt her joy as she realises that Jesus is alive!

Mary Magdalene, who had been healed by Jesus, has come to the tomb whilst it is still dark, to anoint His body with spices. She is weeping because, not only has she seen Jesus suffer and die, but now she has also lost Jesus' body, and can't minister this final act of love by anointing his dead body. When she sees Jesus, she mistakes Him for the gardener. It isn't until He speaks her name that she recognises who He is. That He is there, that He is alive! At the sound of Jesus speaking her name, "Mary", her sorrow turns to joy.

As we enjoy the abundance of life all around us this May, enjoying its beauty, fragrance, hope, perhaps this can remind us of the kind of life that Jesus offers to us, today. In contemplating the gift of life which we can see in our world, may we take time to listen and to hear Him speak our name, knowing that He is offering us His abundant and everlasting life, and the hope, love, peace and joy He gives to us, as we turn to Him.

### **Services in May 2025**

#### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am

Holy Communion

#### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Steeple – 9.30 am

Corfe Castle - 10.30 am

Kingston - 11.30 am

Holy Communion

Morning Worship

Informal Worship

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am

Harmans Cross – 6 pm

Holy communion

Evening Worship

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am

Kingston – 11.30 am

Holy Communion

Holy Communion

### **Bible Readings – May 2025**

#### **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May**

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:1-6, (7-20)

Revelation 5:11-14

John 21:1-19

#### **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

#### **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18

Revelation 21:1-6

John 13:31-35

#### **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5

John 14:23-29

or John 5:1-9

---

### **A date for your diaries!**

We will be holding a **Valuations Opportunity** for your valuables in St Edward's Church, Corfe Castle, **from 10 am until 1pm on Saturday 17th May.**

Local Antiques Expert and Valuer, Max Beaumont, has kindly offered to host a valuation morning in aid of St Edward's funds.

Look out your potential treasures and bring them along. You never know what may be discovered!

A small donation of £5 per item is suggested.

If you have an item of furniture, simply bring along a photograph and the team can help. Refreshments available.



## A relaunch of the Friends of St Edward's

The historic church of St Edward King & Martyr stands proudly in the centre of Corfe Castle.

It is a place of worship for many but also an important symbol for others who may choose to visit or commemorate life events there.

Sadly, the church itself is in need of love and support as the building requires ongoing renovation and repair. Most recently, the heating system has broken down and needs replacing.

In 2005 the Friends of Corfe Castle was launched by the much-missed Eileen van Lelyveld, encouraging people to donate £1 a month to help towards the upkeep of the church.

A Friends of St Edward's book was established for people to mark special days they wished to be commemorated such as Christenings, Weddings or visits to the village. This book is on display in the church and is opened each morning to show the entries for that day. Over the years it has become a Social History of the life of the church.

We are now looking to relaunch this scheme to encourage more people to join, it is open to everyone, you do not have to be a member of the church. Just pick up a leaflet beside the Friends' Book in the church or telephone Joy Carter on 01929 480925 to find out how to donate.

Of course, you don't have to mark a special occasion when becoming a Friend, your donation is just as welcome! The funds collected in this scheme will be used entirely for the church.

If you are already a Friend, then thank you for your continued support. We will hold a special service on June 22nd to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Friends of St Edward's, more details will follow next month but do put the date in your diary.

# VALUATION FUNDRAISER

*Max Beaumont*  
FINE ART & CONSULTANCY



**Saturday 17th May 10am-1pm**  
Refreshments available

ADDRESS: EAST STREET, CORFE  
CASTLE, WAREHAM, BH20 5EQ  
TEL: 01202 283220  
EMAIL: ENQUIRIES@MAXBEAUMONT.CO.UK

## COMING TO ST EDWARD'S CHURCH

Charity Antiques Valuation Day at St Edward's Church, Corfe Castle. Max Beaumont and his team of specialists will be on hand to offer valuations.

Max comments -

'This is a perfect opportunity to see what your antique treasures are really worth, whilst supporting a great cause.'  
'Jewellery, Silver, Ceramics, Paintings, Sculpture, Collectables and if you have an item of furniture, simply bring a photograph and the team can help - no appointment necessary!'

A recommended cash donation of £5 per item is advised, with all final proceeds raised going to St Edward's Church.





# Nature Gardening Service

Nature Gardening is

- Fully Insured
- Transparent, Fair, & competitive Pricing.
- Registered Waste Carriers.
- Flexible Garden and Lawn Service Bought To you.
- Friendly Presentable, and Professional.
- Prompt, efficient, and Detail Focused.
- Local Independent Gardener That covers Residential and Commercaill

## Services

- Lawn Mowing
- Garden Maintenance
- Hedge Trimming / Removal
- Jet Washing (drive/Patio)
- Leaf Clearance

**For a Free Quote Please call or email Craig on**  
**nature\_gardening@yahoo.com**  
**07391591024**



**Trusted independent financial advice in Dorset for 20 years**

- Wealth management
- Tax-free savings
- Pensions & retirement planning
- Pension Transfer consultations
- Inheritance tax & legacy planning
- Life & illness cover

**For a free consultation meeting call**  
**01202 622223**  
**Or email [info@apexcb.com](mailto:info@apexcb.com)**

Apex CB Financial Planning Ltd, 2 Jellicoe House, Admiralty Park, Station Road, Holton Heath, Poole BH16 6HX  
 Apex CB Financial Planning Ltd is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority registration no 507964.



**[www.apexcb.com](http://www.apexcb.com)**

## *Smedmore Joinery*

*Cottage Doors*  
*Stable Doors*  
*Sash Windows*  
*Flush Casement Windows*  
*York Sliding Windows*  
*Window & Door Repairs*

*All new joinery can be painted, glazed & fitted by us*  
*Joinery planning drawings and method statements are also available.*

**Tel: 01929 481666 – Mobile 07721014760**  
**Email: [smedmorejoinery@aol.com](mailto:smedmorejoinery@aol.com)**



## The Pioneer View.

Dear Friends,

May is Mental Health Awareness month and recently I was thinking about rest and relaxation and how we spend our time. The pressure to be busy against the need for self-care.

Life can be so busy these days that we fail to factor in our own mental health. We can often find ourselves hitting a brick wall. Metaphorically speaking, we run out of petrol because we don't top up our own tank. For example, enjoying a walk in the sunshine, pressing the pause button during the day with a relaxing cuppa.

I wonder what drives you, what are your priorities? How do you relax and feel refreshed? How do you 'top up your tank'? How do you balance these conflicting drivers?

Sometimes we need to re-evaluate our priorities as well as reflect on our life goals.

Quotes about mental health to ponder:

- "Your mental health is everything – prioritize it. Make the time like your life depends on it, because it does" Mel Robbins.
- "Mental health ... is not a destination, but a process. It's about how you drive, not where you're going" Noam Shpancer.
- "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass; it's about learning to dance in the rain." Anon.

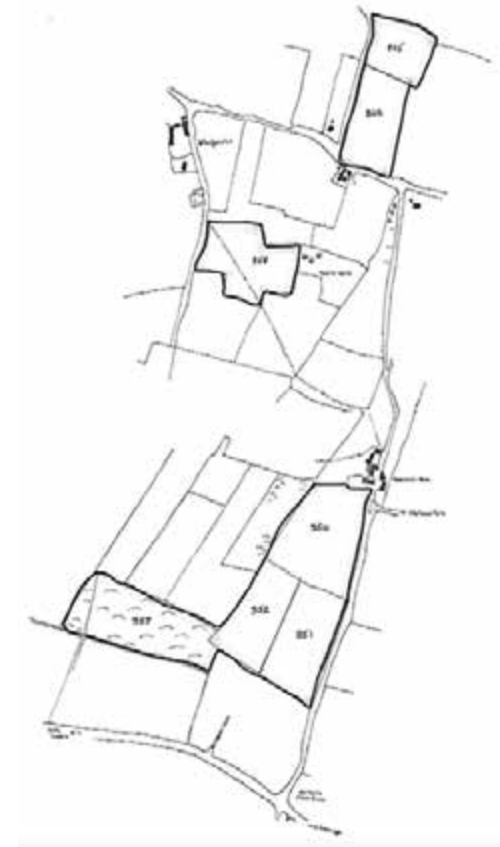
Go well

Peter

Chair: Growing Compassionate Communities

## Corfe Castle Charities' land at East Woolgarston

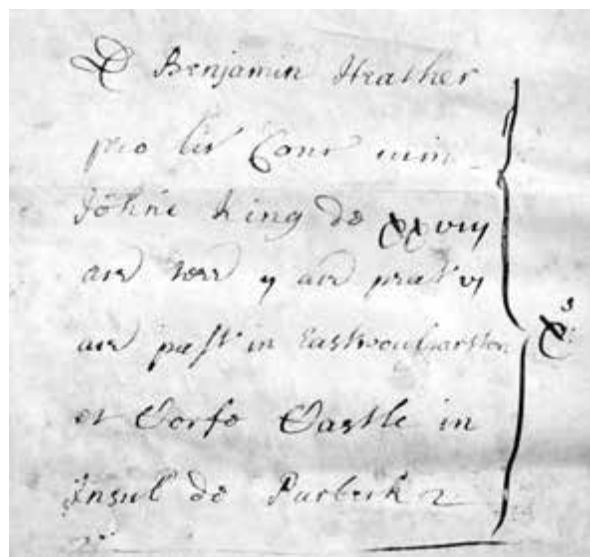
As mentioned in the previous CVN, The Corfe Castle Charities own some pieces of land close to Tabbitt's Hill Farm – lands that had been purchased by George Bullocke, senior, in July 1603, from Thomas Seward and his wife, Margaret and which became known as 'The Woolgarston Lands' (outlined in black below).



The Mayor & Barons of Corfe Castle purchased them from Benjamin Heather of Kensington, Mdx, gentleman, in June 1700. Leaving aside the fact that the Borough of Corfe Castle purchased these lands rather than the Charities, another problem occurred before the purchase could be completed.

George Bullocke, the elder, a yeoman, who came from South Holworth, purchased these lands. His son, George, inherited them in about 1630 but by then, he had already moved to London and become a clothworker. George married, had two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah, both of whom were born in London with neither of them realising that their grandfather held an estate in Dorset until after their father had died and both were married. So, in July 1674, William Nelson & his wife, Elizabeth, one of George's daughters, brought John King, junior, before the borough Petty Sessions at Corfe to accuse him of utilising these lands for his own benefit. However, the daughters had not realised that their father had mortgaged the lands for £84 to a London draper called John King, senior, in 1641, so King, junior, was well within his rights to use the land.

The case is left hanging at page 13 (the other pages are missing) but the outcome is known as John King came to own the land and by about 1689, he had sold 28 acres of land, 2 acres of meadow and 6 acres of pasture in 'Eastwoulgarston' to Benjamin Heather and a fine of 10s. was paid to the court of Corfe Castle which is how Mr. Heather's name is on the sale of 1700.



The deed of 1700 lists the fields which had been part of some land called 'Jerrard's Hay' totalling just under 27 acres. Little is known about Mr. Jerrard. Speculatively, he could be the John Jerrard that supervised a will of 1474 for John Marsh who held lands at Woolgarston but who knows. The

Mayor & Barons did not purchase all of 'Jerrard's Hay' as one field of 8 acres was left out of the sale - Cull Mead in West Woolgarston was not included. Thomas Cottrell of East Lynch purchased these 8 acres and passed them on to John Cottrell of Corfe Castle in about 1706.

Louise Haywood

# Cove & Country Chimney Sweep

✓ Fully Insured    ✓ CCTV Inspections  
 ✓ Bird Cows fitted    ✓ Certificates Issued

01929 400216

07512 451297

[www.coveandcountrysweep.com](http://www.coveandcountrysweep.com)  
[coveandcountrysweep@gmail.com](mailto:coveandcountrysweep@gmail.com)




## M J Property & Garden Maintenance

All jobs considered including:

**Plastering/ rendering / pointing /  
hedge work / garden winter clearance etc...**

**Call Michael : 01929 781212 / 07914946106**

**Email: [mickajoyce@outlook.com](mailto:mickajoyce@outlook.com)**

## Notices and Thanks

### Corfe Castle Gardening Club.

It is wonderful to see the bluebells in bloom and the hedgerows bursting into life. In the garden there is so much to be done and so much pleasure to be had from the sun on our backs as we weed and deadhead and plant with all the hope of the bounty to come.

In April we had a fascinating, entertaining talk by Bridget Kitley, a landscape gardener and expert in herbs, who gave us a hands-on demonstration of taking soft tip cuttings, division and propagating. It was a very useful and, I think everyone would agree, an entertaining evening with lots of interaction with members.

**On 1<sup>st</sup> May, at 7.45 pm for 8 in the Village Hall, we will have what promises to be a very interesting talk by Phil Broomfield, 'The Garden History Detective'.**

Phil has always had a passion for horticulture and in 2010 set up his own business "The Garden Doctor". Garden history has been an interest and a passion for years and Phil does a series of lectures on a variety of fascinating gardens.

His talk for us will focus on the **'Merton's Dream Garden at the Russell-Cotes Museum and Gallery'**. Anyone who has visited the site will know a little of its incredible history and Phil will concentrate on the evolution of the garden design over the years with a spotlight on plants and how it looks through the year.

There are no meetings in the village hall during June and July but more information about the club's events and visits during May and June will be sent to members by e-mail shortly.

We wish you lots of Happy Gardening. Enjoy your Summer.

**If you are interested in Gardens and Gardening and would like to join a friendly local group, please get in touch with Chris on 01929 480095 or 07815 058880, [cclarkecorfe@gmail.com](mailto:cclarkecorfe@gmail.com). We love to welcome new members. Meetings, with interesting talks and speakers, plant sales, seed swaps and social events usually take place in the Village Hall, Corfe Castle, at 7.45 pm for coffee and starting the programme at 8pm. Non-members are welcome to join us for £3 if they are interested in a particular talk.**

Chris Clarke

For the Committee.

### PurbeckParkys.

PurbeckParkys, the support group for people living with Parkinson's on the Isle of Purbeck, meets at the Swanage Cricket Club at 2.30pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

May 21st - June 18th - July 16th. For further information contact David Gynes, the Co-ordinator, [david.gynes@parkinsons-uk.goassemble.com](mailto:david.gynes@parkinsons-uk.goassemble.com)

### VE80 - 8<sup>th</sup> May – Singers!

This is just a reminder for all those who have volunteered to help lead the singing of the hymn at the event in the Castle on Thursday evening May 8<sup>th</sup>. 'I Vow To Thee My Country', to Holst's Jupiter melody from The Planets, is a joy to sing!

The Castle grounds will open at 6.30pm, Double Act's contribution is scheduled for 7pm, the free fish & chip supper (tickets only!) is to be available after that, and the lighting of the beacon and singing of the hymn is at 9pm. If anyone wants to join the 'choir', please let me know, especially if you require fish and chips and haven't already got a ticket!

There is no specified dress code, but patriotic or 1940s style would be great!

We are having a short rehearsal for all the singers who are available, at 7pm the evening before (Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>), in St Edward's Church, Corfe Castle.

More information about the event is elsewhere in the CVN.

*David Kemp, 01929 480007, [davimukem@aol.com](mailto:davimukem@aol.com)*

### Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> May      2.30pm      St James's Church, Kingston

You are invited to a fundraising concert with Karen Grant – with tributes to commemorate the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day

Free entry with retiring collection for Veterans Society and St James' Church, Kingston. Refreshments will be available



### Corfe Crafters

Wednesday 9.00am to 12 midday

Contact Cheryl - 07745242511





## **QUIZINE!**

Good News! The closing date for the **Quizine** has been extended to May 31<sup>st</sup>! So if you had been meaning to pick one up (for just £1) but hadn't got round to it, or didn't have any coins on you, there is still time.

The **Quizine** is being run in support of the Corfe Castle Village Hall Kitchen Refurbishment Project and has been devised by Double Act Drama Group members.

Pick up your **Quizine** from Season's Green, The Sweet Shop, The Village Stores, or the Community Library, popping your money in the yellow tin please. **Quizines** will also be available at other events in the village in May, or direct from David Kemp (01929 480007, [davimukem@aol.com](mailto:davimukem@aol.com)).

How about buying a **Quizine** for each for your family?

*David Kemp*

---

## **Songs for Spring**

This spring, the Belvedere Singers are delighted to welcome a very special soloist to their concert on 17th May.

Miro Treharne (previously Miro Vosper) is a mezzo-soprano who has been involved since her early school days with musical groups in Swanage. The connection to the Belvedere Singers is strong. She was a singing pupil with the Belvedere's former Music Director, Helen Attfield, and has been performing at the choir's concerts since she was a very young singer.

This May, Miro will perform three songs from Schumann's 12 Gedichte von Justinus Kerner; Le Temps des Lilas from Chausson's Poème de l'Amour et de la Mer; and the UK premier of the song cycle 'Crossings', written by the choir's Music Director Clive Watkiss, and his daughter, Arabella Watkiss.

The choir will perform its usual eclectic mixture of choral works, including Ubi Caritas by Ole Gjeilo; As Torrents in Summer by Edward Elgar; some beautiful madrigals; and lighter pieces inspired by Flanders and Swann. There will be something for everyone.

The concert will be held at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Church Hill, Swanage BH19 1HU. Tickets are £9 on the door or from choir members. Under 18s free.

There will be a retiring collection for Dementia Friendly Purbeck.

Follow the choir on Facebook, The Belvedere Singers, or go to their website [www.belvederesingers.org.uk](http://www.belvederesingers.org.uk)

## **Wareham Croquet Club**

If someone was to mention a game of croquet what would be your first thoughts, for many it would be British upper class families playing the game on their country house lawn whilst enjoying a picnic of tea with salmon and cucumber sandwiches, that is not the considered way it is viewed nowadays, The people that play the game these days are ordinary folk who enjoy a friendly social activity which does not involve strenuous ball play. It is a game of skill and tactics which can aid wellbeing for the mind as well as the body. If you feel this is something you would like to try then why not come along to the Wareham Croquet Club, we play every Tuesday and Thursday (weather permitting) from April to October, play starting around 10am, The club was founded in 2010 with a grant from a local organisation, Rod Curtis the Town Clerk managed to find sufficient money to purchase a croquet set from Jacques for the club to use. A launch party was held in September 2010 with representatives from the town council and the newly formed Swanage Croquet Club.

Coaching was given by the late Dr. William Ormerod (Dorset and England International player) to members for the 2011 season. The club has also received a further grant from the Co-op.

We are a small, friendly and varied group of people who are always happy to chat over a cup of tea, So why not come along you might surprise yourself at how easy and enjoyable it can be, You will find us on the Wareham playing fields just off the Worgret Road opposite the Police Station.

---

## **DO YOU PLAY AN ACOUSTIC GUITAR OR UKULELE?**



### **ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PLAYING AND SINGING WITH OTHERS?**

We are considering setting up a free **STRUMMING GROUP** in the upstairs room at the Corfe Castle Club, probably weekly on a weekday evening. All levels of ability would be welcome to come along and join in with playing and singing pop / folk songs from all generations. Banjos, mandolins, etc. also welcome.

This is all subject to interest from people in the village and the surrounding area so please contact me and I can tell you more about the idea and how it might work.

Michael Brett – 07970 426292 / [mjb.goat@btinternet.com](mailto:mjb.goat@btinternet.com)

## Dorset Button Morris

Dorset Button Morris will be dancing out during this coming summer. During our dancing we will collection for a local charity. This year we are collection for Dorset Search and Rescue.

We are aways short of dancers so if your interested in joining us please contact any dancer or e mail [buttonrapper@gmail.com](mailto:buttonrapper@gmail.com) or [mctyrer@gmail.com](mailto:mctyrer@gmail.com)

Please check our website for any updates on dates and timings. <http://www.brmm.org.uk/DorsetButtonsMorris/>

Date	Time	Location
13/5/2025	7.30pm	The Green Man Wimborne
21/5/2025	7.30pm	Corfe Castle Square
28/5/2025	7.30pm	Lambs Green Inn Corfe Mullen
4/6/2025	7.30pm	Square and Compass Worth Matravers
11/6/2025	8pm	Worlds End Almer
17/6/2025	8pm	Bakers Arms Lytchett Minster
25/6/2025	8pm	Cove Inn Lulworth
2/7/2025	8pm	The Oak Dewlish
9/7/2025	8pm	Greyhound Winterborne Kingston
16/7/2025	8pm	Countryman Winfrith
23/7/2025	8pm	The Ship Wool
30/7/2025	8pm	The Antelope Hazelbury Bryant
6/8/2025	8pm	Square and Compass Worth Matravers
13/8/2025	7.30pm	Swanage Sea Front
20/8/2025	7.30pm	Durley Chine
27/8/2025	7.30pm	Bakers Arms Studland
3/9/2025	7.30pm	Wareham Quay
6/9/2025	All day	Swanage Folk festival

## Any Questions?

"Sharing Faith in a Secular Culture."A presentation by Dr Paul Weston,

Tuesday 13th May, at All Saints' Church, Swanage, BH19 1NA

Doors open at 6.30 pm coffee/tea presentation from 7.00 pm

Do come – everyone welcome

# SKYDIVE '25

TAKE TO THE SKIES AND RAISE FUNDS  
FOR YOUR HOSPICE, IN YOUR COMMUNITY  
SATURDAY JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup> 2025



Choose to jump 10,000 or 15,000ft this  
summer to raise vital funds for local patients  
and families impacted by life-limiting illnesses

Old Sarum Airfield, Salisbury  
Sign up at [lewis-manning.org.uk/skydive](http://lewis-manning.org.uk/skydive)



**Lewis-Manning  
Hospice Care**  
Charity Registration No.1120193

Scan to sign up!





## CHAPEL ON THE GREEN

### **“A Season of New Life: An Invitation to Consider Jesus”**

May is a beautiful month. Trees bloom, days lengthen, and the world seems to shake off the last chill of winter. It’s a time when nature gives us a quiet reminder: life has a way of beginning again.

You may not consider yourself a religious person. Maybe faith feels distant, confusing, or even unnecessary in your life. But if you’re reading this, something brought you here—and I believe that matters.

So, what if this May could be more than just the start of summer? What if it could be the beginning of something deeper—a spiritual awakening?

The Christian message, at its core, is about new life. Not just the kind you see in flowers and sunshine, but a new life offered through Jesus Christ. It’s not about rules, rituals, or religion-for-the-sake-of-religion. It’s about a relationship. It’s about a God who came close—who saw the mess of the world, the mess in us—and didn’t turn away.

Jesus said, *“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full”* (John 10:10). That promise isn’t only for the devout or the perfect. It’s for the uncertain, the curious, the hurting—and yes, even the sceptical.

Maybe you’ve been disappointed by people who claimed to speak for God. Maybe you’ve been hurt by church, or just never found a reason to believe. That’s okay. Faith isn’t about pretending to have it all figured out. It often begins with questions, with longing, and with a willingness to look again.

This May, as everything around us blossoms and grows, I invite you to consider the possibility of a deeper kind of renewal. Ask the hard questions. Seek truth. Read one of the Gospels—maybe the book of John. And be open to the idea that you are deeply known and deeply loved by the One who made you.

New life is possible—for nature, yes, but also for you. ROB TAYLOR

### SERVICES

Each Sunday afternoon at 3pm. Looking at John’s Gospel

### COFFEE MORNING

Each Wednesday between 10.30-12.30pm - Pebble Painting / Jigsaw Puzzles

### CONTACT

Celia Taylor (Church Secretary) [Fr\\_ee2talk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Fr_ee2talk@yahoo.co.uk) / 07908 807115





KINGSTON COUNTRY  
—COURTYARD—

## *Hello May...*

The year is absolutely romping on but May is that special month for us each year where we stop for a minute and take stock.

Kingston Country Courtyard has a long and respected reputation in the community having operated as a hospitality venue for many decades. As the latest custodians, we took the reins six years ago from Tim & Bobbie, and set to work. Our goal was to respect the history and heritage of Kingston Country Courtyard whilst developing the business to be more than a wedding venue.

We adore hosting weddings. Being the curator of a couples special day when they take their vows is a privilege we never take for granted. However our goal has always been to create a 12 month a year hospitality venue to provide steady employment opportunities to our team throughout the whole year.

As we take stock this year we are so proud of our continued development to now have a busy and thriving calendar of events. We can only fulfil this by having the absolute best of the best team working with us and we are eternally grateful to have such an incredible team. If you are interested in joining a diverse hotel and to start or develop a career in hospitality, do get in touch and join us.

Finally and certainly without delay, a huge thank you to the whole community who welcomed us so warmly six years ago. There really is no place in the world as special as here.

*Tony, Catherine, Chas & Julie*



KINGSTON COUNTRY  
—COURTYARD—

## *News from the Courtyard*

What a whirlwind of a four months 2025 has been so far!

Perhaps our most exciting news to share with you this month is our new partnership with Swanage Railway. We are thrilled to announce that in April we commenced a new partnership to become their supplier for Prosecco Cream Tea, and Afternoon Tea on the railway. This is such an exciting partnership for us to work with such an incredible institution and we look forward to the season ahead.

## *Visit England Audit*

Last month we received our Visit England secret audit and we are delighted to maintain our four star rating which we have maintained for a sixth consecutive year. We have however changed categories again. Having taken Kingston Country Courtyard as a bed & breakfast, we quickly transitioned to 'Guest Accommodation' and have now been reclassified as 'Restaurant with Rooms'. What does this mean? It just illustrates the development and investment made to offer our guests, all with the same fabulous service.

## *Sawmill Restaurant*

With the new classification in mind, have you tried the Sawmill restaurant yet? Scan the QR code to book direct on the Fork website, or call us at the hotel - always remember to mention you are a local so we can give you a cheeky discount!



CONTACT US: 01929 481066

ENQUIRIES@KINGSTONCOUNTRYCOURTYARD.COM



Support & Setup for PCs,  
Laptops, Printers, Tablets,  
Smartphones & more

- No callout charge •
- Prompt service •

Mob: 07710 835905

Tel: 01929 480529

web: [www.ajvcomputing.co.uk](http://www.ajvcomputing.co.uk)  
email: [alan@ajvcomputing.co.uk](mailto:alan@ajvcomputing.co.uk)

# inDorset

The Independent Guide  
to Dorset Events,  
Things to See and Do,  
Accommodation, Places  
to Eat, Drink and Shop  
**inDorset**

Add your own Dorset Events,  
Business or Attraction today

Visit the website for more information  
or email [contact@indorset.com](mailto:contact@indorset.com)

[www.inDorset.com](http://www.inDorset.com)



# Quality Sweep

- Power or manual sweep  
& HEPA filtered vacuum
- CCTV inspection
- Bird nest removal
- Certificate issued with every sweep

Tel: 01305 852134 Mobile: 07941 350127

You can find me on...



[www.quality-sweep.co.uk](http://www.quality-sweep.co.uk)



DORSET FOOT CLINIC

Home visits and clinic appointments

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| • Nail Cutting   | • Cracked Heels     |
| • Athlete's Foot | • Hard Skin Removal |
| • Corns          | • Ingrowing Nails   |
| • Calluses       | • Thickened Nails   |
| • Fungal Nail    | • Verrucas          |

Tel: 01929 42 69 44 / 01202 910 920  
Email: [office@dorsetfootclinic.co.uk](mailto:office@dorsetfootclinic.co.uk)  
Web: [www.dorsetfootclinic.co.uk](http://www.dorsetfootclinic.co.uk)

## Kimmeridge News

### Smiling Seas Eco Hub

An exciting new project is underway at the bay to build a base for the excellent work volunteers do to collect plastic waste from our beaches.

SMILING SEAS IS CURRENTLY WORKING ON AN EXCITING NEW PROJECT—A DEDICATED ECO HUB! THIS CUSTOM-BUILT SHED WILL BE USED TO EDUCATE VISITORS AND COMMUNITIES ABOUT THE IMPACT OF PLASTIC POLLUTION AND THE PRACTICAL STEPS WE CAN ALL TAKE TO REDUCE IT.

THE ECO HUB WILL ALSO SERVE AS A TEMPORARY STORAGE AREA FOR THE PLASTICS AND BEACH DEBRIS WE COLLECT DURING OUR CLEAN-UP EFFORTS, BEFORE SORTING AND RECYCLING THEM SAFELY AND RESPONSIBLY.

THANKS TO GENEROUS SUPPORT, WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY FUNDED THE MAIN STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, WE STILL REQUIRE WOOD AND MATERIALS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT.

WE WOULD BE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL FOR ANY SUPPORT—WHETHER THROUGH DONATIONS OF MATERIALS, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, SPREADING THE WORD, OR EVEN LENDING A HELPING HAND TO HELP US BRING THIS PROJECT TO LIFE.

TOGETHER, WE CAN PROTECT OUR COASTLINE AND WORK TOWARDS A CLEANER, MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.



BY SUPPORTING SMILING SEAS, YOU ARE DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTING TO THE ONGOING PRESERVATION OF THE JURASSIC COAST AND OUR EFFORTS TO COMBAT PLASTIC POLLUTION. SMILING SEAS IS A VITAL MOVEMENT DEDICATED TO PROTECTING WILDLIFE AND ENSURING THEY CAN THRIVE SAFELY IN THEIR NATURAL HABITATS. YOUR SUPPORT NOT ONLY BENEFITS THE ENVIRONMENT BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO A BETTER WAY OF LIFE FOR OURSELVES AND FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS. EMAIL: [KIMMERIDGESMILINGSEAS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:KIMMERIDGESMILINGSEAS@GMAIL.COM)

## Kimmeridge Keilidh

Our next barn dance in the Village Hall is on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May - 7:30 to 10:00 - Live music from Arish Mel with Teresa Williams calling. Come & join us for a fun evening! No Bar, so bring your own drinks & nibbles! 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

## Eyes to the Skies

Hi all, I hope you have all started to see the return of our migrational birds around your gardens and wild areas?

Although it's still early days swallows and sand martins have been trickling through Kimmeridge for the last month or so, we even managed to get two separate sightings of a hoopoe but sadly no photo; no new species for the hut feeders yet but plenty of excitement elsewhere. Lots of sea eagle sightings around the area; the eagles are still spending a lot of time at Swyre head and Smedmore hill, along with a resident pair of red kites and not to forget my pair of beautiful yellow hammers that feed in the barns most days.

The fields around the bay are also good for breeding hares; plenty of photo opportunities of them boxing and generally racing around.

Down in the bay we have had, northern wheatear, sandwich tern, dunlin, whimbrel, common sandpiper, common redstart, black redstart, whitethroat, swallow sand martins and rock pipits. chiffchaff and blackcap can be heard singing around the bay in good numbers, sightings of manx shearwater and gannet on passage to and from their feeding grounds and a few Canada geese thrown in for good measure. The gull population around the bay area also includes Mediterranean, black headed, great black-back, common and herring with the occasional kittiwake passing by.

And finally, the icing on the cake for me, while serving a customer I happened to look up just in time to see a much rarer black kite go over head, heading inland, (I did manage to photograph one on Stonehill down in 2020) but no such luck this time.

Happy birding everyone

Cheers

Rose & Pat



Wastewater Treatment Plant Installations for Owners of Septic Tanks

## Septic Tank Owner?

New laws mean that you may need to update your system to a wastewater treatment plant to stop your septic tank polluting the environment.

Please contact us to arrange a free assessment visit.

**01935 507 508**

**burrow-environmental.com**



## Littlebirds

### Home and Holiday Services Ltd.

- Cleaning of Domestic, Holiday Let and Second Home Properties
- Commercial Office Cleans
- Laundry Services
- Insurance Property Checks
- Eco Friendly Ethos and Products

For a quotation or for further information please call or email

07568715856      info@littlebirdscleaning.co.uk



## VE DAY IN CORFE CASTLE.

I am one of the few living, who can remember VE Day in Corfe Castle. I was three and a quarter at the time (fractions are important when you are very little) so I am probably the youngest who can.

My father was stationed near Corsham in Wiltshire and moved his family back to the family home at Mortons House early in 1944. The house had not been mistreated during the War as it had been the headquarters of the local Home Guard. There was someone called, I think, Captain Muir, still living there when we arrived.

During the build up to the invasion of Normandy on D-Day the US Army concentrated in this area. I have subsequently heard that locally we had a regiment of US Army armoured engineers with their headquarters at Leeson House but cannot vouch for this.

The nearest I could get to saying “soldier” was “shoogar” which must have surprised some, especially soldiers. We had a live-in cook with a teenage daughter who invited a soldier home. It was perhaps just as well that he had no idea what I was talking about when I pronounced him to be “gaga shoogar”, “gaga” being an all-purpose word meaning dirty, messy, or generally unpleasant. During this period I remember running crying for comfort at hearing a low flying aircraft or a tank trundling down East Street. I knew that there was a “war” going on and that the enemy were “the Germans”.

Then one day I was told that we should dance and sing because the war was over, and we had won. Cook and Nanny did a jig in the kitchen. I asked whether the Germans would dance and sing too. I was told that they would not as they had lost the war. I pondered this and decided that perhaps the Germans would sing because the war was over but would not dance as they had not won.

There was a celebratory tea party for the village children in the garage of Mortons House (now The Old Guildhall), but I was too young to be allowed to go. Goodness knows how they found some food in a time of severe rationing. I imagine many kindly village folk gave up their sweet, sugar or butter ration.

Daddy came home. I was suspicious and a bit frightened of this strange man wearing a brown suit (probably actually army Service Dress) who appeared

one evening as I was being put to bed. He had been released early as, firstly, he was a reservist called up and sent to France with his regiment in September 1939; and, secondly, because he was a director of a firm mining ball clay in the Isle of Purbeck. The other directors were all over 80. The firm must be going again as part of the local and national economy of a bankrupt country. A small ration of petrol became available for private motoring and Daddy’s car came out of storage.

There was still a war. Now the enemy were the Japanese. I do not remember VJ day. I do remember being shown a picture of either Hiroshima or Nagasaki which had all fallen down. Nanny explained that it had been hit by an “atom” bomb which she said was very, very strong. We had yet another enemy now, called the Russians. I was shown pictures of an aeroplane called a “jet” which had no propellers. I thought this was ridiculous. Everyone knew that all aeroplanes had propellers.

Rationing remained very tight. Even potatoes were rationed. If you got the last, rotten, potato from the bottom of the bag you still had to eat it. There was no other. A rotten potato tastes vile. They were rebuilding the pier at Swanage which had been destroyed in 1940 lest invading German soldiers put it to use; and at Studland they dismantled scaffolding poles which had held explosive devices to impede invading Germans – not that we went to Studland very often as it meant using some of the petrol ration.

Everything was in short supply. I recall my aunt getting married in early 1947. No one had any stockings that the bridesmaids could wear so their legs had to be darkened with cold tea. Shortages continued and rationing did not finally end until 1954 but gradually the country recovered.

MJAB

April 2025

With great sadness, I would like to announce the passing of my  
dearly loved Mum, June Lacey on 12th April 2025.

She will be greatly missed by all that knew her.

A service to celebrate her life will be held at Kingston Country  
Courtyard on May 1st at 3pm followed by her burial at God’s Acre.

Tim Lacey

**SOUTHWEST  
WOODBURNERS**

**Warming  
Hearts  
& Homes**



- Qualified & Insured HETAS Installers.
- FREE no obligation quotations.
- Installers of Woodburning & Multifuel stoves throughout Dorset.
- Power Sweeping of Flue liners and Open Fires.
- Certificate provided after each sweep.
- Stove maintenance and spare parts.
- Fireside Accessories, Baskets, Kindling Crackers, Etc.

**SUPPLY - INSTALLATION - SWEEPING - MAINTENANCE**

**01305 542091 - 07864 331769**

[www.southwestwoodburners.co.uk](http://www.southwestwoodburners.co.uk)

**SHOWROOM NOW OPEN**

Unit 5, Lambing Sheds, Ilsington Farm  
Tincleton, Dorchester. DT2 8QW

Southwest Woodburners Limited - Company Number - 15726962



# RACHEL FOOKS CERAMICS.COM



Do you want to join a lovely group of people & get creative with clay? Feeling inspired & fancy giving pottery a go?



**BOOK NOW FOR POTTERY CLASSES**  
**WEEKLY CLASSES | PARTIES | GROUPS | ALL ABILITIES**

The weekly pottery classes are every **Monday, Thursday & Friday 10 - 1** during school term time. They are very friendly & suitable for all abilities, you'll learn the handbuilding techniques & have 60+ glaze colours to play with. One-off sessions, parties & group bookings are welcomed. Visit my website for full details or email [info@rachelfooksceramics.com](mailto:info@rachelfooksceramics.com).



**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.

**FURZEBROOK STUDIOS.COM**  
**A CREATIVE COMMUNITY IN PURBECK**  
**52 FURZEBROOK RD | NR WAREHAM | BH20 5AX**



## **HISTORIC HORN BLOWN WHEN FIRST TRAIN DEPARTED SWANAGE IN 1885 TO BE SOUNDED AT 140th ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY**

An historic Victorian brass horn reputed to have been blown to mark the departure of the first passenger train from Swanage to Corfe Castle and Wareham in May, 1885, is to be sounded again in a 140th anniversary ceremony at Swanage station.

The public is being invited to attend the special event – dressing in Victorian costume if they wish – on Saturday, 17 May, 2025, from 1pm.



*LSWR horn & LSWR T3 563 steam loco  
Swanage Courtesy ANDREW PM WRIGHT*

The Swanage Railway's special anniversary comes in the year of Rail 200 - a national celebration, by both heritage railways and the national railway system, marking the 200th anniversary of the railways; celebrating the railways past, present and future in England, Scotland, Wales as well as on the Isle of Man.

The Swanage Town Band will be playing on the platform to welcome dignitaries and other guests – just as their predecessors did in May, 1885 – including the Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset Michael Dooley, who is His Majesty the King's representative in the county, the Mayor of Swanage Tina Foster as well as Swanage Railway Trust patron Sir Philip Williams.

After speeches from Swanage Railway Trust chair Frank Roberts and dignitaries, the London and South Western Railway brass horn will be blown at Swanage station to mark the departure at 2pm of a special 140th anniversary steam train bound for Herston Halt, Harman's Cross, Corfe Castle and Norden.

With the dignitaries and other guests riding in a 1940s 'Devon Belle' Pullman observation carriage, the special train will be hauled by the Swanage Railway Trust's unique Victorian T3 class steam locomotive No. 563 which was built at

Nine Elms, in London, during 1893. The T3s hauled trains from London to Corfe Castle and Swanage from the 1890s to the 1930s.

Public admission to the 140th anniversary ceremony at Swanage station is free but members of the public wishing to travel on the special steam train departing Swanage at 2pm will need to purchase travel tickets.

Swanage Railway volunteers attending the special 140th anniversary ceremony – as well as those volunteers on duty on the heritage line on Saturday, 17 May, 2025 – will be presented with a special commemorative badge designed by Swanage Railway Trust director and volunteer Clive Hardy who is organising the special event.

Clive said: "The event marking the 140th anniversary of the Swanage Railway's opening will reflect the celebrations that accompanied the arrival in Swanage of a special train that brought the Swanage Railway Company's directors from London to the seaside town on Saturday, 16 May, 1885, as well as the departure of the first public passenger train from Swanage to Corfe Castle and the main line at Wareham on Wednesday, 20 May, 1885.

"In 1885, the new 25-minute train journey from Swanage to Wareham cost eleven pence compared with a traditional horse and carriage journey taking one and a half hours at a ticket price of two shillings and sixpence.



*LSWR T3 563 Corfe Castle - Courtesy  
ANDREW PM WRIGHT*

"The opening of the Swanage branch line was historic and a seismic change for the Isle of Purbeck – turning Swanage from a fishing and quarrying town into a popular seaside resort and the picturesque village of Corfe Castle into a desirable day-trip destination," added Clive who lives in Poole and has been a dedicated Swanage Railway volunteer for eleven years.



*Swanage Railway 140  
volunteers' badge - ANDREW  
PM WRIGHT (1)*



Swanage Railway Trust chair Frank Roberts said: "It's apt the 140th anniversary of the Swanage branch line's opening in May, 1885, falls in the year of the national Rail 200 celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the UK's railways - celebrating the UK's railways past, present and future.

"We are delighted that His Majesty the King's representative in Dorset – the Lord-Lieutenant Michael Dooley – as well as the Mayor of Swanage Tina Foster, Swanage Railway Trust patron Sir Philip Williams and other guests from the Isle of Purbeck community are able to join us for what will be a very special celebration marking the 140th anniversary of the first train leaving Swanage for Corfe Castle and the main line at Wareham in May, 1885.

"The blowing of the London and South Western Railway brass horn 140 years after it was sounded at Swanage station to mark the departure of that first passenger train in 1885 will have great historical resonance and be a stirring link with the past," added Frank who has been a dedicated Swanage Railway volunteer for more than 40 years.

Swanage Railway Company chair Gavin Johns explained: "It is important to mark the 140th anniversary of the Swanage Railway's opening because the branch line nearly disappeared forever after British Rail ran the last train from Wareham to Corfe Castle and Swanage in 1972 and lifted most of the tracks.

"Since 1976, several generations of dedicated volunteers have worked tirelessly and selflessly to relay the tracks and rebuild the infrastructure required to operate, develop and link to the national railway network the vibrant community heritage railway that we enjoy today," added Gavin who is a volunteer signalman on the Isle of Purbeck line.

It was in 2010 that the Victorian London and South Western Railway brass horn was donated to the Swanage Railway Trust's museum housed in the restored goods shed at Corfe Castle station. 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](mailto:iwanttovolunteer@swanagerailway.co.uk). Details about volunteering can also be found at [swanagerailwaytrust.org/volunteering](http://swanagerailwaytrust.org/volunteering).

**SWANAGE RAILWAY COMPANY LTD** Station House, Swanage, Dorset, BH19 1HB

Telephone: 01929 425800

E-mail: [info@swanagerailway.co.uk](mailto:info@swanagerailway.co.uk)

Registered in England and Wales No. 1412568

## **What's On at Harmans Cross Village Hall**

It's a busy month of May here at the Harmans Cross Village Hall

### **STALLS AT THE HALL – Saturday 3 May**

Crafts, curios, coffee, cake and conversation - a lovely way to spend a Saturday morning. Free entry from 9.30am to 12 noon. To book a table, contact Kelly at [bookings@harmanscrosshall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@harmanscrosshall.co.uk) or on 07384 848 419

### **MOVIE NIGHT - Tuesday 13 May – THELMA**

Thelma Post, a feisty 93-year-old grandmother who gets conned by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, sets out on a treacherous quest across Los Angeles, accompanied by an aging friend and his motorized scooter, to reclaim what was taken from her. June Squibb, herself 94, plays the lead role. She is not a fount of wisdom or some sort of wacky old lady, and she certainly makes some questionable choices during her action-packed journey (think Mission Impossible on a motorized scooter – seriously!!). But her refusal to give up her independence or be a victim ultimately makes her as heroic as any action movie star, and an inspiration (of a sort) to us all.

Doors and bar open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

### **THE GREAT HXVH BARN DANCE – Saturday 24 May – 6-10pm**

We have the Black Sheep Band joining us again for a fabulous, fun-filled family evening. We will be operating the bar, and our friends from Coastal Crust Pizza will also be with us. Tickets available from the Special Events page of our website at [www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk](http://www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk) Adults £10 in advance and children 4-17 just £4. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

### **COFFEE JUNCTION – alternate Thursday mornings 10.30-12.30**

Come along for coffee (or tea) and a chat between 10.30 and 12.30 on May 1, 15 and 29. Let's make the world a happier and less lonely place if we can. Anyone and everyone welcome.

### **CHURCH AT HXVH - 18 May starting at 6pm**

Alison and the HXVH Committee

## The Seat

By Keith Fullbrook

Arthur Tingle was an elderly gentleman who, along with his wife, was well respected by other villagers. A retired teacher who supported village fetes and local charities, he was a little timid, always polite and, whenever possible, tried to avoid any arguments and confrontations. When not using local shops and not owning a car he and his good lady always took the local bus to shop in the main town.

One day on his own he decided to get the bus and travel into town. When it arrived, he boarded and saw a burly man sitting in the seat he usually occupied. For a moment he hesitated, unsure what to do, but decided to speak to the man. On approaching he said "Excuse me but you're sitting in my seat". The man looked surprised and said "Sorry, your seat? I always sit here". Arthur hesitated but the man grunted and said "Look mate this is a public bus and I'm public, so tough! I'm sitting here, find another seat, look around there are plenty". Screwing up his courage, Arthur tried again "Please let me explain" but the man turned away and looked out the window. Dismayed and not wanting an argument Arthur turned away and found another seat. Throughout the journey he sat staring at the man, wondering what he could do to convince him.

The next time Arthur got the bus the same man was sitting in his seat. Again, he approached and tried to explain why he wanted the seat but the man refused to listen. Arthur drew himself up and said "If you don't move, there may be trouble". The man rose from his seat, he was bigger than Arthur and well-built. "And what trouble would that be?" he questioned. Most bus drivers knew Arthur and his wife but on this occasion the driver was new to this route. He approached the two men and enquired what the problem was. He decided that if Arthur could not behave he should leave the bus, so Arthur turned away and left the bus.

Over the next few weeks the same situation continued until one of the drivers who knew Arthur spoke to the man. The next time he caught the bus, the same man was sitting in his seat. But suddenly he got up and said "Good morning, I've been keeping your seat for you". Arthur was taken aback and said "Thank you".

The man said "One of the drivers told me your wife recently passed away and that you always sat together in this seat. I'm sorry for any heartache I may have caused you, if only you had told me".

It just goes to show we should always hear both sides of the story.

## TO BOOK FURZEBROOK VILLAGE HALL

TELEPHONE 07935 068881

Or

W.W.W.FURZEBROOKVILLAGEHALL.ORG

## REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL

### MONDAY

- **Ballett** – Miranda Hindson telephone 07919441836  
[mjballet@gmail.com](mailto:mjballet@gmail.com)
- **Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00**  
[bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com](mailto:bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com)
- **Shotokan Karate** – [www.warehamskc.co.uk](http://www.warehamskc.co.uk)

### TUESDAY

- **Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00** –  
[bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com](mailto:bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com)
- **Pilates** – Alex Moore telephone 07536103364  
[almoore1@live.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:steelepamela08@gmail.com)

### THURSDAY

- **Shotokan Karate** [www.warehamskc.co.uk](http://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](mailto:bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com)

### SUNDAY

- **Purbeck Antiques** Last Sunday of each month – 01929 761398



# foleys

Valley Road, Swanage BH19 3DZ

## RECEPTION.

Tel: 01929 480215. Email: [info@foleysgarage.co.uk](mailto:info@foleysgarage.co.uk)

## SALES.

Tel: 01929 503115. Email: [sales@foleysgarage.co.uk](mailto:sales@foleysgarage.co.uk)

## SPAR SHOP

Tel: 01929 480097. Email: [shop@foleysgarage.co.uk](mailto:shop@foleysgarage.co.uk)

### For all your Motoring needs, including:

Service & Repairs

MOT Testing

Tyres, Batteries & Exausts

Courtesy Cars Available on Request

Collection & Delivery Service

Air Conditioning Servicing

Murco Fuels

Parts for all Makes of Cars

### A Small Selection of our used cars

2017 (17) TOYOTA AURIS TOURING SPORT 1.8 BUSINESS EDN  
HY-BRID Automatic, Sat Nav, 7" Touch Screen, Lane Departure  
Warning System, Rear View Camera, DAB Radio, Bluetooth, Air  
Con, Alloys, Euro 6 Compliant, Heated Front Seats, Electric Front &  
Rear Windows, 82700 Miles. **£10495**

2019 (19) DACIA DUSTER COMFORT TCE 1.3 5 Dr in White  
Sat Nav with 7" Touch Screen, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto,  
Cruise Control, Bluetooth Connectivity, Rear parking Camera,  
Rear Parking Sensors, Electric Windows/Mirrors, Air Con,  
50800 Miles with Full Service History. **£9795**

2018 (18) CITROEN C3 AIRCROSS 1.2 PURE TECH 130 FLAIR  
in Blue Sat Nav with 7" Touch Screen, Android Auto, Mirror Link/  
CarPlay, DAB Radio, Electric Heated and Folding Mirrors, Alloys,  
Full Service History, 45800 Miles. **£9695**



Fresh Produce sold daily

Food and Hot Drinks

Wines Beers and Spirits

Logs and Coal

Newspapers

Vapes, Cigarettes and Tobacco

Confectionary

We have access to 1000's of Cars through the trade.

If you don't see what you are looking for please give us a call on our Sales Line:

01929 503115 or use our Car Finder Page on Website

**Visit our Website**

**[www.foleysgarage.co.uk](http://www.foleysgarage.co.uk)**



## **CORFE CASTLE CHARITY**

The Corfe Castle Charity came into existence through the generosity of private donors such as Robert Abbott, Henry Dackombe, Sir Edmund Uvedale and others, some of whose names are commemorated in St. Edward's Church. The Charity is always seeking to build up funds with which to pursue its long term goal of increasing the stock of affordable accommodation and other social care facilities in the parish of Corfe Castle. The Trustees are always deeply grateful for private donations of money, land or property.



If you have drawn up a Will, or are thinking of doing so, please consider making a bequest to the Charity. Such bequests are free of inheritance tax. Your solicitor will be able to advise on tax efficient bequests when you discuss the terms of your Will.

The government's Gift Aid scheme will maximise the value of gifts to the Charity.

The Trustees are unpaid, and professional advisers are paid for out of other income – so you can be confident that land, buildings and every penny from your donation will be used directly for charitable purposes.





# Church Knowle Village Hall

Traditional Village Hall available for hire - **£10 per hour \***

Large Car Park – Close to the Church – PRS Licence

All enquires - 01929 480534

or email – [villagehall@churchknowle.com](mailto:villagehall@churchknowle.com)

**\* Minimum hire charge of £40**

*Regular and long-term hires by negotiation*

## Advertising and other Charges

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. Our current charging rates are shown below. We are also greatly helped by the donations made by individuals each year. We send out donation envelopes each spring. Donations can be made by BACS payment: the Sort Code and Account numbers are provided below.

	1 month	3 months	6 months	12 months
Full Page	£35.00	£94.00	£180.00	£335.00
Half Page	£22.00	£60.00	£100.00	£185.00
Third of a Page	£14.00	£40.00	£73.00	£135.00
Quarter of a Page	£12.00	£32.00	£60.00	£105.00

Payment by BACS: Sort Code 30-99-12 Account Number 00864273

Postal Address:

Karen Spooner, Meadowside, 129 East Street, Corfe Castle, Dorset BH20 5EG

## Regular events in Corfe Castle & environs

	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
<b>MONDAY</b>			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	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
2nd	7pm	CC Parish Council	C C Village Hall
<b>TUESDAY</b>			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	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	C C Village Hall
Each	6.15-7.45pm	Brownies (term-time)	C C Village Hall
Each	6.30 – 7.30pm	Adult	C C Village Hall
		Ballroom Dance	Donna 01202 243803
Each	7.45 – 9.15pm	Badminton	C C Village Hall
1st	2 pm	Aquarius	C C Village Hall
2nd	7.30pm	CK parish Council	Odd months Furzebrook VH; even CK
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	The Pre School
Each	9.30am- noon	Intermediate yoga	Kimmeridge 477169
Each	9.00am-12.00	Corfe Crafters	C.C. Village Hall
Term time,	5.30- 6.45pm jnrs	Youth Club	C C Village Hall
	6.45-8.00pm snrs		
Each	8.30	Poker	Corfe Castle Club
<b>THURSDAY</b>			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	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	<a href="http://www.purbeckyoga.com">www.purbeckyoga.com</a>	Harmans Cross VH
Each	10.00 – 1.0 pm	Pottery Class	Furzebrook Studios
Alternate	7.30pm	Bingo	C C Village Hall
<b>FRIDAY</b>			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	The Pre School
Each	10am – 1pm	Pottery Classes	Furzebrook Studios
Each	8.30pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club
<b>SATURDAY</b>			
1st	10.30am	Village Coffee	C C Village Hall
<b>SUNDAY</b>			
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