

SWANAGE AREA FORUM

INCLUDING SURROUNDING VILLAGES

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2021 - No. 12



**Welcome to the June/July issue of the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
and Swanage Area Forum Newsletter.**

When you read this latest newsletter I'm sure that, like me, you will witness a different feel in the articles from the many contributors, compared to previous issues.

The past 15 months and all their trauma, have seen just how, when a community like Purbeck comes together to help each other, to share information, and not be left isolated, amazing things happen. It's drawn us all together ... and long may that continue.

There seems to be a more optimistic and busier atmosphere compared to earlier months, which obviously relates to more upbeat news regarding the Covid-19 crisis. For though there are still real worries and concerns relating especially to the latest Delta variant and its potential negative impact, mostly on those still not yet fully vaccinated, the overall mood is more hopeful than earlier in the year. The Purbeck holiday crowds are back and we haven't even got to the main season yet.

Hopefully this summer will pass off well for residents and visitors alike, with our many holiday-based businesses flourishing, local fetes, festivals and galas thriving - and to cap it all and some good old English weather (not sure about that!). So let's keep our fingers crossed, keep up our amazing community spirit - but still try to keep cautious, careful and safe.

Mel Norris,
Chair Swanage Area Forum and Swanage & Purbeck Development Trustee
[***melvyn.norris@icloud.com***](mailto:melvyn.norris@icloud.com)



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

COVID-19 update - 11 June

Dorset and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Councils #doyourbit

	Most recent 7 day period		Last update (4 June)		7-day cases trend
	Cases	Case rate per 100,000	Cases	Case rate per 100,000	
BCP Council	74	18.7	34	8.6	
Dorset Council	42	11.1	14	3.7	

In line with the national picture, we have started to see case rates increase in both the Dorset Council areas and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council areas. Cases remain lower than many areas of England, but rates for both areas have more than doubled over the last week.

Latest updates on **COVID-19 in Dorset - Public Health Dorset**



NHS

People aged 25 or over can now book their COVID-19 vaccine

Aged 25 or over? Book your vaccine
 If you're aged 25 or over, or you'll turn 25 before 1 July 2021, you can now book your COVID-19 vaccine. It's important that you have two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine at 2 appointments and that you get the 2nd dose 8 to 12 weeks after getting your 1st dose.

More information on booking your COVID-19 vaccine

Think 111 First

If you need urgent care, then the best way to receive the most appropriate service, in a safe and timely way, is to contact NHS 111. Your NHS 111 advisor will be able to assess you on the phone and, if needed can direct you to or book an appointment with a GP, pharmacist or A&E.



Can you help? Are you concerned about our Ambulance Car?



The Swanage Paramedic Car continues to be under threat of withdrawal.

Residents may have seen the Swanage and Wareham Advertiser recently, which led with "No plan for the ambulance car." This, if true, would be the most welcome news for the over 7,500 people who have signed the petition to save our Swanage based 24/7 Paramedic Car, and Swanage and Isle of Purbeck residents would sleep easier at night if we knew we were keeping this invaluable resource.

Once A&E, Maternity and Specialist Children's care go from Poole, Swanage will be approaching 30 miles from emergency hospital care, with much of the journey on congested single track roads, particularly at holiday times. The Paramedic Car attends 1,875 Purbeck calls outs each year, over half of which are category 1-3 emergencies, the most serious, where there is risk to life or of permanent disability. The majority of these emergencies centre around Swanage, which clocks up more overall use, more category 1 use, and more category 1-3 use than the rest of Purbeck put together.

The Clinical Commissioning Group told Dorset Council Health Scrutiny Committee in 2018 that the loss of A&E, Maternity and Children's care from Poole would mean that Swanage Ambulance resources would be fully maintained, if not increased - and these departments haven't even closed at Poole yet.

Do the Clinical Commissioning Group really have 'no plans'? Richard Drax MP has met their CE, who proposed that the money currently being spent on the Paramedic Car should be transferred to turn a 10 hour ambulance service into a 24/7 one. Richard Drax MP was perhaps not aware that the 10 hour ambulance is the second Wareham Ambulance, so this proposal would mean swapping a 24 hour Swanage based emergency resource for an extra 14 hours on a resource located ten miles away, at Wareham. Even if we assume that ambulance is at the Wareham base when the call goes out from Swanage for help, this is too far away for the Ambulance Trust to get here within the 8 minute target response time for a category 1, imminent danger of death call, to give the best chance of saving. In fact, ambulances are in such demand that they are usually out of base working across the County. What makes the Paramedic Car - a fast 4x4 that can go off road - so unique, is that it is 'tethered' to Swanage and Purbeck in a way that no ambulance can be, as it does not routinely take patients to hospital and supports Purbeck GP's home visits - so it is here when we need it.

Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group's presentation at Health Scrutiny echoed what Richard Drax had reported, in that it seemed designed to support the withdrawal of the Car and its replacement with extra ambulance hours. It focused on the benefits of ambulances, but did not address the long waits for these to come. The ambulance trust have previously reported that the average time between a Swanage category 1 imminent danger of death call to the Trust, to the arrival of the patient at Poole Hospital, over a 13 month period, was 1 hour 43 minutes. Nor did the presentation mention that the Paramedic Car is based in Swanage, that it is 'tethered' to base in a way no ambulance can be, that it responds faster, how well used it is, nor that the majority of it's work is in Swanage, with more than half it's work serious emergencies.

Residents stories of the Paramedic Car being first on the scene are reported throughout the booklet "We need our Paramedic Car": <https://saveswanageambulancecar.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ambulancecarecredits67.pdf>

The booklet contains over 50 stories where the Car has saved life or where there has been an unacceptably long wait for an emergency response. As domiciliary carer Tamara says "the Paramedic Car is usually, if not always, the first on the scene", with the Car attending each of the 6 Swanage Care homes between 20 and 50 times each year. Hannah, a Swanage mum whose 4 year old daughter stops breathing periodically says that there has never been an ambulance available within 10 miles when this has happened, but the Car Paramedic has arrived in minutes to take over her daughter's care.



IT'S AT RISK!

They saved me a trip to Poole hospital, being treated in my own home made me much better than if I had to go to hospital. I had to go to hospital when I was available my condition and outcome would be a different story. I owe the Paramedic Car an amazing service - we really think if it he could not breathe - I'm forever grateful for the ambulance car for turning up so fast

996 CALL OUTS IN 2019 - OVER HALF TO CATEGORY 1-3 EMERGENCIES

OVER 45,000 PURBECK RESIDENTS AND MORE THAN THREE MILLION YEARLY VISITORS RELY ON THIS SERVICE

SAVE OUR CAR - <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/save-swanage-ambulance-car>

We need our Paramedic Car

Help us save this vital community health service!

- 996 call outs in 2019, over half to category 1 - 3 emergencies, 400+ risk to life calls
- Over 45,000 Purbeck residents and more than three million visitors each year rely on this service

We our AMBULANCE CAR

What you can do to make your voice heard

Two different Dorset Council Committees can look at this issue both before and after any decision is made. The sooner you can make your voice heard, the better, as this could come to Health Overview on 6 July, and the deadline for submissions for that Committee will be 30 June.

Please email fiona.king@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk who is the Officer who deals with correspondence for the two Committees who can look at this issue. Please be polite. Ms King has no part to play in the decision.

Please say you are emailing both Cllr Kerby the Chair of Health Overview and Cllr Taylor, the Chair of Health Scrutiny, because you would like both Committees to hear your concerns.

You may then want to focus on one or more of the following:

1. Has the Swanage Paramedic Car helped you or one of your friends or family? Has it helped to save a life, to stabilise or simply to reassure, while waiting for an ambulance?
2. Has the Car Paramedic been able to treat someone, so that they did not need to go to hospital, saving the patient a journey and the Ambulance Trust some precious double-crewed ambulance time?
3. Or have you had a long wait for an emergency response with the Swanage- based resources that we have now, before the Car is withdrawn?

Please put your full name and postal address on the email as Dorset Council will only consider matters raised by people living in Dorset Council area.

Please copy the Swanage Area Forum Chair, Mel Norris, into your email: melvyn.norris@icloud.com Sometimes Dorset Council's email system rejects emails. We'd like to keep an overview of what's been sent, and also ensure all resident's comments get through to the Committee. If you let us know that there has been a problem, we can then forward on any that haven't got through in a batch.

If you would prefer to write to Dorset Council:

Ms Fiona King

People and Health Overview and People and Health Scrutiny Committees

Dorset Council

South Walks House

South Walks Road DT1 1UZ

If you write, it would be very helpful if you are able to keep a copy, and give a copy to the Chair of the Forum Melvyn Norris, 22 Streche Road, BH19 1NF

Can you help? Is your story in the booklet?

It is likely that for each story in the booklet to be counted as from a resident that we will have to submit the full names and addresses of people in the stories. If it is the story of a family member who has visited you, your name and address will be fine. People have submitted stories on the understanding we will need to use these to make our case. We've got quite a few full names and addresses – but not all of them. If your story is in the booklet could you help us to get over the final hurdle by emailing your name and address and identifying your story where a pseudonym has been used at your request? melvyn.norris@icloud.com

We cannot afford to lose this Swanage based 24/7 emergency service - it is a matter of life and death. We need our Paramedic Car.





Inaugural Message from new Mayor of Swanage - Councillor Avril Harris

First, I should introduce myself, having been elected Town Mayor on 24th May, following Mike Bonfield, who has made an outstanding contribution to Swanage as the only Mayor to serve 4 years continuously. I've lived in Swanage for 42 years and became a town councillor in 2015. Life has certainly held surprises for me since I retired 10 years ago.

Hopes were high for Step 4 on 21 June, the earliest date for lifting restrictions, but government followed scientific advice and extended restrictions for 4 more weeks to 19 July. The extra 4 weeks will allow younger people to receive at least the first job. The latest figures (11 June) show tripling of the infection rate in Dorset Council area. We still need to be cautious and protect ourselves and fellow citizens, particularly the more vulnerable, by wearing face coverings, washing hands frequently, and keeping to the 2-metre rule.

The town was busy with visitors over half-term week and it's heartening to see many town centre businesses back in action. We need to remember that many in our community have suffered financial hardship and adverse effects on mental health due to the pandemic.

Apart from the Annual Meeting on a very windy and wet evening at the Bandstand, the Town Council hasn't met face-to-face since early May and powers are delegated to officers (in consultation with councillors). Some informal meetings of committees are on zoom and anyone's welcome to attend. It's hoped face-to-face meetings will resume after 19th July.

A hot topic currently is the seafront rubbish bins. Dorset Council replaced the wheelie bins with smaller bins with only 64% of the wheelies' capacity - increased this year by our staff using hand-operated compacters. The new bins were ordered without consulting the Town Council. Wheelies aren't pretty but hold a lot of rubbish. Predictably, though emptied by Dorset Council more often, the new bins fill quickly. The flat tops give seagulls easy access to pull out rubbish which spreads over the seafront and beach. Town Council staff are spending many hours clearing it to keep the seafront tidy. A firm response to Dorset Council by the Town Council has resulted in 14 extra bins arriving. Let's wait and see whether this lessens the rubbish problem!

Stay safe, and remember "Hands, Face, Space".

Cllr Avril Harris



Carer Support Dorset

Mindfulness (Monday 28th June 14:30-15:45)

Anyone who is registered with Carer Support Dorset as an unpaid carer can contact us on 0800 368 8349 to sign up to the session.

The Mindful Life are delivering a 1-hour session exclusively for unpaid carers in Dorset. We cover what mindfulness is, share some meditations with you and some ways to use mindfulness practices in everyday life. Best Wishes

Best Wishes

Kelly Hewitt
Carer Adviser

Direct Line: 01305 571323 ext 390

A Network Partner of
CARERS TRUST



Carer Support Dorset

carersupportdorset.co.uk
@CarerSupportDorset @CarersDorset

Call us free on 0800 368 8349 Weekdays 9:30 to 4:30

Carer Support Dorset provides free and confidential support to unpaid carers of all ages across Dorset.
Support line - workshops - news updates - befriending - support group - signposting

For Young Carer support visit carersupportdorset.co.uk/young-carers/

Carer Support Dorset, Unit B8 Arena Business Park,
9 Nimrod Way Ferndown, Dorset, BH21 7JH

We care because you do.

Registered charity no. 520762. Please consider giving by direct debit.



The Civic Service 2021

This will be held at St Mary's Church, Swanage,
at 3pm on Sunday, 25th July,
followed by refreshments.

Reserved seats can be arranged for community groups and organisations by emailing:

mayor@swanage.gov.uk

giving the number of seats required.
Individuals wishing to attend need not book seats.

All are welcome to attend



FRIENDS OF SWANAGE HOSPITAL

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

SUMMER DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - SATURDAY 31ST JULY

The Friends Committee continues to meet via Zoom but we are so looking forward to using our brand new meeting room sometime soon. We would love you to see all the new facilities and so we are planning an event on Saturday 31st July. It maybe all we can do is show you round our beautiful new patient garden but whatever the rules by then please make a note of the date and we'll advertise time and details next month.

Our new car park is beginning to be used more now there are increasing numbers visiting the hospital. It is open to anyone with an appointment at the hospital, ward visitors and staff and we are monitoring its use closely.

We are really grateful to the Greengage Project for filling our hanging baskets so beautifully and then, having spotted the tubs were looking a little bare, have added plants to those too. Mutual support is really gratifying.

It's great news that the Durlston bus is stopping at the hospital on its return journey and it will be very interesting to see how well used it is. Maybe we can put in an appeal for it to stop on the way up to Durlston instead?

Sadly the renovation of the Stanley Purser Ward has had to be postponed yet again because of fears of a Covid surge in cases this summer.

As we have been unable to hold any fundraising activities to date, perhaps you might think of joining the Friends or making a donation? We will be spending a great deal in the next few months to update the Theatre in order to bring it back into use so we would really appreciate your contribution, large or small.

Post it to the hospital or donate on line at

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

**Thank you.
Jan Turnbull, Chair**



Pictured here outside the hospital are 'Greengage Community Garden' volunteers who made up the hanging baskets and pots - Ginny Carvisiglia and Rob Oliver



Laura Beattie, 'Greengage Community Garden' volunteer who was also involved in the hospital project.



“HELLO” FROM THE CHAIR OF THE FRIENDS OF WAREHAM HOSPITAL



Wareham Hospital continues to be the site for the Purbeck Vaccination Centre where either Astra Zeneca or Pfizer Covid vaccinations are provided for our local community; over 36,000 vaccinations have been given so far and we would encourage all those due to have second vaccines, or in fact their first, to attend the local clinic when invited to come.

As a Friends' Group, we have been busy and have been given the green light to tidy up the lovely garden at the back of the hospital. Although contractors attend on a fortnightly basis to cut the grass, we have been able to clear some of the weeds and help to restore the lovely garden which was so well supported by the local community in the past.

This area of the garden is to be included in an initiative led by the new Wareham Community Growers group and part of the In Bloom Competition which will be judged mid-July

Members of the Wareham Men in Sheds group have kindly agreed to refurbish the three wooden benches which continue to be well used by vaccinators at lunchtime breaks!

We have been able to replant the fountain and in a short space of time our small team have made a tremendous difference. There is still much to do however and we would greatly welcome help to join our organised gardening sessions which last no more than a couple of hours.

We can be contacted by email friendsofwarehamhospital@gmail.com or by phoning 07917 362603 or 07980 300156 for any information on the gardening project or supporting our Friends Group.

Sending every best wish,

MAGGIE HARDY, FRIENDS CHAIR

Charity number 252073





**Dorset
Council**

SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOLLOWING END OF TEMPORARY EVICTION BAN

The temporary ban on evictions has ended. If you are worried about your housing situation, please reach out for support now. If you are at risk of losing your home, contact us for free advice and assistance as soon as possible.



**For help and advice call
Freephone 0800 144 8848**



Photograph by Gwenda Yeou



**East Dorset
& Purbeck**

Advisers at Citizens Advice in East Dorset and Purbeck continue to be available 5 days a week to help everyone find a way forward, whatever your problem. Advice is available to everyone by phone or email and we now have some face-to-face appointments available.

Purbeck residents needing advice can phone **Dorset Adviceline on our freephone line 0800 144 8848 (Textphone: 0800 144 8884)**, 10am-4pm weekdays to talk to an adviser. Alternatively, visit www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk to request email or telephone call-back, or one of our new face-to-face or video appointments using the webform. There is also a wealth of self-help advice accessible through our website at www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/online

Help to Claim Universal Credit – a limited number of face-to-face appointments are now available in Wareham

In addition, we offer a full range of up to date advice, including help with:

- Benefits entitlement and claims
- Debt management, budgeting and income maximisation
- Employment advice including furlough, Statutory Sick Pay and rights when laid off work
- Advice for the self-employed including the Income Support Scheme
- Energy and water advice, support and schemes
- Housing and advice if at risk of homelessness
- Referrals for charitable support or to food bank

Scams Awareness – two out of three people in the South West have been targeted by scammers so far in 2021 so remember the scam warning signs to look out for:

- If it seems too good to be true
- If it's unexpected
- If you're being urged to respond or pay for something urgently or in an unusual way
- If you've been asked to give away personal info

Find out how to spot a scam and what to do next at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scamsadvice

Finally...do follow us on Facebook and Twitter at @CitAdviceEDP



We finally made it! The Place of Welcome reopened on the 18th May at our new venue, 103, High Street, Swanage. We'll be open Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m to 12 midday from now on. Feel free to drop in. It has been lovely to meet up (socially distanced) with friends old and new.

We seem to all have 'Covid Chatter Syndrome' i.e. after so long with little contact with others we can't stop talking!

We have also been busy contacting all our visitors and 'visited' to ascertain their views on face-to-face visiting.

The 'Friendly Drop In Tea' we had planned for on the 10th July at All Saints Hall has had to be postponed until Saturday 31st July – All Welcome!

On a sad note, our dear friend and colleague David Edgington, who had been a committee member and hard working Treasurer from the founding of Linking Lives died at the beginning of June. He will be greatly missed.

For any further information, and with any offers of help, please contact

Roger Seaman at: lvs.volunteers@outlook.com or

Sarah Bamber at: sarahmbamber@gmail.com

or you can phone me on **01929 423851**.

Sarah Bamber, Chair

Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans



Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership

Keep the heart of Swanage beating



Since the establishment of the partnership we had the aim of installing publicly accessible defibrillators across Swanage and the surrounding villages. Within 18 months, we were recognised by the UK Resuscitation Council for our fundraising efforts and installation of 17 devices and their cabinets. In Swanage, you are now unlikely to be more than 400m from a device and in the town centre, even closer.

Since 2016, we have doubled in number, and the reach of the partnership has extended across Purbeck, with devices now in Stoborough and Sandford also installed. We now have 33 defibrillators available 24 hours a day, with two further devices available for hire at public events.

The devices and their cabinets are maintained and monitored by a small army of volunteers who act as guardians for a particular location. Fortnightly maintenance checks are performed to ensure the device is deployable and this is recorded and reported to the Ambulance Service. The work of the 'guardians' is invaluable in ensuring the devices are available when needed, and putting the devices back into service after use. The Ambulance Service record the locations of all our devices and their availability, in order to direct the public to their closest defibrillator in an emergency.

As the number of defibrillators has grown, so too has their deployment. The use of a defibrillator at the scene of a cardiac arrest is a vital part of the '**chain of survival**,' along with '**early CPR**' and '**early Advanced Life Support**'.

Taking this into consideration, the partnership raises concerns around recent reports that the Swanage Ambulance Car is to be decommissioned. The partnership would like to see an open consultation take place on the future of this service and will advocate for it to continue, recognising its vital role in that 'chain of survival'.

As we continue to progress with the easing of lockdown, the partnership will recommence fundraising in order to maintain the estate and the running cost of the devices, cabinets and the perishable goods that keep them operational. Towards the end of 2021 we aim to recommence the defibrillator familiarisation sessions, continuing with our initial aim of not just installing devices, but ensuring our community are comfortable to use them.

If you would like to know more, please visit us on our Facebook page. Donations can be taken to Corbens Estate Agents, Station Road, Swanage.

Kyle Hickman
For SCDP

Rotary Swanage and Purbeck



We are delighted to announce the winners of our Young Musician competition. The competition was held online for the first time due to the Covid restrictions. 14 dedicated young musicians aged 8 – 18 years recorded their pieces and then uploaded them for the adjudicators to review. The whole process was masterminded by Tim Arnold.

KS 1-2 – INSTRUMENTAL

1st Suzanne Lejeune – piano
2nd Alfie Yew – piano
3rd Rory Kerins – violin
Highly commended – Lily Fawcett, Lily Harris, Rosie Kent and Alvin Yew

KS 3-5 – INSTRUMENTAL

1st Sally Aiko Dando – violin
2nd Nick Aiko Dando – piano
3rd Oscar Brady – piano

KS 3-5 – VOICE

1st Olivia Marcus
2nd Reuben Marcus

Sally and Nicholas were invited to go forward to the Rotary Wessex District level of the competition, and we're delighted to announce that Sally not only won her Instrumental Class but was judged both Wessex District and South West Region Winner too!

Separately we were very pleased to be able to participate in the Swanage May Market held at Sandpit Field over the bank holiday weekend. Our bric-a-brac stall was a great success and raised over £1,000 to fund local projects.

Finally, we are planning to go ahead with our annual **Fete & Craft Fair on Thursday 12th August**, which was cancelled last year. The large marquee usually available after the Carnival will not be available this year but there will be "Craft corner". The well-spaced stalls and attention to detail will ensure all Government Covid Regulations are adhered to.

Anyone wishing to have a stall can apply through the Swanage & Purbeck Rotary CIO website

<https://www.swanagerotary.org/cio>

You can also contact Deirdre Selwyn

(d.sprotarycio@gmail.com or **07971 764823**)

for more details.



THE MOWLEM Theatre, Cinema & Function Rooms

We Can't Wait to See You!

After seven long months The Mowlem returns this July with another spectacular Swanage School production, *'Little Shop of Horrors'*, followed by a trio of tribute acts and a two-week run of Swanage Rep's new musical *'The Princess and the Pauper'*.

The Swanage School's first production opens on 21st July and is sure to be a treat - director Harry Peake has previously produced hit shows with *Rock of Ages*, *Grease*, *Hairspray* and *Fame* and *'Little Shop of Horrors'* will be an all-singing, all-dancing affair and includes a mysterious killer pot plant!

The Mowlem's Triple Tribute Week starts on 30th July and fills a musical gap for all those missing the Carnival this year. We open with *'The Beatles For Sale'*, followed by *'Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years'* and closing with *'The Beach Boyz'* - three world-class tribute acts over the space of 7 days!

'The Princess and the Pauper' is a brand new family-friendly musical created for Swanage Rep, adapted from the Mark Twain novel, and includes signed songs and British Sign Language interpretation at every performance.

There will also be a series of films between shows, so look out for the flier coming soon!

Tickets are now on sale for all shows – book online via www.themowlem.com or call the box office between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday on 0333 666 3366. The box office will be open for in-person bookings from early July.

Social distancing will still be in place within the theatre for all shows, with seats between bubbles in the stalls and additional rows between bubbles in the circle, so book soon to secure a seat!





It's time to get ready for the Summer Reading Challenge

The Staff at Swanage Library are very busy getting ready for this year's Summer Reading Challenge. Find out all you need to know below!

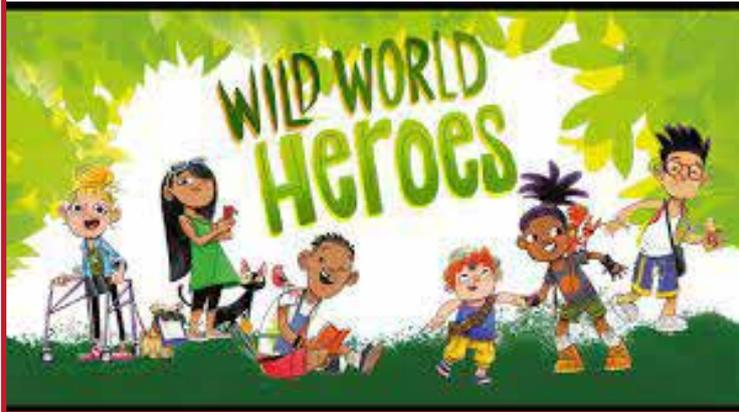
Come to your library this summer and look out for '*Wild World Heroes*', a celebration of reading, nature and action for the environment.

- Get your free foldout poster and go on to collect six '*Wild World Heroes*' stickers as you read or listen to library books of your choice.
- Complete the Challenge to receive a certificate and medal.
- Keep an eye open for special '*Wild World Heroes*' events and activities online and at your library.

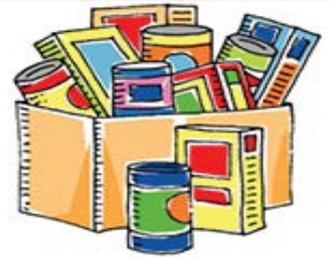
We hope to see you in the library very soon!

Nathalie
Swanage Library Manager

To find out more visit www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/libraries, follow up on Twitter @DorsetLibraries or find us on Facebook.



Swanage Food Bank



Life is improving - but - we cannot be complacent

Halfway through the year and we've possibly seen the worst of Covid pass us by in Swanage, for which we are truly grateful. A degree of liberation from restrictions has created many job vacancies in hospitality work, so some of our out-of-season clients are more financially secure for the present.

Not surprisingly, demand has lessened slightly after the very busy year so far. But we cannot be complacent because furlough will end and landlords will be able to evict tenants with rent arrears, mental health problems are increasing, domestic abuse is still on the incline, and many small businesses have financial difficulties.

This means that a lot of Swanage households are living with food poverty and are maybe unwilling to seek our help. Which is why we would encourage our community to look out for neighbours and friends/family who might need the nudge to receive food aid rather than struggle on.

Swanage Food Bank is a phone call away (07759230313).

The importance of giving fresh food is one of our priorities, so we have increased our spending on fruit, salads and vegetables, dairy products and meat vouchers with a local butcher. We are also mindful of 'holiday hunger' amongst our children and will be approaching Swanage pre-schools and schools to see how SFB can best support their pupils' nutritional needs during term and holiday times.

Yes, we cannot be complacent.

Pauline Werba Chair, Swanage Foodbank



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans



Website: www.swanagemuseum.org.uk

e-mail address: museumswanage@gmail.com



The reconstruction of the original Prince Albert Memorial is now reaching its finale with only the finishing touches - the stone facing of the plinth, the railings with corner supports, paving and surfacing of the paths, benches and planting - needing to be completed.

The incredible workmanship by the local craftsmen at one of Purbeck's quarries in replacing the lost top stones has to be seen; thankfully these historic masonry skills are still something that can be admired. The re-construction team from a local firm have also done a magnificent job and should be congratulated. But none of this would have been possible without the generosity of a Swanage benefactor and his dedication to give financial support to this project aided by a management team from The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust. We also thank Swanage Town Council for providing an ideal site and giving moral support to the scheme and last but not least, we thank all those Swanage Museum pioneers who had kept the whole idea alive for the last 60 years or so.

Top of the list of these pioneers was David Lewer (now deceased), who worked tirelessly over the years, and wouldn't give up his dream of seeing the Albert Memorial restored in all its glory in Swanage. He would be delighted...

If you want to find out more about the Prince Albert Memorial and also all of Swanage's rich heritage and history, particularly its stone history, why not pop into The Swanage Museum where further information can be obtained?

The Museum will be open after a major revamp from **June 29th** each week initially from **Sunday to Fridays (11am – 3pm)**.

Mel Norris, Chair of Swanage Museum Trustees



We continue our efforts to raise funds for a life-sized bronze statue to commemorate our local 'unsung hero' Trevor Chadwick. The mould has been cast and sent to the foundry, so the first stage of the project has been successfully completed. To enable us to reach the next phase, we will need to ensure that we have received further donations of at least £30,000.

We have had a great deal of local support, but have been hampered in putting on events to raise funds because of the continuation of the lockdown. We had planned to hold a 'Gala Concert' featuring the well-known local singer, Karen Grant, together with supporting acts on the 26th June at the Bandstand. However, this event has been postponed, but it is hoped to hold it at the end of July / August.

The 'pop-up' shop in Station Road was highly successful. The maquette of Trevor Chadwick and details of his courageous exploits, which were on display at the shop, are being moved to the Swanage Museum at the Square on the Parade, from 28th June, so that it can be seen by as many people as possible.

There has been a really interesting turn of events recently. We were contacted by a representative from one of the London Boroughs, who is looking after the affairs of Gerda Mayer. Gerda was one of the children Trevor Chadwick brought back from Prague in 1939, after a direct approach from Gerda's father to Trevor. When she arrived in this country, she was fostered by Mrs Chadwick, Trevor's widowed mother. Gerda became a famous poet and the dedication in her 1988 collection of poems, *A Heartache of Glass* is 'to the memory of Muriel Chadwick and her son, Trevor Chadwick, to whom I owe my preservation.' A more detailed account can be found by visiting Wikipedia - Gerda Mayer. All of Gerda's close relatives did not survive the war and were presumed to have died in Auschwitz. Gerda has just turned 94 and is in frail health. She has, however, said she is very pleased that Trevor Chadwick is at last going to get the recognition he so justly deserves.

We will continue with our efforts and would thank all those who have donated so far. This is a very worthwhile project and I hope it will continue to be supported by our community. The former Mayor, Mike Bonfield, gave £2,700 from his Charity Fund when he stepped down after four very successful years in office.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me if you need further information about this very important project by emailing me at: john@corbens.co.uk

John Corben
Chair
Trevor Chadwick Memorial Trust



Retiring Mayor, Mike Bonfield handing a cheque for £2,700 from his Charity Fund, to John Corben, Chair of TCMTrust



EVER CONSIDERED VOLUNTEERING AT SWANAGE PIER?

When people ask why volunteer at Swanage Pier. ...

'It is fun to be part of a great team, contributing to the Pier and its development'

'Learning more about the Pier, Swanage and the surrounding area including the sea, boats and wildlife'

'Enjoy working in the shop and meeting the customers - some of whom are very interesting with their long knowledge of the Pier'

Due to the dedication and hard work of all our supporters and volunteers, the Pier is looking as glorious today as it might have done over 100 years ago. Swanage Pier Trust is an independent charity, which relies greatly on volunteers to help keep the Pier open for members of the public to visit, alongside helping to preserve it for future generations.

We welcome anyone who has a few hours to spare, would like to meet new people, gain new skills and spend some time in this amazing place.

You can help in a variety of ways roles including, gate duties, shop assistant, general maintenance, event and fundraising, education and Purbeck Coast FM.

To find out more visit our website below or contact Amanda Bowden on **01929 425 806** or activeis@swanagepiertrust.com.
<https://www.swanagepiertrust.com/volunteering>



One of our dedicated Volunteers, hard at work and loving every minute



Swanage Pier Maintenance Volunteers taking a well-earned break



Isle of Purbeck
Arts Club

Outdoor Summer Sketching now in Full Swing

The Isle of Purbeck Arts Club has recently been meeting and sketching outside. This is covid-secure and allows us to meet in person, having met via zoom during the winter.

We meet at various locations in Purbeck from Swanage Pier to Wareham River to Lulworth. All meeting points are accessible by car or bus.

The Summer programme attached includes meeting times at both the bus stop in Swanage and at the location. To join in you have to pay £10 club membership to cover insurance costs as well as supporting the club.

Studio Work Shop Outdoor Sketching Programme 2021

To participate in these sessions, you must be a member of the Isle of Purbeck Arts Club, to be covered by our insurance. Membership costs £10 per annum and can be purchased from Gina Marshall, IPOAC Chairman at the 'New Wave Gallery' in Swanage High Street.

Gina says: "Just in case of any changes to Covid restriction rules, it would be helpful if you could email me by the Sunday before each Tuesday if you hope to come; in case I need to give numbers attending to the private locations, and so that I can email you by 9am on the day, if I have to cancel due to bad weather."

isleofpurbeckartsclub@gmail.com.

Place to Store Schools' Loan Instruments

On another matter we'd like to put a call out for somewhere to store the instruments that we loan to schools for young people to learn how to play. The size needed is roughly three bookshelves full / or a quarter of a single garage.

Instruments are in cases but need to be dry with some air flow around them. The deadline is the end of this school term. If you can accommodate them, or know of somewhere that we could approach, we would be delighted to hear from you:

Tel: 07434814384 or by email:

isleofpurbeckartsclub@gmail.com.

STUDIO WORK SHOP OUTDOOR SKETCHING Programme 2021

July 6th - Swanage North Beach

Meet by the "Cabin" 10:am
Often spaces to park in Beach Gardens etc.
Toilets at end of path
down to beach

July 13th - Lulworth Cove

Meet 10:40am at Visitor Centre
Bus 30 leaves Swanage 9:30 am

July 20th - 'The Hollow'

Quarry Garden at 25 Newton Road Swanage,
Parking in Newton Road.
£4 for National Gardens Scheme. Toilet

September 7th - Holme Garden Centre

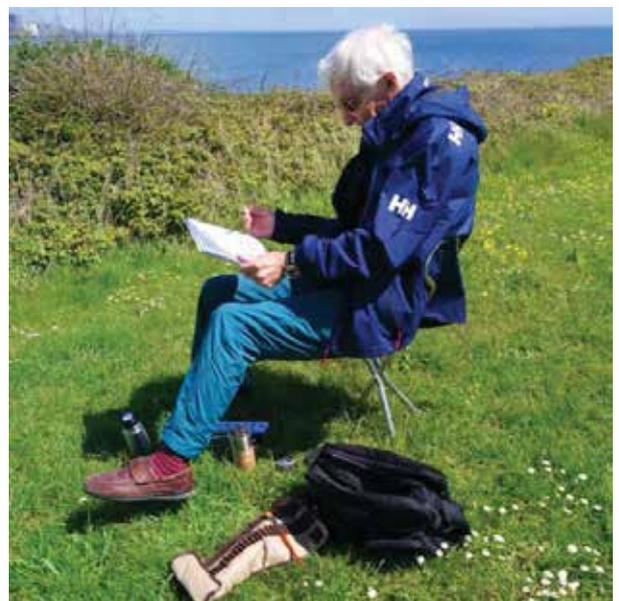
Attractive gardens. **£5 entry.**
Free parking, Toilets, café

September 14th - Swanage Lifeboat Station

Access to area round tower.
Meet 10:30am
Nearest car park Broad Road **2hrs £3, 4hrs £5**

September 21st - Durlston Country Park

Meet outside Castle at 10:30 am
Bus D5 leaves Swanage at 10:08am
Parking £2:50 two hours, £4:00 four hours
Café, toilets at castle.
Lighthouse, Globe, sea views



Isle of Purbeck Arts Club President, Douglas Addison, sketching at Peveril Point

GREENGAGE COMMUNITY GARDEN



At the moment, Greengage Community Garden is open from 10am until 3pm every Friday. As the project develops, these times will, undoubtedly, change and there is normally a volunteer there watering, weeding etc most afternoons; if only for half an hour.

This community garden, run by volunteers, is for people living in Swanage and the surrounding area and the group is open to all and people can either attend regularly or drop in on occasion for whatever time period suits them.

Tasks will be allocated to new volunteers, according to personal preference, with support offered as required. There is a lovely, large greenhouse, raised beds, garden plots for vegetables and flowers, a herb bed, wild flower area, soft fruit bushes and so much more. There is something for everyone.

There is a wide sharing of skills and knowledge and right at the heart of what Greengage is really about, is the development of friendship and community and enjoying our time together. Produce is shared between attendees or offered for donations.

As the project moves forward, it is hoped to expand the activities to include extra hours of opening, linking with other locally-based groups, attending fetes and shows and developing an educational function - but all this will be developed gradually.

Come and visit and see what we do...you will always be very welcome. If you'd like to volunteer, or just want to know more, then please contact Bob Walters on **07812 036514**

Bob Walters
Greengage Community Garden

The Greengage Community Garden is the old Council parks and garden depot just off Prospect Crescent. It is leased from Swanage Town Council by the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust.



Photo courtesy of SWANAGE.NEWS





Wonderful Wildflowers and Butterflies

This month is all about nature and these bountiful summer months! We have been working to improve biodiversity at greenspaces around the town and are really pleased to see the new trees bursting into life and the new meadow areas blooming with flowering grasses and wildflowers. These in turn are supporting insects which we are recording on our surveys. There is growing acknowledgement of the importance of biodiversity in the wider countryside and gardens. People are also looking to urban green spaces as key potential areas.

We had a successful butterfly survey training day and have 12 new volunteers who are learning how to survey butterflies. Recording is important to monitor the effects of management on wildlife populations and we monitor butterfly populations as they are a good indicator of a healthy environment. They have rapid lifecycles and, in many cases, high sensitivity to environmental conditions.

We started the day at Durlston with Katie Black from the Ranger team, who delivered the training and ended at the Peveril Downs where we completed a survey. Although the weather started out a bit cloudy, (butterflies like the warm sunny weather, which suits us fine!) we had a beautiful day in the end and saw eight different species of butterfly and a few day-flying moths across the two sites. These included, Speckled Wood, Common and Small Blues and Large and Small Whites. We will continue with weekly surveys until the end of September.

Pictured here, is a photo of the meadows at Prospect Green in June. We have let the meadow areas grow to see what comes up by itself, before any new wildflower species might be sown and will record plants, insects and birds visiting the site. This and the ongoing swift surveys are keeping us busy!

Our webpages are moving soon to the Dorset Coast Forum website but keep an eye out for more updates on our social media pages and newsletter.

Sarah Spurling
Sustainable Swanage Project Officer



Meadows at Prospect Green in June



Photographs by Gwenda Yeomans





Wellbeing Swanage



Registered Charity. No: 1162662
Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration No: 8743407
Registered Address:
Herston Cross House 230 High
Street Swanage BH19 2PQ

Wellbeing Swanage June Updates

Wellbeing Swanage is at the beginning of an exciting journey as we start to develop one of our Community Hubs out of Herston Hall. The Seahorses playgroup has got off to a flying start, with heaps of kind donations, and fabulous volunteers and local families coming together to create a welcoming and playful space! Our Youth Club is also thriving, with 18 young people attending the latest session to make use of the new gaming equipment, have a refreshing drink from our juice bar and cheer on England in the football! Each week we will be offering something slightly different and we are keen to keep hearing what it is the young people in our community want and need.

We are also making great progress in pulling together our central directory of community, health and wellbeing groups and services in Swanage and the surrounding towns. Not only are we registering groups but we are also starting to build relationships with them and getting to see the extraordinary and varied things people are doing. We are also collaborating with other groups in the local area to develop more public engagement events and opportunities for the community to tell us what a healthy and happy life looks like to them and how we can work together to achieve it! Please see below for more information and please do get in touch with us on contact@wellbeingswanage.org if you have any questions, ideas or thoughts.

Community Group Registration

Wellbeing Swanage would like to invite your group to register with us so that we can help people to find you! We know that Swanage and the surrounding villages already contain a huge number of excellent services and communities and we want to discover just what those strengths and assets are! These things could be as simple - and vital - as a lunch club, a carers support group, a playgroup, an outdoor activity group or a counselling service. Once we have your information we will place it in a central directory, accessible online, by telephone and through face-to-face conversations.

If you run a local group (for under £5 per session) please get in touch with us [HERE](#)

About us

Wellbeing Swanage is a new project, coming about through the work of the Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust, it represents a collaboration between representatives of the Trust, Swanage Town Council, the Swanage Area Forum, Swanage Neighbours, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary, various local healthcare groups, interested individuals, as well as larger national groups with an interest in promoting health and wellbeing, like the National Trust. Taking as our inspiration the [Compassionate Communities](#) model developed in Frome, as well as the existing neighbourliness of Swanage and the surrounding villages, we want to build on this great togetherness as we move beyond COVID-19, supporting community connections, enabling good health and walking with people as they access the services they need when they need them.



It's time for Dorset's National Park

There has been a growing recognition that the natural world is vital for our health, wealth, happiness and survival. Most people agree on the urgency of addressing the linked crises of climate and nature. Equally people appreciate how reconnecting with nature helps support the nation's health and wellbeing. The government has committed to a green recovery and, as part of this, reaffirmed its intention to create new National Parks. All of these factors offer a unique opportunity for Dorset.

A Dorset National Park would work in partnership with the Dorset Council, communities and a wide range of organisations to help deliver a greener and more prosperous and sustainable future.

A National Park would increase the number of elected local councillors from the 25% on the current AONB Board to 75% on the National Park Authority and give parish and town councils a direct say for the first time in decisions on a joint Local Plan and on development proposals.

National Parks have a duty, in their planning, to help meet local housing needs – including for truly affordable homes needed by young families and others. They help develop sustainable policies for the local economy, transport, tourism and energy and help manage tourism pressures. They help the tourism sector to extend the season and promote a wide range of activities including eco, heritage, cultural and dark skies tourism.

Let's work together to secure a National Park that would benefit all of Dorset for the benefit of our communities and economy, nature, health and wellbeing.

Let's seize the moment...

**The Government wants to create new National Parks.
Dorset is the outstanding candidate.**

A Dorset National Park can help all of Dorset:

- Address the challenges of climate, nature and health and deliver a successful, greener future for our communities and economy.
- Increase local community involvement and democratic accountability.
- Attract additional resources, investment and jobs.
- Build the homes local communities need.
- Support farmers to secure new farm funding and diversify their income.
- Support the health and well-being of all who live and work in this very special part of England.

A Dorset National Park, run by local people and working in partnership with the Dorset Council, local communities, business organisations, farmers and others, would benefit all of Dorset.

Discover more at www.dorsetnationalpark.com
and find us on Facebook

It's Time for Dorset's National Park





Durlston News - June 2021

Marvellous Meadows

Our meadows are in full bloom and show a fantastic array of colours as more Wildflowers appear daily, at the moment Ox-eye Daisy, Sainfoin, Pale Flax, Meadow Buttercup, Tufted Vetch and Common Spotted Orchids can be found. As well as many different grasses showing diversity of shapes, patterns, colours, and individual charm including Crested Dogs Tail, Tall Fescue, Coltsfoot and a personal favourite Quaking Grass shown in the photo. Follow the Wildlife Trail which will meander through different habitats, Woodland, Downland, Dry-stone Walls, Ancient Hedgerows and Traditional Wildflower Meadows. The trail is waymarked from the Castle and is about 1 mile long or a trail pack can be purchased in the Castle for 40p.



Free Bike Workshop

Have a bike you'd like to tune up and get back on the road this summer? Come to our free community bicycle workshop. Join friendly, experienced instructors at 'The Shed' Saturday 26th June 12-4pm, they will have basic bike parts, a bike stand and tools.

Outdoor Performance for all the Family: 'The Woodland Clan Story'

Bring a picnic and sing along with the voices of 'Beak, Bone, Feather and Song'. This is a free performance for all the family, with three different time slots available. 11:30, 13:30 and 15:00, on Sunday 27th June. Booking required, www.durlston.co.uk, 01929 424443.

Get out and about!

Here at Durlston we have two off-road trampers for hire, they can be used by anyone with limited mobility and will enable you to access the sea cliffs, woodland, Anvil Point Lighthouse and wildflower meadows. The scheme is set up through Countryside Mobility which costs £10 for a year membership or £2.50 for a two-week taster. This will also allow you to use the trampers in any South West location under the same scheme, which locally includes, RSPB Arne, Hardy's Cottage, Avon Heath Country Park plus many more. What better way to get out and enjoy the beautiful countryside? It is advisable to book a tramper, you can do this by calling the office on 01929 424443.



Outdoor Theatre: 'Macbeth' with The Lord Chamberlain's Men

This summer The Lord Chamberlain's Men, the UK's premier all male theatre company, present the breathless and brilliant tragedy, Macbeth. One of Shakespeare's shortest plays, an intense and passionate story. Expect sword fights, stunning poetry, smoke, fire and drums all set in the beautiful outdoor setting of Durlston Country Park. It is set to be an amazing evening not to be missed and will take place on Sunday 27th June 7 – 8.30pm. Tickets must be booked, <https://artsreach.co.uk/event/the-lord-chamberlains-men-macbeth>



Friends of Durlston, Summer Get Together: CHANGE OF DATE!! Tuesday 3rd August, 7pm, at the Learning Centre

This year we will be celebrating coming back together, sharing updates from the past year, welcoming new Friends and introducing our exciting new evening events. We will be providing a ploughman's feast, with the first drink included, then a donation after, please bring a pudding to share if you can, there will be a short guided walk in meadows, live music, and of course a few games along the way. We will need to know numbers so please show your interest by emailing catherine.carter@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk we welcome non-members as well with a small donation. We really hope to see you all there!!



THE SWANAGE SCHOOL

THE SWANAGE SCHOOL RACE TEAM

Our Race Team are looking for sponsors and assistance with technical / logistics support! If your business would like to be involved please contact DT Teacher Alex Duke on alexduke@theswanageschool.co.uk and he will put you in touch with the student team responsible for fund raising.

SWANAGE SCHOOL NEWS

Keep up-to-date with our news, the achievements of our students and the ways in which we are engaged with local community projects through our half-termly newsletters (www.theswanageschool.co.uk/news-archive) and by following us on Facebook or Instagram



In this exciting project, students work together to design and build an electric car, bringing STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to life. Students have been put in the driving seat (no pun intended!) and will gain valuable life skills managing and working on the team, taking accredited courses along the way. Joining peers from across the country on national race days will provide exciting experiences beyond the local area. You can find out more about our involvement in IET Formula 24 on our website at www.theswanageschool.co.uk/news-archive and about the project more generally on the GreenPower website: www.greenpower.co.uk.

FAREWELLS AND WELCOMES

We have said a sad farewell to our hard-working Year 11 students, who have persevered brilliantly since the start of the Covid disruption in the middle of their Year 10, studying for their GCSEs largely through remote teaching. Teacher assessed grades are in, with all decisions supported by evidence through a robust process. Results this year will be released on 12th August.

Of course, when one group departs, another arrives and we are looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7s in September

TOURS AND OPEN EVENING

Current Year 4/5 parents who are considering secondary school choices may be wondering about visiting the school to find out more. We have been advised to wait until the restrictions are lifted before offering tours. Tours and our usual Open Evening will be held in September (Covid permitting) and in the meantime prospective parents and students can find out more about the school by giving us a call on **01929 500599** or viewing our website. Our Headteacher's welcome and our admissions pages are a good place to start. Keep an eye on our social media (Facebook and Instagram) for information when tour and Open Evening dates are confirmed.

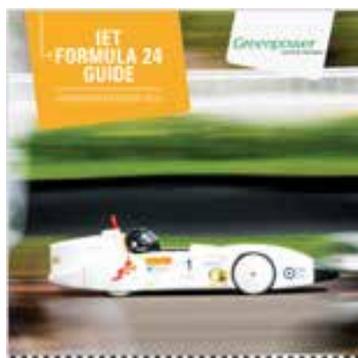


image credit: Greenpower



FESTIVAL ON THE FIELD

We are very sad to announce the cancellation of our inaugural Festival on the Field event. Unfortunately the date fell within the four-week extension period of the Covid restrictions and we felt it would not be appropriate to continue with our plans. Roll on Festival on the Field 2022!





The Purbeck School

Achieving Excellence Together



Pupils pledge to run 6,000 miles from Wareham to Rwanda

Students at The Purbeck School have pledged to run 6,000 miles from Wareham to Rwanda in the school's latest fundraising campaign. The Purbeck School supports 'The Peace and Hope' Initiative in Rwanda, a charity that believes every child should be able to go to school without the fear of hunger or sickness and that every poor child has an education.

The money raised so far by students has helped to decorate and finish classrooms for the Rwandan children, buy books, resources and a projector for the school. Now, pupils, parents and staff are set to take on a gruelling challenge to raise further funds.

Joint organisers, Mr Basford and Mr Hopwood said: "We would like students to be sponsored by all the people around them to do this run or walk, and all that sponsorship money will be given to help Peace and Hope continue their fantastic work. It doesn't matter whether you run 1 mile or 100 miles, whether it's fast or slow, every little bit that you can do will help."

Assistant Headteacher, Simon Holmes said: "I have been fortunate to see firsthand the huge difference that we have helped to make, and witness the gratitude and joy of teachers and children there. "PurbeckRunToRwanda' is a wonderful project and we thank everyone who runs, walks and donates funds."



Will Does Charity Day

Thank you to all Purbeck students and staff who donated money for the #WillDoes charity last Friday. We managed to raise £875! The total £2000 raised by Dorset schools is going towards a youth bus based in Swanage. It will travel to communities across Dorset, offering support, information and a safe place to go for any young people who need it.

In the memory of William Paddy, #WillDoes aims to raise awareness of the mental health issues faced by young people in the local area, and gives grants to projects improving their wellbeing. This includes funding counselling, providing support for bereaved children, improving outdoor social spaces, and more. The charity welcomes any further donations for the non-uniform day, which can be given through their website:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/willdoes-non-uniform-day>

Goodbye to Year Eleven!

They have had a wonderful last day at school. We will miss you all tremendously.



Goodbye to Year 13

Year 13 also celebrated their last day in school with an awards ceremony followed by a quiz, music from the school staff band and a BBQ. It was a lovely day and we have really enjoyed working with the fantastic young adults over the last 2 years.





The Purbeck School
Achieving Excellence Together

Year 11 into 12 Transition Days

With some students moving on, it was wonderful to welcome our next cohort of sixth form students. Year 11 students took part in transition days where they were introduced to the sixth form and began to bridge the gap between GCSE and A level/Level 3 BTEC/OCR National courses. The students were given a wealth of information through welcome assemblies, a 2 hour lesson for each of the subjects they have chosen to take in the Sixth Form, a session from Bath University on 'how to make the most of Sixth Form' with tips and hints on study skills, managing their time, taking up enrichment opportunities and information on universities and apprenticeships, team building and leadership activities. The students will now work on transition projects with their teachers through Teams in preparation for the start of term in September.



New Bike Sheds

The Purbeck School is pleased to announce that as of Monday 7th June, new bike sheds are available. Working in partnership with Sustrans, the school secured funding to replace the rather dilapidated sheds with units that will provide greater shelter and security for bikes locked on site. We hope that this will encourage as many people as possible to cycle to school, especially as the weather turns more pleasant.

Virtual Next Generation NHS Nursing Workshop

Recently a group of Year 10 students took part in a virtual Next Generation NHS Nursing Workshop. Students had the chance to find out more about the amazing opportunities that being a nurse can offer, as well as meeting nurses currently on the Covid-19 frontline. Students listened to guest speakers including Emma Phillips – Royal College of Nursing Officer for Trade Union duties and for Regional Development (registered Adult nurse), Francis Adzinku – Associate Director Mental Health Nurse (registered Mental Health nurse) and Lucy Duncombe – Regional Nurse Advisor for Young People's Healthcare Transition (registered Children's nurse) and had the opportunity to ask them about their roles with the NHS, their experiences, the many different roles of nursing, and how to get into nursing as a career.

Some of the feedback from students:

"Very inspiring"

"A very interesting career as each day is different"

"Very informative and interesting"

Our thanks to The Talent Foundry for organising this event.



Photograph by Robert Field

St Nicholas, Worth & St George's, Langton



COUNT ON NATURE

St Nicholas, Worth and St George's, Langton Matrovers took part in Count on Nature in June. Count on Nature is a project that brings local people together to discover the wildlife in their local church yard, recording the species they find, combining their results with others which will be collated on the National Biodiversity Network (NBN), a nationwide database of wildlife in the UK.

Local naturalist and author, Ted Pratt helped with the identification.

Ninety-nine species of plants were counted in Worth and sixty-six in Langton.

Finds included three species of orchid plus several slow-worms - although the slow-worms weren't recorded...





National
Trust

INTERNATIONAL SAND DUNE DAY!

On the 25th June it is International Sand Dune Day, so join us at Studland Bay for a day of celebration and adventure. At **Knoll Beach** you will find our dune den, where you can chat to us and pick up activity sheets on geocaching, sound trail, mindful movement, wildlife spotting + many more!

We will also be running exclusively local events from the Discovery Centre:

NATURE TOTS, 10-11:30am

Bring your little ones for a morning of family fun on the dunes.

WILDLIFE AND ECOLOGY GUIDED WALK, 2-4pm

Explore the dunes on a guided walk, learning about the ecology, biodiversity and conservation.

SAVE THE DUNES, 5:30-7:30pm

Join our family friendly evening to save the dunes. We will be taking part in conservation work to learn and look after the dunes. Activities include pulling pines and making a sand lizard habitat!

To book a **FREE** space, please email Julia Galbenu, Dynamic Dunescapes Engagement Officer:

julia.galbenu@nationaltrust.org.uk





National Trust

Tom's story: My life as a carer

It was national Carers'Week a couple of weeks back. I'm a carer. I wrote this for our internal newsletter and thought it might be worth sharing here.

My eldest son has a number of different labels – autism, adhd, learning difficulties and most importantly, Sam. I'm not sure where the boundary for being a parent to being a carer lies... it's only in the last couple of years I've really used the term. It's a shorthand for me to say 'it's all consuming, tiring, relentless'. I'm pretty sure you're supposed to write rewarding and amazing etc too... but really, it's mostly just parenting a toddler on steroids. Sam's 12 and for all of his life we haven't lived a 'normal' family life. Soft play mercifully was a no go. But so were other kids parties. Or anywhere busy. Or if someone had a dog. Our world became small and based round being outside – which is fantastic, but fairly socially isolating. The world doesn't automatically make sense to Sam. He sees dangers where there are none (fire alarms, lights falling down, babies) and misses obvious ones (I once found him hanging out of a first floor window aged 4 trying to get Thomas back). All of this means life is exhausting for him, and for us. Anyway, he's now being hit by the hormone surges of puberty and we're going through some kind of strange existence that only parents of other kids like Sam, or survivors of strange backwoods cults will be able to empathise with.

How does this translate to me? Firstly – being at and in work is incredibly important to me and a load of other carers. We didn't necessarily ask to be carers, it just happened. And (apart from here obviously) we mostly just get on with it. We don't want pity. It's our lot. We want and need to be normal when at work. Our career goals may have shifted, the arts of the possible may be different (for years I hated to be away overnight), our worlds have shrunk socially/aspirationally and for that reason we absolutely need a purpose outside of 'just' being a carer. Well, I definitely do. If nothing else it is respite! So give us meaningful work, don't go soft on us. Work our brains. Challenge us. We're pretty motivated to make this employment thing work!

The problem is, of course, that being a carer can impact the effectiveness of your brain. I've taken to waking up early. Even earlier than Sam (during the holidays and weekends he wakes up no later than 6 and wakes us up too). It's peaceful then. A trade-off between a bit of sanctuary and solitude vs even greater fatigue! The biggest change for me was agreeing with the Trust to work 10 days in 9... getting a day off during the week whilst the kids were at school to spend with my wife, Lucy. Time to be me and us.

Sam has never been able to do after school clubs or holiday clubs – he needs too much support. So although Lucy has only been working school hours (and sacrificed a career to do so), I need to step up during school holidays and work from home/take my leave then. He's pretty good at leaving me alone when I work from home. Unless he's hungry. Or I've forgotten it's meds time. Or he suddenly wants something from the shop. Or he's remembered he wants to play with knives in the garden. During a zoom parish council meeting, recorded to ensure the democratic process was being adhered to, I only just managed to grab him as he was streaking across the room, having come out of the shower. A lot of this is funny, but it also means I'm constantly on edge to be honest... and thus may need to pitch out of meetings for a bit. Which is incredibly frustrating because when I'm at work I don't want to be a carer, I want to work. But equally I want my kid to be alive and house standing at the end of the call.

So, if you are working alongside, under or managing a carer – do try to get a bit of understanding about how their circumstances impacts them and how a few tweaks could get the best out of them and then best for the Trust. Understand that for a lot of carers being at work is the only break they may get from being a carer and that actually it really matters that they do meaningful work, have purpose and are valued (definitely not patronised). It may be their only social interaction outside of home. Be friendly if they are wanting to chat. And, if it looks like things aren't great for them perhaps give a bit more support and understanding than you normally would... you don't know what they've left behind when they've come to work.

Tom Clarke

Senior Community and Volunteering Manager,

National Trust, Isle of Purbeck

tom.clarke@nationaltrust.org.uk

SNIPPETS FROM STUDLAND



STUDLAND PARISH COUNCIL

All yellow lines indicating parking restrictions have been renewed at the Parish Council's expense of up to £6000. The Highways authority, Dorset Council, would not have been able to do this work for four years.

The Studland Playing Field no longer contains a skate ramp. It is unclear whether this will be replaced. Many nearby residents were inconvenienced by the noise of users, most of whom were from outside of the parish of Studland.

The National Trust may be reviewing the plot of land bequeathed to them on the Glebe Estate. The benefactor wished the land to be similar in habitats to the land at the top of Ballard Down.

The former garden of Manor Farm House is planned by the National Trust to be used as a community garden.

The Parish Council is considering a request for all Dorset Council Ward members to supply a brief written report for meetings of their Parish Councils.

Not all planning applications in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) are considered by the AONB planning staff. A protocol between the AONB and Dorset Council limits the consultation comments from the AONB. The Parish Council is considering a request to review the protocol, so that important contributions can be received from the AONB.

Potential development on the Glebe Estate indicates a likelihood of more glass in any new build—more Sandbanksification? Strange that this Estate of early bungalows has been allowed to develop with some very visually intrusive buildings. Where were the guardians of this part of the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty?

The creation of a community of interests for Studland is being considered following an initial meeting hosted by the National Trust. The lasting value of the Studland area rests in the fact that it has not been developed. There is a need to address with others the tensions between access, excess, and tourism. A way forward may be in the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for Studland. Any such plan could benefit from the neighbouring Councils of Swanage and Corfe Castle deciding to create a Neighbourhood Plan so that cross boundary issues could be addressed. Watch this space as local councils need to think in a strategic manner whilst being also realistic in achieving goals for their communities.

www.studlandparishcouncil.org

THE PURBECK SOCIETY

The Purbeck Society is affiliated to the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and is a member of Civic Voice, the national organisation for civic societies. In the autumn, it is planned to have a virtual meeting with Civic Voice. All residents will be invited to attend. Civic Voice are currently researching potential reforms to Permitted Development Rights. Such rights may be changed to allow easy and swift conversions of shops to residential buildings. Civic Voice are requesting that the status of statutory consultee is granted to local civic societies, thereby enabling them to comment on planning conversions of retail shops. Imagine a future of Swanage where a significant number of shops become seasonally used flats... The review of the non-listed heritage assets conducted in Swanage will be published very soon. Residents and organisations will be able to purchase this valuable record of buildings in Swanage that are important, yet do not have the designation of a listed building. Dorset Council have received government support for the recording of non listed heritage assets across the county. The work of the Purbeck Society is a contribution to the county record and represents a significant achievement for the dedicated volunteers of the Purbeck Society who worked on this review.

Despite some uncertainties over the relaxation of restrictions associated with the CV19 pandemic, the programme of autumn talks in the Mowlem Institute is being finalised. These talks on subjects of local interest are open to all and are included in the membership of the Purbeck Society. Initial plans are being made to hold an evening meeting in Swanage on the Dorset Local Plan.

It appears that the Purbeck Local Plan may be withdrawn. The inspector has presented this possibility to Dorset Council largely due to the time required for any additional period of consultation and associated hearings. If the Purbeck Local Plan is withdrawn then it is likely that the emerging Dorset Local Plan will take its place albeit with a longer timescale that originally set out. The Dorset Local Plan could be influenced by any new legislation associated with the Environment Bill and the Planning Bill both of which are expected in the autumn of 2021.

<https://www.purbeckociety.co.uk>



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

DORSET CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT RURAL ENGLAND (CPRE)

The campaign against the proposed Portland Incinerator is continuing. Dorset CPRE are supportive of the opposition to this development in appropriate location and questionable technology.

Dorset CPRE has chaired an initial meeting with Dorset CAN (Climate Action Network) with a view to developing alternative approaches to the Dorset Local Plan. Such approaches are likely to include lower housing numbers reflecting housing needs, sustainable buildings and green measures. The Dorset Local Plan is very contentious and is a major concern for those residents who care about a sustainable future for this rural county. The planned allocation of housing for Swanage may well be seen as excessive and not suited to the needs and aspirations of local residents.

Where harm is identified in potential developments, increasingly mitigation measures are used to offset such harm. Whilst such offsetting initially appears to be a welcomed idea, the mitigation may be less effective than the avoidance of harm. It may just be not possible to reproduce easily elsewhere the habitat that is likely to be subject to harm. Dorset CPRE are part of a national working group to create case studies of offsetting and in particular SANGS (Sites of Alternative Natural Green Spaces). In Swanage, the Northbrook Road development close to the former Grammar School has a SANG. There is another SANG in Stoborough. Natural England appear to be endorsing SANGS as they assist in development, even though the SANG may be sited far from any new development. Pressure on Poole Harbour and increasing pollution via nitrates is leading authorities to consider far more use of offsetting. The principle of environmental net gain may be included in the future Environment Bill, even though it is unclear how effective offsetting is as a form of mitigation.

Dorset CPRE is developing its policy on solar panels and solar farms. Whilst welcoming and supporting renewable energies, the preference is for solar panels to be placed on appropriate buildings rather than on agricultural land.

CPRE nationally is concerned with the need for legislation to reflect rural proofing. Rural perspectives should be considered and where relevant incorporated into legislation. When you see matters through a rural lens they are different from an urban lens. There is a message here for retirees new to Dorset and for visitors.

<https://www.dorset-cpre.org.uk>
<https://www.cpre.org.uk>



HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

HXVH FETE & FIELD DAY

Bank Holiday Monday 30th August
Gates Open at 12 Noon

Even though June 21st has not completely released us from all Covid restrictions as we had hoped, we remain very optimistic that we will be able to proceed with the Fete and Field Day this coming August Bank Holiday Monday. By then, we hope that many of us will have had our second jobs, and we expect summer here in beautiful Purbeck to be very busy, so planning and preparation continues.

We hope to make this a very special day, full of fun and celebration for everyone - visitors, locals and helpers alike.

We will have all the usual fun activities:

Flower and Produce Exhibition, Purbeck Icecream, a wide variety of community & local business stalls, Book Stall, Children's Games & Bouncy Castle, Raffle & Tombola, Handbags, Jewellery and Scarves stall, Dog Show, Bar, BBQ and Refreshments - all with Live Music.

For any local businesses or individuals wishing to book a stall at the Fete, please contact David Hollister by email at: hxvh@btconnect.com

The Fete and Field Day can't run without the support of our helpers, so if you can offer any time at all, please let Richard Purchase know by email: richard.purchase@btinternet.com

Donations: Please will you remember the Fete if you have any of the following items:

- Books - recent and in good condition;
- Bric-a-Brac - in good condition;
- Jewellery, scarfs, belts, handbags;
- Tombola prizes; Bottles.

Please leave in the foyer at the Hall if its open, or alternatively leave with Alison & Richard at 6 Flower Meadow Lane, HX - by the wood store if we are out with the dogs!!

And finally - we hope all our Purbeck Bake Off fans will help us to stock the Tearoom with lots of fabulous cakes, cookies, brownies and other treats. Please drop them off on the morning of the Fete at the Village Hall - thank you !!

Alison Clough,
Chair of Harmans Cross Village Hall

Marvellous May for Corfe Castle Parish Council

What a month May has been! With a return to Face-to-Face meetings the Annual Parish Meeting was able to be held in person in the Village Hall, where Cllr Clarke, Corfe Castle Parish Council Chairman, was able to talk through all the council's achievements during Lockdown.

The council achieved so much last year, but the Parish Council is most proud of the way the parishioners of Corfe Castle Parish rallied together to help each other collecting prescriptions, food, and other essentials when people were unable to leave their own home, and who still, to this day, are helping others. Thank you to each and every one of you. You are valued and appreciated. Special thanks too, to Cllr Spicer-Short who co-ordinates requests.



Corfe Castle Parish Council

New Councillor - Back in April a by-election was called to fill a vacancy for Corfe Castle Parish Council (CCPC). The by-election took place on 27 May with Melanie Roberts being declared as the new Councillor. Melanie has joined CCPC for the June council meeting and was welcomed by all. We look forward to working alongside Melanie.

End of Year Finance Report – 2020/21 was a strange financial year, mainly due to Covid restrictions causing a lot of businesses to be affected negatively financially. As CCPC's income is from Precept and the residents Car Park, which is a yearly scheme, and the fact that we do not rely on external income (i.e., tourist car park revenue), although there were costs for the extra cleaning in the toilets and the playground to mitigate the impact of Covid, we were fortunate enough to see little impact financially.

Last year's budget monitoring was even further complicated than previous years. Because after the 2020/21 budget was set the Council inherited budget responsibility for God's Acre Cemetery. The Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) was agreed during the Full Council meeting on the 14th June and will have been submitted to the external auditors, along with a copy placed on the website. If you would like to have a copy please contact the Clerk for details.

Playground Roundabout update – You may have noticed the roundabout within the playground is under repair. This is taking a little longer than expected, however this is so that we can have a thorough inspection carried out with the aim of having it repaired so that it can last for several more years. Please rest assured we are working on getting the roundabout back to full working order as soon as possible.

Giki Zero Pro Pilot Scheme – We have had wonderful news from Giki Earth, the company that runs Giki Zero. They will no longer be charging Corfe Castle Parish Council to run this app and therefore we are able to open the scheme up to everyone who wishes to join.

The Giki mission is to help people live more sustainably. By joining the app you will receive a step-by-step guide on how to lighten your footprint on the planet.

Understand, track and reduce your carbon footprint and build your personal path to Net Zero. If you already have Giki Zero you can link to the Corfe Castle Parish Council scheme and help us with our aim to help reduce the carbon footprint of Corfe Council Parish by 1 ton in 2021. If you would like to join the Giki Zero app you can either download the app direct to your device or you can contact the Parish Clerk to receive your invite to join us to help the parish reduce our carbon footprint, please email the **Clerk on corfeastlepc@aol.com**

Community Speed Watch Scheme – Last month the Parish Council asked for volunteers to help run a Community Speed Watch Scheme and we are happy to announce we have enough volunteers to start the scheme with Dorset Police. It is not too late to join us, if you feel you could help even if only once or twice a year; your time and effort will be most appreciated, so please contact the **Clerk on 01202 670105 or email corfeastlepc@aol.com**

Ban the BBQ - Dorset Council (DC) is banning BBQ's and fires at its Country Parks and on DC land that is deemed to be a high fire risk. DC have been in touch with others in Dorset who are also looking to do the same within their organisation and after a multi-agency meeting in April, DC is leading on a coordinated approach/campaign to address the fire risk problems from BBQs (especially disposable) and fires that happened last year. Indications are that there is likely to be a repeat of the previous year and already we have had a number of large fires in Dorset in 2021. CCPC have agreed to support this campaign and have added the Playground area in Corfe Castle plus the Sports field and Gods Acre Cemetery to the list of areas where BBQ's will be banned, (with the exception of professionally-managed events on the sports field).

Electric Charging Points – The Parish Council have agreed to be proactive about the future needs of parishioners for electrical charging points. Although it is expected that the government will set out a national installation framework for those who do not have off road parking facilities, it will be for the Parish Council to supply electrical charging points to its own car parking facilities. With this in mind the Parish Council will be talking to the car parking permit holders about future needs.

Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations – With just under one year to go until the Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, the Parish Council would like to hear from anyone your thoughts on how you would like to see the Parish celebrate this momentous occasion. Please contact the **Clerk on 01202 670105 or email corfecastlepc@aol.com**

Breezer 30 is BACK! - Re-introduced for the summer season serving Swanage, Harman's Cross, Corfe Castle, Wareham, Wool, Lulworth and Weymouth, the Purbeck Breezer 30 will also be operating via Wareham Station for revised train connections. Please look at the Morebus website for timetable details.

Dorset Council Update from Cllr Brooks - Covid update – DC have a low number of cases of the virus, but the Delta variant is increasing and doubling each week. DC is below the Southwest average with 5 in hospital as we write.

Waste services – when DC merged all 6 councils there were a few issues within the waste services section, the main issues being felt by the Wareham Depot. The biggest issue was recruitment of staff, as only 10 minutes down the road, the staff in Poole and Bournemouth were being paid more for the same role. DC have now rectified this issue. The other issue is lack of enough vehicles and the strategies in place. DC have vehicles on order and are looking at different strategies such as a possible change to collection days. As and when more information become available it will be communicated back to the Parish Council.

Partner agency – DC and Partner agencies are working on welcoming visitors to the major tourist areas of the county, along with having a good presence of enforcement officers. On the bank holiday weekend DC issued 553 penalty charge notices, plus 50+ in Studland alone over the last weekend. Tow away zones are in place and active, particularly from Winfrith to Durdle Door where there is a clear way, which has been successful at stopping the parking and clogging up the roads.

Dorset Volunteers Centre - DC have partnered up with the Dorset Volunteers Centre to offer welcome ambassadors, at key visit locations. If anyone would like to apply for a role this will be on a voluntary basis and a uniform will be issued. Please ask them to get in contact.

Environment & Local Plan – Environment consultation results are being looked at by the scrutiny committee. The next stage, DC is looking at getting the strategy completed.

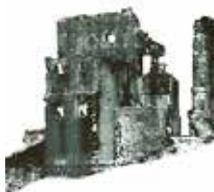
On the Local Plan there is a lot of work going on at the moment within the Local Planning Executive Advisory Panel. DC is looking at the responses received and seeing how all the policy areas can be linked, including Highways, Drainage so that DC can make a comprehensive policy for the Local Plan.

Local highways issue - There is a small 3-metre patch of road, which needs repairing by the traffic lights on East Street (Corfe Castle). DC tried to carry out a full repair recently. However due to high traffic flows it has not been possible to carry this out. A temporary repair has been done, with the aim of carrying out the full repair in the Autumn, if cracks appear in the repair do not worry it is expected due to vehicles numbers.

National Trust Update

During half term, it was very busy within the Castle, with almost all capped entry numbers being reached. People were being turned away when they were arriving at the castle without booking entry first, as there was simply no space to allow them in.

The Trust has decided once social distancing is lifted, for the larger NT properties (including the castle) will remove the booking system, and the normal entry system will return.



Aquarius

Corfe Castle Women in Touch

Our June meeting found us all back in Corfe Castle Village Hall which was such a relief. We had good attendance at just under 40 and within the Covid Secure arrangements for the hall. Of course social distancing was in place, but it was lovely to meet up for real after such a long time. The talk by representatives of the Footprints Charity for offenders, that aims to bring a stronger sense of community, hope and increased self-worth to these often socially excluded people, thereby reducing reoffending, was very interesting and we tried out the Hall's new audio/visual equipment. This was successful in part, but the combined use of the laptop and projector failed us. It was a pity, as it meant we didn't get to see the short video arranged by the speakers, but otherwise all was well. Everyone enjoyed the scones, cream and jam – a special treat at our first face-to-face meeting since September.

We made our first 50/50 draw which was won by my joint Chair person. Well done Jill.

Our July meeting will also be in the Village Hall, subject to the usual Covid-19 restrictions although this time we should be able to use the kitchen for the first time in over a year. Citizens Advice will be talking to us about their work and hopefully we will have better luck with the technology this time!

We are hoping to break with tradition in August when our Summer Lunch will be a BBQ held outside and at the hall to allow more people if the weather is inclement. Everyone is encouraged to invite a partner or guest. This will be provided by a new outside caterer – 'Five and Twenty – Dorset' but the Committee will be making the tasty puds as usual. We felt that everyone was in need of a bit of a change this year!

Most of our satellite groups have continued with the walkers, strollers and book clubs all thriving. The sewing group met in the Village Hall to start to join together the squares that have been sewn or knitted for the Twiddle Blankets promised to care homes for people with dementia. The colours and designs were delightful and it is hoped to finish this venture later this month.

We are always happy for occasional guests to our meetings and welcome new members, so just use the contact below if wishing to join at any time.

Christine Kemp (Aquarius Joint Chair)
Tel: 01929 480007



Photographs by Gwenda Yeomans

