DIRECTORY OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

AQUARIUS CORFE CASTLE WOMEN IN TOUCH	CATHY BRETT	480256
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	JONATHAN EVANS	07880780677
CHURCH KNOWLE READING ROOM BOOKINGS	SANGELA 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	STEVE NORMAN	07971986093
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 & BALLROOI	M 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
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

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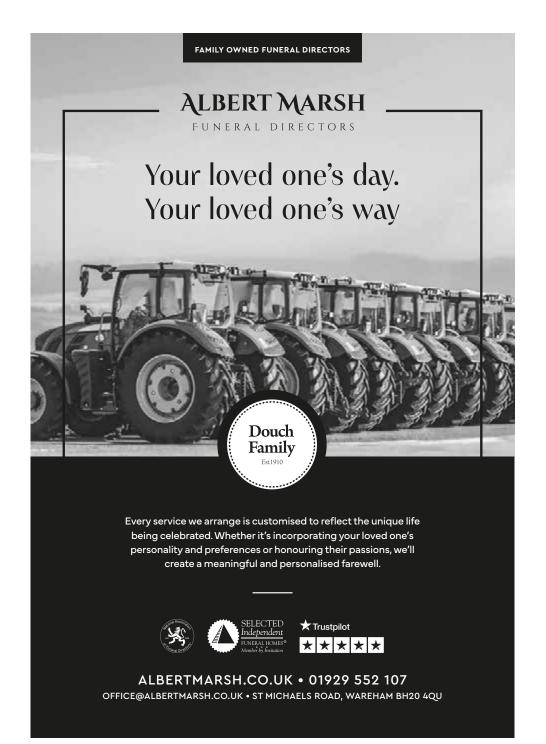
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CORFE VALLEY NEWS



AUGUST 2025

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



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 520 August 2025

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

Editorial

Great news. We welcome Andre Szczepanek and Tony Nott to the team. They have volunteered to manage and help with delivery of the magazine. They will take over from Hilary who has efficiently and helpfully managed the delivery for many years. We all thank Hilary for everything she has done over the years. We also, of course, thank all the delivery helpers, who every month deliver the magazine through your doors.

We have learnt that the Swanage Railway cannot afford to run trains through to Wareham. This is largely due to the high insurance required by Network Rail. However, they plan to take over the Perenco sidings at Furzebrook and build a platform to service Furzebrook and the Blue Pool. The fact that trains will not go to Wareham is disappointing, but they have said they will revisit the decision once they are again in profit. The two years that the Wareham trial was run proved loss making.

We fondly remember Alison Allwright who has recently died. She played a large part in making the library successful and will be hugely missed. There is a longer obituary on the library pages of this edition.

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

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Established June 1982 Issue No 520 August 2025

Contents

6-8	Corfe Castle Parish Council
9	Who to Contact When
10	Corfe Castle Town Trust
11 & 25	Double Act Drama Group
13	Corfe Castle Environmental Group
14-16	National Trust
17	News from the Library
18-19	Church Knowle Parish Council
22	Corfe Castle School and Preschool
23	Corfe Castle Club
26-27	Purbeck Youth Music
28	Corfe Castle Surgery and PPG
31	Aquarius
33	Corfe Community Kitchen
35	Corfe Castle Village Hall
38-39	Centre Page Calendar
40	Useful Phone Numbers
41-43	Church of England
46-50	Swanage Railway
51	Pioneer View
52-55	Notices and Thanks
56-57	Chapel on the Green
58-60	Brenscombe Farm
60	Kimmeridge News
64-66	Burnbake at 50
68-69	Harmans Cross Village Hall
71	Furzebrook Village Hall
73	Corfe Castle Charity
74	Advertising Information
75	Regular Events in Corfe Castle and environs
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The front page is a sketch of Encombe House from "Picturesque Rambles in the Isle of Purbeck" by C E Robinson and dated 1882

JULY MEETING FOR CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

As summer continues across the Purbeck landscape, Corfe Castle Parish Council met on 14th July 2025 to discuss a broad range of topics impacting village life and our surrounding community.

Community Voices Heard: The meeting opened with an active public session. One resident queried why the Dorset Council item was being held confidentially. It was clarified that commercially sensitive information would be discussed. Swifts were once again discussed, with a local resident highlighting that feeding grounds, rather than nesting boxes, may be the key issue. It was noted that insecticide use could be a major contributing factor to population decline. The Parish Council will revisit this topic in September. A point was raised about the Government's £15,000 cap on required works for homeowners under new housing codes, beyond which exemptions can be applied for. The council were also informed that the Dorset Council Local Plan public consultation opens 18th August 2025.

Playpark Roundabout: It was noted the roundabout had been fixed and was back in operation.

Planning & Licensing: The Council raised no objection to the following applications:

- 14 West Street (window restoration and balustrade installation)
- Tapers Barn (stable block construction)
- 37–39 West Street (revised single-storey extension and garage alterations)

No further comment was made on the Downs Quarry appeal. A tree works application for Corfe Castle Primary School was also supported.

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:

Community Correspondence: Concerns raised regarding Dorset Council's use of insecticides on roads was noted. Dorset Council have a policy in place to control weed growth on the highways by use of a mechanical road sweep and spot spraying where the road sweep is not effective. Noting leaving weeds to grow will cause damage to highways.

Thanks were received from Crazy 4 Corfe and the Festivities Committee for the Parish Councils support with VE80 celebrations.

New Composter at God's Acre: The Parish Council is pleased to report that the new composter in the God's Acre extension area is already proving a success. Located beside the general waste bin, it is encouraging cemetery visitors to remove plastic from floral arrangements before placing the biodegradable material in the

composter, helping reduce landfill waste and promote more sustainable practices. Building on this positive response, the Council has approved the purchase of a second, two-bay composter from Wareham Men's Shed, which will be installed in the original 1925 section of God's Acre.

Improving Access to Corfe Common: A motion was passed to approach the National Trust to improve access from Townsend Mead to Corfe Common.

Community Transport Collaboration: Corfe Castle Parish Council has been awarded a match-funded grant from Dorset Council to support improvements in community transport. While no specific scheme has yet been developed, the Council is keen to explore ideas in partnership with neighbouring parishes and local transport groups. Invitations will be extended to Worth Matravers Parish Council, Langton Matravers Parish Council, Swanage Town Council, Purbeck Transport Action Group, and Swanage Town & Community Partnership to attend an initial meeting and begin shaping a collaborative approach to better transport provision.

Next Council Meeting: Monday 8th September 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.

Parish Council contact details: Clerk: Michelle Harrington,

Telephone: 01202 670105, Email: clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk,

Write: 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ, Facebook: www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC, Website: www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk



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Report a small collision or near miss to help target road improvements

Did you know you can report a small collision or near-miss online, even if there is no injury or little damage and no police involvement?

Having information about non-injury incidents and near-misses helps Dorset Council identify where road improvements are needed.

> Near misses, which might be at low speed with another vehicle, a pedestrian or bike, and dents often go unreported.

> > They may be minor, but lots of small incidents at the same location can highlight the need for changes. This might be something simple, like new signs, or bigger like a new junction design.

If you've been involved in a small collision or near miss please report it to:

https://dorsetself.achieveservice.com/service/Report-anon-injury-collision-or-near-miss

Advert created by: Corfe Castle Parish Council

Who to Contact When:

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

My bin was not emptied:

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

Telephone: 01305 221040

A public litter bin is overflowing

Self Service Portal - https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/DWP Report a public litter bin problem

Telephone: 01305 221040

To report a pothole

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

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

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

To report a problem on a road or pavement

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

Telephone 01305 221020

To request a highways gully clear

To request a road sweep on a highway near you.

Self Service Portal - https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/DWP Report for Mechanical Road Sweeper

Telephone 01305 221020

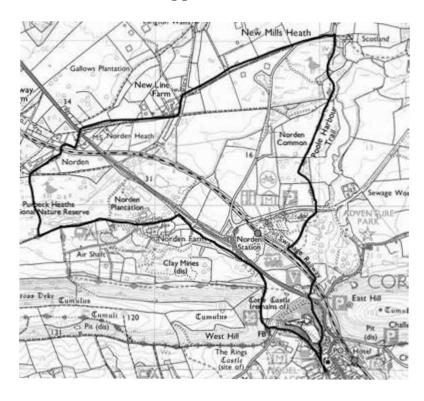


The Corfe Castle Town Trust

Summer Walks

There will be two local history walks taking place on **Saturday 2nd & Saturday 9th August at 10am**Meet by the entrance to the Town Hall in the churchyard. The 5-mile walks (see map below) will last about 2-2 ½ hours and sensible shoes are a necessity.

Donations to support the Town Hall welcomed



Email Louise on mlouisehaywood@gmail.com for further details.



MORSE - POIROT - HOLMES - CADFAEL ...







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astle doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com www.double-act.org.uk

Travel back in time & join our period costumed characters on a twilight walk in the shadow of the spectacular ruins of Corfe Castle.

A whodunnit with a difference — so expect the unexpected!

Due to the popularity of these walks numbers may be limited for safety — so book early!

North Castle Field - opposite Castle View NT car park just North of the Corfe Castle ruins on the A351

July 28th, 30th and Aug 4th & 6th 2025

Walk 7.00 till 8.30pm (approx)

Tickets - £5 a head (under 5's free)

www.ticketsource.co.uk/double-act-drama-group
There may be a few tickets available on the gate for cash only (NO cards)

For safety we will finish before dark!

The event will take place whatever the weather. The walk includes rough grass and paths that are not wheelchair friendly – sorry!. You all take part at your own risk.

10

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Environmental Group Update



Since we last wrote in CVN, Council has supported our motion to spend Environment Group funds on a project to install some new swift boxes around the parish. If you might be interested in having one on your property, please contact our Clerk, Michelle. We are hoping the Swanage and Purbeck Swifts group will help us deliver this project.

During June, we carried out a follow up plant survey of the right-hand side mound and ditch area of God's Acre Cemetery. We originally surveyed this area on 30^{th} May 2023 and on this survey identified 51 species of plants.

Unfortunately, our survey area had been strimmed in the weeks prior to our survey, but on our survey date of 10th June we still managed to identify 56 plant species. This included 35 seen on the previous survey, plus 21 new species. Trees growing in God's Acre include two species of oak (English and holm / evergreen oak), black elder, whitebeam, holly, cherry, hawthorn, hazel, elm and, of course, a yew tree, with some of these supporting climbing / scrambling plants such as ivy, hedge bindweed, old man's beard, brambles and hops. The usual native species were present, e.g. daisies, clover, dandelion, rosebay willowherb, nettles and its partner dock. We also managed to identify 5 different grasses, but we're sure there were many more, but their identification was beyond us!

We are currently planning events for this autumn and have been in contact with the National Trust about a possible visit to Little Sea in Studland for a walk and talk about beavers, with the chance of spotting evidence of beavers or even catching a glimpse of one! More information to follow

We are also planning some tree planting in the village, which is likely to be during week commencing 10th November. We'll be asking for help with this task!

We haven't any events in August, but you may be interested to know that Dorset CAN have arranged a visit on Saturday 16th August to Alaska Wind Farm at Masters Quarry in East Stoke, near Wareham. Spaces are limited (and may all be gone by the time this article goes to press), but if you email dorsetcan@gmail.com to express your interest, you will then hear directly about any future visits.

Get in touch: Parish Clerk (Michelle) - environmentgroup@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk
Facebook: "Corfe Castle Environmental Group".

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

13

Nature updates from the National Trust



Shimmering beauties

It appears to be another bumper year for silver-studded blue butterflies in Purbeck. These tiny iridescent creatures will fly up in clouds as you walk the heathland paths.



Silver studded blue – Mark Singleton

Female silver-studded blues are less showy than the males, being brown with metallic blue spots. Their caterpillars have a fascinating relationship with ants. The ants protect the caterpillars from predators and parasites, and in return they get to feed on a sugary substance that the caterpillars produce.

Silver-studded blues are in decline nationally, so it's fantastic that the Purbeck Heaths National Nature Reserve is providing the conditions they need to thrive.

Ragwort – a feast for pollinators

Ragwort is a UK native plant, and its golden daisy-like flowers bloom all

summer in gardens, verges, grassland and meadows. Its flowers are a vital food source for a wealth of pollinating insects, including bees, butterflies and moths.

But ragwort also contains toxins which if eaten in large quantities can cause liver damage in horses and cattle. But animals won't eat it in the wild – its smell and taste put them off. Problems arise



Ragwort with bees – Mark Singleton

when ragwort is dried into hay or silage, where the bitterness is lost and they can't recognise it.

There is a common misconception that people are required by law to remove ragwort from their land. But the government code of practice only recommends the removal of ragwort in areas of high risk — within 50m of land used for grazing by horses and other animals, or land used for feed/forage production. Find out more here:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/spyway/ragwort

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

Cathy Lewis, the National Trust

July 1496

Trust In the summer of 1496, the castle was visited by Henry VII, who stayed from 27th July to 5th August.

News from the castle

Around this time the King decided to grant Corfe Castle (amongst other things) to his mother, the influential Lady Margaret, the Countess of Richmond. As mother of the King, she enjoyed legal and social independence which other married women did not, and her son's first parliament recognised her right to hold property independently from her husband.

Parliament granted £2,000 for the repair of the castle, although it does not appear that Lady Margaret ever lived here and may never have visited the castle. When Lady Margaret died in 1509 the property reverted to the recently crowned Henry VIII.

Hidden Treasures

If you didn't manage to catch Hidden Treasures of the National Trust on BBC Two, you can still view it on BBC iPlayer.

Martin Papworth, Archaeologist (now retired) dug below an arch that fitted the description of a sallyport where Colonel Pitman let in enemy forces to betray the castle. The dig didn't uncover clear answers. Martin has subsequently released a video (on our Facebook and Instagram channels) explaining some further research and why he strongly suspects this is indeed the sallyport fundamental to the history of the castle.

In the early 17th Century, a turret was built on the outer wall of the castle behind the suspected sallyport. The Hidden Treasures excavation proved the archway went all the way through the boundary wall but couldn't prove it continued through this turret. The explanation might be a flight of steps built into the turret taking the level below the current ground surface of the outside wall. This is backed up by some history from Rev John Hutchins – one of the earliest historians who wrote about the castle. In 1770, Mr Hutchins spoke to local people to get anecdotal accounts of events at the castle that had been passed down through a generation. People told Hutchins the Parliamentarians gained access through a sallyport between the garden and well at the East of the castle which is exactly the spot of the arch. Martin is really encouraged by

this evidence and feels his theory that this is the traitors gate can be proved if we dig a little lower...

Events at the castle:

Medieval sword weekend - 5 & 6 July

Love it Local food festival – 12 & 13 July

Festival of Archaeology - Time Team weekend – 19 & 20 July

Summer of Play – 19 July – 31 August



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News from the Library



Alison Allwright

Many of you will already have heard the very sad news about Alison's death. Alison passed away after a short illness. Despite this situation, she remained stoic, upbeat and courageous throughout, focusing on others rather than herself. This is in keeping with our experience of her community work in Corfe.

Alison was a passionate and dedicated supporter of our library and was instrumental in saving the library from closure twelve years ago. From then on she led a community of volunteers to turn the library into the great community centre it is today. She combined her passion and intelligence to steer us through many complex negotiations with Dorset Council and many other organisations along the way.

We will all miss her greatly.

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.

Church Knowle Parish Council

The July meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council took place in the Church Knowle Village Hall on Tuesday 8th July 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 Neighbourhood Plan

Mrs Pippa Edwards, the chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee reported to the Council. The housing needs survey has identified a requirement for 11 affordable homes. Jacqui Cuff of the Dorset Council will present to the Parish Council at the August meeting.

Report from Dorset Councillor

The Dorset Council Planning Department is engaging with the Blue Pool over the tree houses that were built without planning permission.

The Dorset Council Bridge Team has decided to install trief curbing at the Furzebrook road over rail bridge to improve the safety measures at this bridge. This is a curved curbing that guides vehicles back onto the road if they hit it.

The Highways department, together with the Parish Council is organising traffic speed monitoring on the Grange and Furzebrook Roads.

<u>Planning</u>

The Council voted to support tree work on an ash with severe dieback: P/TRT/2025/03410 Tree work on ash tree at Church Farm Camp Site.

Highways

Funds have been allocated by the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset for signs to be erected along the ridge in Church Knowle and Corfe parishes to prevent damage caused by offroaders usint the right of way inappropriately. There are scheduled Ancient Monuments along the route which have incurred harm. This is a criminal offence. Much of the affected land has a high level of statutory environmental protection.

The recent container lorry accident on the Furzebrook Road was discussed and the Church Knowle Parish Council resolved that it would

support the Arne Parish Council in any application the Arne Council made for traffic safety measures.

There is a meeting with Arne Parish Council and Dorset Highways on 23rd July to position speed survey devices on Grange anf Furzebrook Roads as a preliminary to implementing speed limits.

Furzebrook Phone Box

The phone box at Furzebrook was transferred from BT to the parish council a few years ago and while it is nicely painted and in good condition it does not have a use. The Parish Council would welcome any suggestions or ideas.

Vacancies on the Parish Council

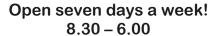
There is still one vacancy on the council which has a full strength of nine and any interested parishioners can apply to clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk.

The meeting finished at 7:32 pm. The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be at the Furzebrook Village Hall at 6:30 on 12th August 2025.



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- As always, we have fantastic giftware, local spirits, wines & groceries galore!
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Corfe Castle CE Primary School & Pre-School



Another academic year has passed by at great speed; at the end of July we said our farewells to the year 6 leavers who now go out into the world spreading their wings and preparing for the next chapter in their education and lives. It is always a joy to see how far children come through their their time with us. watching them grow in confidence, budiling courage and resilience as they move into secondary school.

We have now seen a full year through with the pre-school as part of the school team and it has been a delight to welcome new staff members, new families and new children. The feel around the school has been so positive and the comaradery has been wonderful to see.

This August break is always a time to reflect on change, and it is with great pleasure that I take the helm here at Corfe Castle CE Primary School and Pre-School from September.



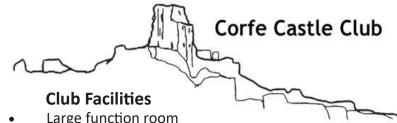
I personally want to thank Miss Amy Howe for all that she has done for the school and the improvement journey that we have all been on.

Thinking back to the Ofsted Inspection of 2023, a key statement to remember is that, "the values of courage, community,

perseverance and belief embody the work of the school". As a church school, we build our core values into all that we do, teach, share and model, ensuring our children take pride in being a part of our wonderful school, nestled here in the Corfe Valley.

Miss Amy Howe - may you continue to share your gifts through serving other school communities. Thank you for all that you have done.

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



- Large function room
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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

Sun 24 Aug 2pm -**Knockout Singles Boules** Competition

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

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News from The Castle

Cannot believe it is August already! The patio and garden are looking beautiful, flowers blooming.

It is business as normal and looking forward to a busy August. Hopefully, the sun will continue to shine.

Finally, the castle should be having its long awaited face lift; work will be starting in August.

Magic Mondays are back throughout August So come along and be amazed.

We have some lovely summer specials, so whether you fancy a salad or a bowl of steaming mussels, we would love to see you. Have a fantastic August.

Friday nights are fish nights.



We Shall Not Rest!

When professional actors are out-of-work, the term 'Resting' is used. It's a euphemism really. What it means is that no-one wants them!

Well, Double Act's diary looks a bit sparse through August, so one might think we are 'Resting', but one would be wrong! For a start the final two Murder Mystery Walks take place on Monday and Wednesday, August 4th and 6th. If you haven't checked out this year's intriguing plot, you need to get a wiggle on! There's unlikely to be another Murder Mystery until 2027.

The rehearsal schedule for 'Alice in Cuckoo Land' by Peter Nuttall, our November 27th – 29th pantomime, is blank during August. Does that mean we are 'Resting' and that nothing is happening to prepare for the show?

'Oh, No, It Doesn't!'

Music for the songs is being arranged, costume ideas are being discussed and costume items found, acquired and adapted. The set is being designed, and the lighting and sound plots devised. The new curtain rail will be prepared for use. The gathering of props is under way. Stage movement and dance routines are being planned. And most important, all the cast members will be learning their lines.

'Oh, Yes, They Are!'

When September arrives, the production rehearsals will resume, and our talented cast and crew will swing into more visible action again, to make sure we don't disappoint our expectant audience in November. Our 'Rest' will have been worth it!

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

New members of all ages and abilities are always welcome!



Purbeck Youth Music

Purbeck Youth Music Summer Showcase.

"What fantastic young musical talent we have here in Purbeck." "Thank you for showcasing our young music makers who are so amazing."

There was a buzz in Swanage High Street on Monday June 30th as young performers and their enthusiastic followers enjoyed an evening of joyful music-making at the Methodist Church. The evening featured a range of young musicians including ensembles who had come together for the first time to showcase their talent.



A combined group of woodwind and brass all from the Purbeck Primary schools played together for the first time and made an amazing sound. The Trad Folk group, ages ranging from 8-15 played several folk tunes from memory with increasing confidence. St Mary's Church choristers sang beautifully and Lily Fawcett's angelic singing led us heaven-wards as she

sang the *Pie Jesu* from Faure's Requiem. Nick Aiko Dando brought energy with his lively rendition of *Tico Tico and* Martha Harwood's deeply musical performance of Mozart's *Das Veilchen* and Bernstein's *Somewhere* captivated the audience.

Moonlight in Vermont in an arrangement by Amy Jerman conjured up the cool vibe of the Great American Songbook and Amy also directed from the clarinet the newly formed Purbeck Mini Big Band which brought the short concert to an upbeat conclusion. What a variety of styles we enjoyed, from African



drumming from St Mary's school, through Mozart to cool jazz.

Our young musicians are getting better and better thanks to parental encouragement (never to be underestimated) the dedication of our wonderful group of tutors who travel from school to school for their students and the extraordinary support of our generous community, who both individually and

in local community groups help to fund the important enterprise which is Purbeck Youth Music.





Please continue to support us. Better still, become a Friend and make a regular contribution through your bank. It all adds up and helps us continue to inspire and encourage young musical talent across Purbeck.

www.purbeckyouthmusic.org All pictures courtesy of Tim Arnold



Corfe Castle Surgery

Thank you for the support shown to us regarding closing the Practice at lunchtime (1pm-2pm). This has made a huge difference to staff, especially those working all day. It enables proper breaks without disruption as well as some much needed catch up time for admin, phone calls and dispensing.

I know the weather has been extremely hot the past few weeks and most of us aren't thinking ahead to the autumn, but I feel now is a good time to update you on this year's flu clinics!

As of September, we will be inviting pregnant women and eligible children to have their flu vaccine and for all other eligible groups we are able to start vaccinating from 1st October.

Your vaccine has already been ordered and reserved for you and we will be contacting you ahead of October to book in to one of our clinics.

The first Saturday clinic will be 4th October 2025 9am-12pm and will be supported by the staff and PPG members in very much the same way as normal. If you cannot make this first date, we will hold another clinic on Saturday 18th October with additional appointments made available Monday to Friday for those with limited mobility and unable to attend on a Saturday.

We appreciate your support of the whole practice team.

Please contact us with any queries. Kerry Norman - Practice Manager





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Our speaker in July was Paul Stickler, a retired detective, teacher and historian, who gave us an interesting and compelling talk about his research into various historical murders. He focused on one case, Sidney Spicer, a taxi driver who was murdered in 1920. He led us on a specific journey, explaining how his research and detailed evidence proved that a career criminal called Percy Topliss was the murderer. His talk was highly interesting and thought provoking and we had many questions to ask.

Future Programme of Speakers

5th August - Annual BBQ

2nd September – Belly Dancing Extravaganza

7th October – The Amazing Life and Achievement of Marie Curie by Alan Neal OPEN MEETING

4th November – Singing for Everyone – Tim Dowland

2nd December – The Fantastic Bow Tie Balloon Man – Rob Driscoll

We are a friendly group so please come along and join us on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 2pm for an interesting talk followed by a cuppa and a chat. We have regular groups who meet each month.

Walkers Group: Meet 3rd Monday at various locations.

Strollers Group: Meet 2nd Tuesday at Collets Close

Aquarius Book Group: Meet 3pm on Wednesday every six weeks. **Lunch Club:** Meet 4th Thursday at 12:30 monthly at various locations.

Contact: 2008aquariusladies@gmail.com for more information.

A fascinating insight into the sharks that roam British waters is being offered by Greenpeace and community group Planet Purbeck.



Owen Exeter

It will form the centrepiece of a wide-ranging "marine evening" staged in Swanage.

Exeter University researcher Owen Exeter will show film and talk about his work in monitoring sharks, other fish and crustaceans using state-of-the-art tracking and camera technologies.

It will include dramatic shots of some of the 30-plus species of shark seen in UK seas, which include Porbeagle, Blue and Thresher varieties, plus remarkable "fish-eye" footage from cameras attached to Basking sharks.

Mr Exeter, 35, whose research contributes to the conservation of Britain's Marine Protected Areas, said people should not be scared of sharks but rather regard them as a vital component of the aquatic food chain and biodiversity.

He added: "I don't think many people realise how many species we have here and how they are an integral part of British marine life.

"I hope I can surprise those who come to the evening, not just about sharks



Blue shark being filmed by Owen

Exeter

but also about how vibrant our seas are. It's also a nice opportunity to show what Marine Protected Areas look like and how they are monitored to make sure they are effective and hopefully being improved."

Other presenters at the event, scheduled for Friday September 19 at Swanage's Emmanuel Baptist

church, will include Nick Measham, head of Wildfish, which battles to reverse the decline of fish populations and their habitats; Greenpeace speaker Doug Skinner and Planet Purbeck co-leaders Rob Waitt and Luke M Luke.

Mr Skinner said most people are now aware of threats posed to nature and our climate, but he is determined to take a positive approach.

He added: "I'll be highlighting what Greenpeace and others have done and are still doing, at the highest level, to protect the marine environment."

Mr Skinner, the event's organiser, said he was excited by the "great line-up of guests". And after attracting an audience of more than 200 at a similar evening last year, he is aiming for a 300-strong sell-out this time.



Blue shark in a photo taken by

Owen Exeter

Bookings can be made via the events section of www.planetpurbeck.org.

CORFE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Soup 'n Pud

There will be no 'Soup 'n Pud' in Corfe Castle Village Hall on Saturday August 2nd '25

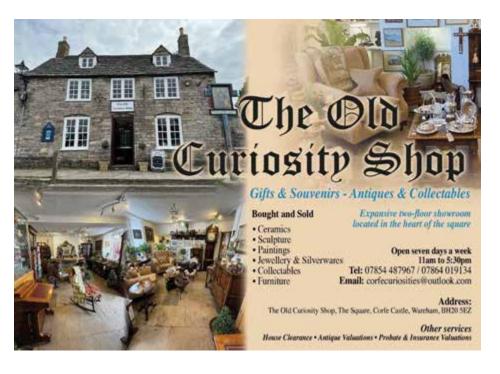
as all the amazing volunteers are taking a well earned break!

The usual, much enjoyed, choice of 2 soups with a roll and the choice of puds and custard will return on Saturday September 6^{th} '25

If you haven't already enjoyed the free tasty food and good company please make a note of the next date in your diaries.

Monetary or food donations are always welcome.

We look forward very much to seeing you all there!



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Corfe Castle Village Hall

general news:

The VH Coffee Morning in July raised £170.38 for VH funds. Thanks to all those who attended, especially our loval team of helpers. Would you consider helping once a month?

The July 100 club draw was made at the Coffee Morning. The first prize of £20 was won by member 71, with member 15 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 availablitity please contact Judith Jenkins 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 Silver Swans adult ballet Thursday mornings Cubs Thursday evenings Alcoholics Anonymous Thursday evenings Friday mornings **Pilates**

regular monthly events:

1st Saturday morning 1st Saturday lunchtime 1st Sunday all day 1st Tuesday afternoon 1st Thursday evening 2nd Monday evening 3rd Wednesday morning

VH Coffee Morning Soup 'n Pud Cameo Antiques Fair Aquarius Gardening Club Parish Council Carers' Support (P Jones)

Fund-raising news

Although we are still awaiting a reply from the National Lottery in regard to our application for a very substantial grant for our kitchen refurbishment, we do expect a decision on this application soon. In the meantime we have had contact from someone who wishes to make a personal donation to the fund. This generosity not only helps us on the way to the total needed, it also demonstrates local support which is exactly what external funders are looking for.

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

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- Childrens Games
- Barrel Organ
- Stalls
- Bouncy Castle
- Raffle

Proceeds towards the maintenance of the church fabric

CORFE VALLEY NEWS

CALENDAR for AUGUST 2025

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

1	August	Friday	6 pm	Twelfth Night – Play at the Bay Kimmeridge	
2	August	Saturday	2 pm	Three Parishes Fete Church Knowle Old Rectory Field	
2	August	Saturday	10 am	Town Trust Summer Walk around the Village – Meet by the Town Hall entrance	
2	August	Saturday	10.15 am	Village Coffee Morning Corfe Castle Village Hall	
5	August	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius BBQ	
9	August	Saturday	10 am	Town Trust Summer Walk around the Village – Meet by the Town Hall entrance	
12	August	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting - Furzebrook Village Hall	
16	August	Saturday	12 midday – 4pm	St Edwards Church Fete on the Church Lawns	
23	August	Saturday	pm	Paddington in Peru screened in the Castle	
25	August	Monday	From 12 noon	Harmans Cross Village Hall Fete and Show	

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

2	September	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius Belly Dancing Extravaganza – Corfe Castle Village Hall	
4	September	Thursday	8 pm	Gardening talk by Ellen Rignell on Dorset seeds - Corfe Castle Village Hall	
4 - 7	September			Purbeck International Chamber Music Festival	
6	September	Saturday	10.15 am	Village Coffee Morning	Corfe Castle Village Hall
6	September	Saturday	12.30 – 1.45 pm	Soup n' pud Community lunch- Corfe Castle Village Hall	
8	September	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting - Corfe Castle Village Hall	
9	September	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Church Knowle Village Hall	
14	September	Sunday	9 am onwards	Wareham & Purbeck Ploughing competition - Compact Farm, Worth Matravers	
27	September	Saturday	7 pm	Murder on the Train – Furzebrook Village Hall	
4	October	Saturday	9 am – 12 noon	Flu vaccination clinic in the Surgery	
18	October	Saturday	9 am – 12 noon	Flu vaccination clinic in the Surgery	
18	October	Saturday	7 pm	Wareham Choral Society A Season to Sing & Vivaldi's Gloria - St Marys Wareham	

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

 $\underline{https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roads-highways-maintenance/road-safety}$

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

Church of England

St Aldhelm's Benefice

Contact Details for St Aldhelm's Benefice

Rector Richard and Louise White

revrichardwhite@outlook.com revlouisewhite@outlook.com

01929 208578

Associate Priest Nick Webb 07866 546162

fulloflifegardens@googlemail.com

Pioneer Associate Priest – Lindy Cameron 01929 208469

revlindyjane@gmail.com

Benefice Office: Tuesday and Wednesday 9.00am - 1.00pm

Benefice Administrator: St George's Church, Langton Matravers

BH19 3HZ 01929 427822 <u>admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org</u>

Enquiries for Baptisms / Weddings / Funerals / Banns

For Kingston contact the Parish Administrator

admin@staldhelm-purback.org 01929 427822

For Corfe and the Valley Churches please contact Lynette McCallum

lynetterees21@yahoo.co.uk

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 Richard writes,

Haven't the Swifts been a treat to watch and hear this year. Their high-speed aerobatics easily outdo the Red Arrows in my opinion.

Whenever there is a fifth Sunday in the month, the churches across the Benefice gather to worship together at St Peter's Church Knowle. It's always a great occasion and was extra special on 29th June as we worshipped together at St Peter's, on what happened to be St Peter's Day, in the year marking eight

hundred years since the church was built. The Swifts must have gotten wind of the significance of the day because there were dozens of them circling and diving around the church during the service. The sound of their cries came through the open door and into our worship like a guest aeriel choir. It was magical.

Swifts famously spend almost their entire lives on the wing, sometimes not landing for ten months! I find that almost impossible to imagine. And also liberating as a reminder that we are not designed that way. We are designed to 'land' regularly, stopping for rest and sleep. It's part of what makes us human rather than Swifts. Trying to deny our own limits is bad for us, and often for those around us. Within a Christian understanding rest is a spiritual practise, reminding us that we cannot always be in control or productive. That it is good for us to stop. And enjoy the birds, or the beach, a book or a boxset. Our next joint Benefice service at Church Knowle is at 10.30am on 31st August. We can't guarantee a Swift choir but you never know... And I need to remember... "Richard, you are not a Swift!"

Services in August 2025

Sunday 3rd August

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 10th August

Steeple – 9.30 am

Corfe Castle - 10.30 am

Kingston – 11.30am

Holy Communion

Morning Worship

Informal worship

Sunday 17th August

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am Holy communion Harmans Cross – 6 pm Evening Worship

Sunday 24th August

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am Holy communion Kingston – 11.30 am Holy Communion

Sunday 31st August

Church Knowle – 10.30 Holy Communion (5th Sunday Benefice service)

There are also services every week in Langton Matravers and Worth Matravers. Information at www.staldhelm-purbeck.org

Bible Readings - August 2025

Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21

Sunday 10th August Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Luke 12:32-40

Sunday 17th August Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

Sunday 24th August Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

Sunday 31st August Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

St Edwards Fete August 16th

We are busy planning the fete which will be held on Saturday 16th August, from 12 until 4pm. We have decided to try for a Saturday this year and hope that more people from the village might be able to be involved.

If you would like to help in any way - providing cakes, joining the team who put up the marquee a day or two before the fete, helping on a stall, - anything would be much appreciated.

We will be raising money for our much loved church - especially important this year as we need to raise the money to put in a whole new heating system!

Please contact dawn.lindsay11@googlemail.com or phone 481498





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MEMORIAL & PLAQUE UNVEILED AT HERSTON HALT MARKING ROYAL CORPS OF SIGNALS CONTRIBUTION

ACROSS 40 YEARS

A poignant wooden memorial and a metal tribute plaque marking the important contribution of the Royal Corps of Signals to the development of the Swanage Railway across 40 years have been unveiled on the platform at Herston Halt.



Herston Halt RCS memorial plaque Saturday 5 July 2025 - courtesy Andrew P M Wright

Carol Wright - a volunteer gardener at the halt for almost 25 years with her late husband Peter - performed the honours at the wooden memorial with the new Mayor of Swanage Councillor Mike Bonfield.

Set into the ground vertically, the memorial is composed of an eight feet long wooden railway sleeper on which are 15 small plaques paying tribute to serving Royal Corps of Signals soldiers, and volunteers from the community,

who have helped to develop Herston Halt since it opened in 1984.

Mounted on a wall at Herston Halt, the blue circular metal tribute plaque was unveiled by Swanage Railway Trust chair Frank Roberts who has been a dedicated volunteer on the Isle of Purbeck heritage line for more than 40 years and served in the Royal Corps of Signals for 25 years.

In front of invited guests – army veterans and volunteers - who have been involved with the development of Herston Halt, both ceremonies took place on the afternoon of Saturday, 5 July, 2025.

Located a mile from Swanage, Herston Halt was the first station to be built by the Swanage Railway as its dedicated volunteers steadily relaid their tracks heading for the three-mile point at Harman's Cross where



Herston Halt RCS memorial sleeper Saturday 5 July 2025 – Courtesy Andrew P M Wright

another new station would be built in 1988.

Built in 1983, the original Herston Halt was smaller than today's concrete structure with the platform originally constructed of wood with the handrails being made from recycled metal boiler tubes from the small industrial steam locomotives that hauled the trains at Swanage between Easter, 1980, and the end of 1983.

The first passenger train from Swanage ran to the halt on Good Friday, April, 1984 – the year that the Royal Corps of Signals began its association with the Swanage Railway.



Royal Corps of Signals Herston Halt upgrade 2008 – courtesy Andrew P M Wright

It was in 2008 that members of the Royal Corps of Signals dismantled the old wooden platform at Herston Halt and replaced it with a large 1930s concrete sectional platform that had been salvaged from Woodside, in south London, during 2005 when the Croydon Tramlink was being built on a former railway line.

Volunteer Swanage Railway Trust chair Frank Roberts said: "There was a wonderful feeling of community, family, camaraderie and shared

purpose when the memorial and the tribute plaque were unveiled.

"It was good to welcome the families of some of those people, sadly no longer

with us, who played such an important part in the development of Herston Halt over the years. It's important to remember those people whose determined volunteer work has contributed to the maintenance and development of Herston Halt over 40 years.

"The Herston Halt of today is very different to the small basic halt that welcomed its first train from Swanage on Good Friday, April, 1984 – an historic and exciting day



Royal Corps of Signals Herston Halt upgrade Frank Roberts 2008 – courtesy Andrew P M Wright

that saw Herston Halt become a springboard to success, enabling the Swanage Railway to push on and relay its tracks to Harman's Cross, Corfe Castle and Norden," added Frank.

The first Royal Corps of Signals exercise on the Swanage Railway in 1984 saw 15 soldier tradesmen from the 30 Signal Regiment, based at Blandford Forum in Dorset, install lineside wooden poles and telephone cables along the one-mile of track between Swanage and Herston Halt.

As dedicated Swanage Railway volunteers slowly laid their tracks to Harman's Cross, Corfe Castle and Norden, soldier tradesmen from the Royal Corps of Signals installed lineside wooden poles and telephone cables as well as telephone exchanges at Swanage, Harman's Cross and Corfe Castle stations.

The Swanage Railway welcomes new volunteers and anyone interested in finding out more should contact the Swanage Railway volunteer recruitment and retention officer Lisa Gravett on 01929 475212 or email iwanttovolunteer@swanagerailway.co.uk. Details about volunteering can be found at swanagerailway.trust.org/volunteering.

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

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'SUNSET SHUTTLE' EVENING HERITAGE DIESEL TRAIN SERVICE CONNECTS SWANAGE, HARMAN'S

CROSS & CORFE CASTLE

A 'Sunset Shuttle' summer evening heritage diesel train service connecting Swanage, Herston Halt, Harman's Cross and Corfe Castle – Dorset's most scenic evening out set to create golden memories for passengers - is being launched by dedicated Swanage Railway volunteers.



Sunset Shuttle DMMU Corfe Castle courtesy Andrew P M Wright

Combining value, convenience and beautiful countryside views, the service operates on selected evenings during late July, August and early September, 2025, with some 'Sunset Shuttle' trains operating to Norden station next to Dorset Council's Purbeck Park long-stay car park off the main A351 road from Wareham to Corfe Castle.

'Sunset Shuttle' operating days and train times can be found at swanagerailway.co.uk – simply click on Your Visit and the timetable option – while 'Sunset Shuttle' all evening travel tickets can be purchased on the train or in advance via Events & Experiences at swanagerailway.co.uk.

The 'Sunset Shuttle' train service also operates during the Swanage Regatta and Carnival evening fireworks events, the Purbeck Film Festival evenings in the grounds of Corfe Castle during August and the Swanage Folk Festival in September.

Unlimited evening travel tickets on the 'Sunset Shuttle' are £10 for adults, £5 for children aged 5 to 15, £25 for a family of two adults and two children aged 5 to 15 with dogs travelling free.

Swanage Railway volunteer commercial director Alexander Atkins said: "The Swanage Railway is proud partners with the Swanage Regatta and Carnival fireworks events, the Swanage Folk Festival and the Purbeck Film Festival which makes the 'Sunset Shuttle' the ideal scenic and stress-free rail connection to memorable and unforgettable summer experiences.

"There is no better way to enjoy the beautiful Isle of Purbeck countryside than from our summer holidays 'Sunset Shuttle' heritage diesel train service connecting hotels as well as camping and caravan sites with restaurants and bars in Corfe Castle and Swanage.

"Combining value and convenience, it has never been easier to leave the car and let the train take the strain while enjoying breathtaking evening views of the Isle of Purbeck and the dramatic ruins of Corfe Castle.

"Our convenient 'Sunset Shuttle' evening train services make it easy and convenient to enjoy evenings out in Corfe Castle or Swanage, explore charming pubs, dine at local restaurants or experience summer events while skipping the stress and hassle of driving and finding somewhere to park with the train carrying you home.



Sunset Shuttle DMMU Swanage Andrew P M Wright

"While discounted 'Sunset Shuttle' tickets are available – giving unlimited evening travel – daytime return tickets and Freedom of the Line unlimited travel tickets can also be used on the 'Sunset Shuttle' trains," added Alexander who is a volunteer steam locomotive driver on the Isle of Purbeck heritage line as well as being deputy chair of Swanage Railway Trust and a director of the Swanage Railway Company.

Depending on operational requirements, the 'Sunset Shuttle' trains will be formed of the Swanage Railway's 1950s diesel mechanical multiple unit - known as a DMMU - or a rake of its 1950s Mark One carriages hauled by 1960 Class 33 heritage diesel-electric locomotive D6515 'Lt Jenny Lewis RN' that hauled the last freight train from Wimborne and Broadstone in May, 1977.

The 'Sunset Shuttle' evening train service operates on the following dates:

- Thursday 24 July to Saturday 2 August 2025 inclusive.
- Thursday 7 August to Saturday 9 August 2025 inclusive.
- Thursday 14 August to Saturday 16 August 2025 inclusive.
- Thursday 21 August to Sunday 24 August 2025 inclusive.
- Thursday 28 August to Saturday 30 August 2025 inclusive.
- Thursday 4 September to Saturday 6 September 2025 inclusive.

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Pioneer view August 2025



Dear friends,

I write this month's Pioneer view following a weekend full of sporting activity including Wimbledon tennis, Formula 1 racing at Silvestone, women's Football competition and

International Cricket. All this led me to reflect on the qualities of those taking part in these events and what do they teach us as we journey on the road less travelled.

They all had one simple thing in common. Their jouneney starts with a dream embedded in hope.

The dictionary definition of hope describes hope as a feeling of expectation and desire for a thing to happen. Other words describing hope are aspiration, desire, expectation, aim, plan, dream. These words and descriptions of hope help make it more tangible and provide us with some sense that our hopes are attainable.

I wonder, considering this, how would you describe your hopes? I like the word 'dream' as a description of hope. It invites me to be more creative and not limited to time and practical constraints.

Here is a quote to reflect on

"Keep your dreams alive. Understanding that to achieve anything requires faith and belief in yourself, vision, hard work, determination, and dedication. Remember all things are possible for those who believe." Gail Deavers

How often do we hear that the Olympic gold medalist starts with a dream, then the athlete puts in the training time and personal sacrifice to make that make their dream a reality. We need to be prepared to dedicate ourselves to making dreams happen.

A Quote to ponder

"Hope lies in dreams, in imagination, and in the courage of those who dare to make dreams into reality." – Jonas Salk

Don't give up on your dreams. Keep dreaming.



Go well,

Peter

Chair Growing Compassionate Communities

Notices and Thanks

Corfe Castle Gardening Club

The July weather, despite being full of beautiful sunshine, was certainly a challenge in the garden, especially if you were away on holiday. Water saving techniques have really come into their own and balancing the needs of new plants and vegetables with the need for water conservation has been difficult but essential. The long term forecast for August as I write this is a potentially very warm month with a mixture of sunny and rainy spells. We certainly need the latter but will hopefully enjoy time with family and friends in the sunshine.

In July we enjoyed visiting the Opera Garden at West Green House, in a corner of north Hampshire. The stunning garden surrounds a pretty Grade 11* listed Georgian Manor House. We were lucky to be given a guided tour by its owner, Marylyn Abbott, the renowned Australian garden designer. Her twin passion for English gardens and international opera have created a unique environment. The garden combines neo-classical style with contemporary design. It is divided into areas that include a woodland walk and a magnificent walled garden, entered through an arbour of wisteria. An avenue of pruned apple trees leads you to a potager with berry filled fruit cages. A path leads the visitor on to a lake and paradise water garden. After exploring the garden, we took refreshments in the tea rooms that served an excellent choice of drinks and tasty cakes. Thank you Fiona for arranging such a lovely trip.

There are no meetings in the village hall during August and our first meeting in the autumn will take place on September 4th. with a talk by Ellen Rignell from a new Dorset seed company, Winnow Farm Seeds, on saving seed and growing resilient plants. We look forward to seeing you then.

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. 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.



Purbeck Goes Wild summer newsletter landed in July and handed out through Corfe primary at the end of term ready for the holidays. Six organisations including the National Trust are putting on a suite of activities over the summer holidays for Purbeck families, with every Tuesday taking place from Corfe primary out onto the common with Jill. Book your places through the Planet Purbeck eventbrite page.

Wareham & Purbeck Vintage Ploughing Committee 49th Annual Ploughing Match

To be held on Sunday 14th September 9am onwards at Compact Farm, Worth Matravers, BH19 3LE just past Swanworth Quarry - What 3 words :- tactical.noisy.currently

By kind permission of Mr & Mrs A White

Free Entry Vintage & Modern Tractors Hot Food available Raffle Tractor & trailer rides

Money raised to go to Julia's House Children's Hospice, Dorset.

If you would like to make a donation, give a raffle prize or have an advert for your business at the match please get in contact with me.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Helen on 01929 481562. Email helenselby@outlook.com

PurbeckParkys,

PurbeckParkys - Please note **change of time:**Still meeting on the Third Wednesday of each month at the Swanage Cricket Club but for the summer

we start at 2pm and end at 4pm August 20, September 17, October 15

If you need more information please contact me: <u>david.gynes@parkinsonsuk.goassemble.com</u>

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 or <a href="mailto:metalta:me

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

Date	Time	Location
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	Bankes Arms Studland
3/9/2025	7.30pm	Wareham Quay
6/9/2025	All day	Swanage Folk festival



Corfe Crafters

Wednesday 9.00am to 12 midday Contact Cheryl - 07745242511





Wool Home Library Service Volunteer celebrated

Our Wool Home Library Service team recently met for a coffee to congratulate Annabelle Glasspool as she was presented with a certificate and badge to mark 10 years of volunteering with Royal Voluntary Service. She is pictured here on the left receiving her award from Maria Jacobson, RVS Service Manager for Dorset and BCP (standing) and fellow Wool HLS volunteer Eileen Osgood.

The Home Library Service is for anyone across Dorset and BCP who loves reading and is unable to get to a library themselves. Royal Voluntary Service

volunteers will deliver books free of charge to their home, based on their personal preferences, every 3 weeks. This includes large print and audio books. Anyone who would like to know more or knows someone who would benefit from the service please contact RVS on 01305 236666 or enquire at their local library. We can then visit to explain more and find out what you like to read.

A comment from one of our 361 Dorset clients in this year's survey: 'Receiving the HLS confirms to me that someone cares. I don't have any visitors and this breaks the loneliness. It makes me smile – and I can't wait to dip into the books and decide on the order I am going to read them!'

For further information about the Home Library Service in Dorset and BCP please contact Maria Jacobson on 01305 236666 or email maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk



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CHAPEL ON THE GREEN

Beyond Ritual: Embracing a Personal Relationship with Jesus

In the Christian faith, two approaches to spirituality often emerge in contrast: a personal relationship with Jesus and a ritualistic adherence to religion. The distinction between the two is crucial in understanding the heart of the Gospel.

Rituals have long been a part of religious expression and can focus more on performance than a relationship with Christ and when rituals become mere routine, disconnected from genuine faith and understanding, they risk becoming empty formalities.

Jesus himself challenged this kind of religion, saying, in Matthew 15:8, "These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me." His strongest rebukes were not aimed at sinners, but at religious leaders, who performed rituals meticulously, without a personal relationship with Jesus. A personal relationship goes far beyond external observances. It acknowledges Jesus, not just as a Saviour, but as a friend, teacher and Lord, and is rooted in love and not legalism, whilst ritualistic religion may focus on performance, rather than a relationship with Christ.

In a world hungry for real connection and meaning, ritual without relationship will not satisfy. But a living relationship with Jesus offers what religion alone can't. It offers peace, purpose, and the presence of God in daily life.

Ephesians 2:8-9 reminds us, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith... not by works, so that no one can boast."

In "The Sermon on the Mount," Jesus presents a sobering yet vital teaching about two distinct paths in life, the broad and the narrow way. This teaching is found in Matthew 7:13-14. "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life and those who find it are few."

The call to "enter by the narrow gate" is an invitation to salvation, to walk with God now and live with Him forever. The broad and narrow ways are not merely symbolic. They are real, spiritual realities that define every person's eternal destiny. Jesus, in love and truth, invites us to leave the crowd and follow Him. Though the narrow way is difficult, it is filled with grace, purpose, and the promise of everlasting life.

The teaching of Jesus confronts every person with a decision. Which road am I on? Am I following the crowd or following Christ?

"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death." Proverbs 14:12.

Let us take seriously the words of Christ, examine our hearts, and choose the way that leads to life.

ROB TAYLOR

SUNDAY SERVICES – Every Sunday Morning at 10.30am

Refreshments follow the Service

Celia Taylor (Church Secretary) 07908 807115

Fr_ee2talk@yahoo.co.uk

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Brenscombe Farm

Lying to the south of the Studland Road, Brenscombe was a farm of about 87 ½ acres in 1941, with 47 acres used for rough grazing for the cattle, one bull, sheep, one ram and 150 chickens. The animals have gone in favour of youth activities, and it is now a residential and outdoor centre.



1846 map of Brenscombe Farm, then owned by the Earl of Ilchester (the Fox-Strangways family).

The farm has certainly been occupied since the early 13th century, when Odo, the tenant of Thomas Anderbod, paid an 11th part of a knight's fee (money raised on the amount of land to support a knight) for 'Brunescumb' of ½ a mark. Not far from the farm, a fragment of brown and white mosaic flooring was found which has been assumed to be part of a Roman villa.

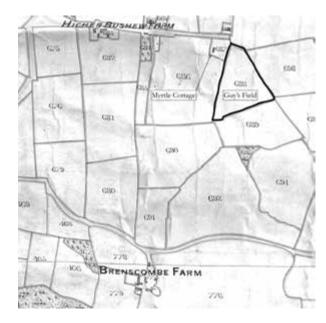
By the 1400s, the farm, then of 120 acres, had passed to the Hendour family who still it by knight's service, although the price had upped to 4 marks, which they paid to John, Duke of Somerset, the constable of the castle.

When Richard Hendour died in 1442, his estate was left to his 2-year-old daughter, Margaret, and when she married Thomas Tregarthyn, the property passed to him. It then passes down to their granddaughters, one of whom

married John Wadham and her youngest sister, Joan, married Sir Giles Strangways of Melbury Sampford and the farm descends through her, via the Strangways to the Earl of Ilchester.

An intriguing letter, dated 1664, from John Strangways mentions that the rent could be used to repair 'your church house and schoolhouse in Branscombe'. The Revd. Hutchins refers to this in his tome on 'The History of Dorset' but where they were situated is unknown.

Eventually, the estate was inherited by Thomas Strangways of Melbury Sampford and when he died, in 1734, he left it to his sisters, Susannah and Elizabeth, the Duchess of Hamilton. It included a farmhouse, ground that had been taken out of Brenscombe Heath and an old cottage. This had been demolished before 1734 and added to the farm as 'Guy's Fields'. It was named after Stephen Guy, a linen weaver from Corfe Castle who had leased the cottage in 1655.



Guy's Field no 688 on the Tithe map of 1844. Bushey Lane now continues eastwards

Nearly 20 years later, the farmer was struggling to pay his way and owed the Earl of Ilchester over £120 in rent. The earl agreed to repair the buildings but not the glass windows and it was re-rented out to John Fookes of Burton, near Wool.

The Earl of Ilchester leased the farm out to John Calcraft for £100 in the late 1700s with the Rempstone Estate eventually purchasing it in 1872 for over £4,700.

Louise Haywood

Kimmeridge News

Play At The Bay - 1st August - Kimmeridge Bay

Miracle Theatre is back on the road this summer with a new open-air production of Shakespeare's dazzling comedy Twelfth Night, a joyous, chaotic tale where love knows no boundaries!

It is the story of twins Sebastian and Viola who are separated from one another by sea and storm. Shipwrecked and without her brother for the first time, Viola finds herself washed up in Illyria, a playground for the hedonistic and lovesick elite. What unravels next sends the story spinning into a tangle of unrequited love, mistaken identities, hilarious awkwardness, cruelty, and mischief.

Blending Miracle's playful spirit with the Bard's wit, expect plenty of belly laughs, heartache, gloriously outrageous characters, and a contemporary twist proving once and for all that it's hearts, not parts, that truly matter!

Touring Dorset with Artsreach, the county's rural arts charity

Site open at 6pm with BBQ, Bar and Hot Drinks available (cash payments). Bring your own chair/blanket to sit on. Assistance dogs only. Recommended 7+

Standard Ticket £16, Under 18s £8, Family ticket £40 (admits 2 adults, 2 U18s)

Book online (preferred) at https://artsreach.co.uk/event/twelfth-night-miracle Debbie Evans 07879 473693 or Rose Clarke 07713 Telephone booking: 845599 Email enquiries: villagehall@churchknowle.com

Kimmeridge Church – 17th August 4pm

Join us on Sunday 17th August for a special Kimmeridge "Songs of Praise" at 4pm in our church. We will be joined by members of Corfe Castle Church Choir to sing favourite hymns. If you have a favourite hymn that you would like singing, let us know and we'll try and do as many as we can! You can email revlouisewhite@outlook.com Revd Louise White on kimmeridgepcc@btinternet.com with your suggestions. We look forward to you joining us.

60

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Burnbake at 50: Dorset's Burnbake celebrates 50 years of wild escapes and family adventure.

One of Dorset's most beloved holiday retreats, nestled between Corfe Castle and Studland, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this summer with nostalgic events and a special tribute to its pioneering founder, Phillipa Ryder.

What began as a campsite on a patch of sun-baked heathland on the sprawling Rempstone Estate, is now a multi-accommodation escape that includes 22

forest lodges with hot tubs, luxury safari tents, camping fields, and a newly restored farmhouse.

The Golden Jubilee will be marked with a series of nostalgic moments throughout the summer honouring the holiday park's roots. Highlights



include community competitions, vintage merchandise and a special celebration party inviting past and present guests to share memories and stories.

Founder's Story



Burnbake's story first started in 1975 with founder Philippa Ryder had a simple but radical vision: to reconnect people to nature. The campsite between the historic Corfe Castle and Studland in Dorset was created to supplement the income from the estate's farm, becoming one of Dorset's most cherished holiday hideaways half a century later.

"Back then, the farm wasn't making a huge amount, and the estate wasn't either," Phillippa recalls. "This area wasn't suitable for farming, but it was in the perfect location."

The campsite had no electricity, just a water pipe and a few chemical toilets. The first guests were attracted by hand-painted signs and word of mouth.

"We had signs at the top of the road and one down near Corfe Castle until the council said, 'Oh, you can't put that there'. But we'd already had it there for a summer before they caught up with me," Phillipa remembers with a smile.



Recognising the need to modernise, Phillippa Ryder was joined by business partner Tim Bircham in the late 70s. The first proper toilet block came in 1981, followed by a shop stocked with milk, bread and ice packs. Throughout this period, Philippa was a constant presence, often with a child in tow.

At 80, Philippa still carries the same fire. She's an entrepreneur, a mother, a sailor, a gardener and a quiet force who defied expectations at a time when few women dared to lead. Burnbake's golden anniversary isn't just a milestone – it's a celebration of her courage to build a legacy, rooted in resilience and wrapped in wild beauty.

About Burnbake

Burnbake is a holiday park in the Purbeck Heaths National Nature Reserve, nestled in woodland, halfway between historic Corfe Castle and the Studland beaches, with a wide variety of holiday accommodation options.

These include:

Luxury lodges

Burnbake has a selection of two- and three-bedroom luxury lodges, including seven dog-friendly lodges, with floor-to-ceiling views of the surrounding forest. Each architect-designed lodge blends modern comfort with natural charm, featuring private hot tubs on a secluded deck area, wood-burning stoves, flat screen TVs and well-appointed kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms.

Rempstone Farmhouse

Available for three, four, or seven-night stays, the recently refurbished Rempstone Farmhouse accommodates up to eight guests, sleeping six in the main farmhouse and two in a private log cabin. The dog-friendly house also comes with private gardens, a hot tub and parking.

Safari tents

Sleeping up to four or six guests, the Burnbake safari tents are unique to the UK, offering a home-from-home experience in the great outdoors. Available for stays of between two and seven nights, each tent comes with comfy beds, a well-equipped kitchen and a private deck with a dining table and firepit – all within easy reach of shower pods and private toilets.

Camping

Burnbake offers a back-to-nature camping experience for tents and small camper vans, with nine electric hook-up pitches available. Campers can choose their own pitch across three fields, including the Main Campsite, offering shady woodland pitches, with access to a small adventure play area, fire pit and BBQ grill hire, and toilet and shower facilities.

Bell Tents

We have three new bell tents in the Camp Field, offering a relaxing, hassle-free option, where you can watch the sun goes down. Fancy booking some nights under the stars without any of the faff? We have three new bell tents in the Camp Field, offering a relaxing, hassle-free option, with incredible forest views to take in as the sun goes down.

For more information, visit www.burnbake.com



66



What's On at Harmans Cross Village Hall

Not long now until our annual Harmans Cross Fete and Show on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August. We will have all the usual entertainment – live music, children's entertainment and games, bar, BBQ, a huge host of stalls and our Big Raffle with proceeds again shared this year with the amazing Dorset charity Mosaic which provides bereavement counselling and support to youngsters.

We are already looking for donations of pre-loved books, jewellery, bags and bric-a-brac so if you are having a clear-out then please keep us in mind. We have set up a gazebo at the 'railway side' of the Hall alongside the garage which we hope will be a convenient way of dropping off any books, bric-a-brac etc, and we will clear that every day or so.

We will also have a Plant and Produce stall and we will welcome donations for this as well. Please bring plants along to the Hall on the Saturday or Sunday immediately before the Fete, and we will look forward to receiving produce e.g. tomatoes, vegetables, fruit etc on the morning of the Fete. And of course, the café would be delighted to accept any cakes from 9am on Monday morning as well.

Movie Night – Tuesday 12 August – Bridget Jones: Mad About The Boy

Bridget is alone once again, widowed four years ago, when Mark was killed on a humanitarian mission in the Sudan. She's now a single mother to 9-year-old Billy and 4-year-old Mabel, and is stuck in a state of emotional limbo, raising her children with help from her loyal friends and even her former lover, Daniel Cleaver. Pressured by her Urban Family —Shazzer, Jude and Tom, her work colleague Miranda, her mother, and her gynecologist Dr. Rawlings (played by Emma Thompson) — to forge a new path toward life and love, Bridget goes back to work and even tries out the dating apps, where she's soon pursued by a dreamy and enthusiastic younger man. Now juggling work, home and romance, Bridget grapples with the judgment of the perfect mums at school, worries about Billy as he struggles with the absence of his father, and engages in a series of awkward interactions with her son's rational-to-a-fault science teacher (Chiwetel Ejiofor).

Doors and bar open at 7pm and admission is just £6

Other dates for your diaries

Coffee Junction: August 7 and 21, and September 4 from 10.30am **HXVH Church:** There is no Church service on Sunday 17 August at HXVH. We are attending the 5pm service at St Aldhelm's Chapel instead – please feel welcome to join us

And finally ... we are looking for a new Secretary to the Management Committee

The role involves taking Minutes of meetings (c8 meetings a year) and organising the AGM. If you have a spare 1-2 hours per week and would like to get involved in our active and sociable team, please contact Alison Clough at alison.an.clough@btinternet.com or on 07768 558341.

Alison and the HXVH Committee



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- Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com
- Shotokan Karate www.warehamskc.co.uk

Tuesday

- Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com
- Walking Netball 10 12 am
- Pilates Alex Moore telephone 07536103364 almoore1@live.co.uk
- Sandford and Wareham WI contact susiedean42@gmail.com

Wednesday

• Model Railway Group peter.c.hollins@gmail.com

Thursday

Shotokan Karate www.warehamskc.co.uk

Friday

- Weekly Health Qigong Fitness 9.30 & 10.30 am Penny Youssef 07969925502
- Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com

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

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



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2022 (22) SUZUKI VITARA 1.4 BOOSTERJET 48V HYBRID SZ-T in Grey, Sat Nav, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Rear Parking Camera, Air Con, Alloys, 34000 Miles with FSH. £14995

2022 (22) RENAULT CAPTUR 1.0 TCE ICONIC EDITION in Grey Sat Nav, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Keyless Entry, Cruise Control, Bluetooth, Alloys, 35486 Miles, FSH. £13495

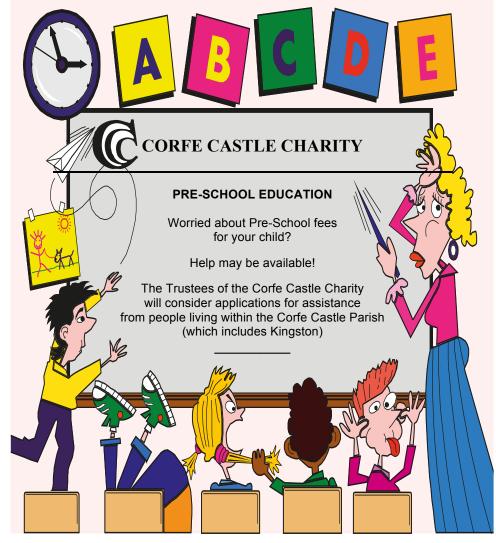
2020 (20) VAUXHALL CORSA SRI 1.2 NAV in Black
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Alloys, Air Con, Only 28650 Miles, FSH.
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73

- Education and Training
- Domestic and Family expenses
- · Sickness and Disability
- Grants to organisations

For further information please contact: The Clerk to the Trustees,

Mrs. Mandy Meaker

2 Battlemead

Corfe Castle BH20 5ER

Tel: 01929 480873



Church Knowle Village Hall

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

Large Car Park – Close to the Church – PRS Licence - Wifi All enquires – 07880 780677

or email - villagehall@churchknowle.com

* Minimum hire charge of £40. Additional charges may apply

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The Corfe Valley News is a non-profit making organisation run entirely by volunteers. We therefore rely on advertisers, organisations and societies to contribute to the costs of production. 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.

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Regular events in Corfe Castle & environs					
	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION		
MONDAY					
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		
2^{nd}	7pm	CC Parish Council	C C Village Hall		
TUESDAY	•		-		
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	Aguarius	C C Village Hall		
$2_{\rm nd}$	7.30pm	CK parish Council	Odd months Furzebrook		
	•	•	VH; even CK		
WEDNESDA	Y				
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	D 1	_		
Each	8.30	Poker	Corfe Castle Club		
THURSDAY					
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	www.purbeckyoga.	Harmans Cross VH		
Each	10.00 - 1.0 pm	Pottery Class	Furzebrook Studios		
Alternate	7.30pm	Bingo	C C Village Hall		
FRIDAY					
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	The Pre School		
Each	10am – 1pm	Pottery Classes	Furzebrook Studios		
Each	8.30pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club		
SATURDAY					
1st	10.30am	Village Coffee	C C Village Hall		
SUNDAY					
Each	1.00pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club		
Please send anv a	alterations to this list to	o the Editor, at the addres	s in the front. Whilst care		

Dogular exents in Carfo Castle & anxivons

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