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CORFE VALLEY NEWS



JANUARY 2025

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

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Corfe Valley News

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

Established June 1982

Issue No 513 January 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

The Corfe Valley News is a non-profit making organisation run entirely by volunteers. We therefore rely on advertisers, organisations and societies to contribute to the costs of production. We are also greatly helped by the donations made by individuals each year, through the envelopes which go out in the spring, and we are always happy to receive donations at any time. You may like to know that donations can be made by BACS payment: the Sort Code and Account numbers are provided at the back of the magazine. You can make your donation anonymously if you prefer but it would help if you could enter 'Donation' in the reference field.

We have not increased our advertising rights since August 2022, and we represent extremely good value for advertisers. I had someone only recently tell me how much business they got from their CVN input. However, as everyone knows prices are increasing all around us and in particular the price of paper keeps going up. As a result, we need to increase our advertising rates. The new rates are shown in the table at the back of this edition of the Corfe Valley News and will be effective from 1st February or the renewal date if the advert runs for several months.

As always thank you to all our contributors and especially to you, our readers. Finally, a very happy and prosperous new year to you all.

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

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The front cover is a sketch of cottages in West Street by P R Gross

CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

Speeding: The Parish Council frequently receives correspondence about speeding vehicles along East Street. We understand your frustrations and are determined to make a difference, but we can't do it alone. Real change requires everyone to play their part.

To prove the need for speeding interventions, we need your help. If you or someone you know has been involved or are involved in the future in a non-injury collision or near miss specifically on East Street, please report it to Dorset Council. Even if no one was hurt, these reports are crucial in showing the need for action. For example, if you went to cross at the zebra crossing and had to jump back quickly because a car coming over the hill didn't see you, please **REPORT IT**. Without these reports, Dorset Council simply conclude that no intervention is necessary. Every report matters, it's a small step you can take to help make our community safer. You can log reports online at Dorset Council's Road Safety page <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/roads-highways-maintenance/road-safety>. Let's work together to ensure our voices are heard!

Emergency Response Plan: Months ago, Cllr Blinkhorn took on the important task of drafting a Parish Emergency Response Plan. A preliminary version of the plan was presented at the December Parish Council meeting, where it was well-received for its potential to ensure that residents of Corfe Castle will never face a local emergency alone. The Parish Council commends Cllr Blinkhorn for his hard work and dedication to this vital initiative. Further details will be shared as the plan progresses toward final approval.

Parking Issues: The Parish Council regrets to inform residents that the request for West Street parking restrictions, while accepted by Dorset Council, has not yet ranked highly enough to secure funding. Although this delay is disappointing, the application remains active in the system. When the project reaches the top of the priority list, work will begin. We have asked our Dorset councillor for support. We appreciate your patience as we continue to advocate for this improvement.

Support from Corfe Castle Charity: University Financial Support: Are you or someone you know heading to or currently attending university? The Corfe Castle Charity may be able to help with a financial boost. Contact them at CCcharity1602@outlook.com to learn more.

Times of Hardship: If you're experiencing financial difficulty, the Corfe Castle Charity is here to help. All inquiries are handled with complete confidentiality. Reach out via email at CCcharity1602@outlook.com.

Dorset Town of Culture 2026: Corfe Castle Parish Council has recently been invited to participate in Swanage Town Council's bid to become part of a Purbeck wide 'Town of Culture' 2026. At this stage, no decision has been made regarding our involvement. For further updates, keep an eye on the January agenda, where we hope to welcome a representative from Swanage Town Council to provide more details.

Council Tax 2025-26: During the January 2025 meeting we will be setting our Precept for 2025-26.

Community Bus Grant: Corfe Castle Parish Council are applying for a Community Bus grant, which will enable us to carry out a feasibility study. Watch this space for updates.

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

Application: P/HOU/2023/07255; **Location:** 168 East Street, Corfe Castle, BH20 5EH. **Proposal:** Erect ground floor rear extension, side extension and loft conversion to dwellinghouse. Demolish existing garage and construct a garage / workshop with office. **Comment:** No Objection: The current garage is heavily overgrown but there is sufficient area around it to accommodate the proposed plans. It is outside the Conservation Area so we cannot be prescriptive about the materials used, though it is good to see that they are proposing to use mainly Purbeck stone (the home office being timber clad). Although the proposed extensions / alterations will unbalance the row of three dwellings it is providing a home for a growing family and again it is outside the Conservation Area

Next Council Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 13th January 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

Who to contact and when	
Area of Concern	Contact Details
	call 999 immediately with vehicle information and the direction of travel.
Road Rage Damage to vehicle (Fail to Stop Collisions) Theft from parked vehicle A parked vehicle is causing obstruction issues to the flow of moving traffic or pedestrians, on the road, or on the pavement	Dial 101 for attention of Response Officers or report online www.dorset.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/rs/road-safety/making-a-road-traffic-incident-report/
A parked vehicle is causing obstruction issues to your property, Vehicles are parked illegally in an area of restricted parking	www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/parking-problems
Abandoned Vehicles	www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/report-a-problem-on-the-road-or-pavement
Vehicle you suspect has no Road Tax	https://forms.dft.gov.uk/report-an-untaxed-vehicle/ or dwpenforcement@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk https://www.bpcouncil.gov.uk/Roads-and-transport/Report-a-problem-on-a-road-or-pavement/Abandoned-vehicles.aspx
Speeding Complaint Careless or Inconsiderate Driving	dorsetroadsafe@Dorset.PNN.Police.uk Your report will be reviewed and placed on a rota for investigation/deployment

Who to contact and when	
Area of Concern	Contact Details
Driving Through Red Lights Driving Through One Way System or other Signage Violation (No Right turn etc) Use of Mobile Phone or other item causing Distracted/Not in Proper Control Driving Not Wearing Seatbelt	dependent on the nature of the report and resource available
No MOT	Report a vehicle with no MOT www.dorset.police.uk/ro/report/no-mot/road-tax-and-mot-certificates/report-a-vehicle-without-an-mot-certificate/
Submit video and photographic evidence in relation to witnessed driving offences	Dorset Police Operation Snap https://operationsnap.dorset.police.uk




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Who to Contact When:

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

My bin was not emptied:

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

Telephone: 01305 221040

A public litter bin is overflowing

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

Telephone: 01305 221040

To report a pothole

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

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

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

To report a problem on a road or pavement

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

Telephone 01305 221020

To request a highways gully clear

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

To request a road sweep on a highway near you.

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

Telephone 01305 221020

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Church Knowle Parish Council

The December meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council took place in the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 10th December 2024 at 6:30pm. It was attended by five members of the Council (Cllr Burt in the chair) and nine members of the public.

The main items of interest in the meeting were:

Clearing Work at Cotness Lakes

The tree clearing work at Cotness Lakes has prompted concern and complaints from the nearby residents who want assurances that what is proposed will not be noisy or disruptive to the community. Mr Cook who is doing the work and Mr Alford who owns the site presented their plans and answered questions from the Council and the public. Mr Cook intends to return the lake to its former use as a fishing spot and eventually provide some cabins where people can stay. Many of the trees were diseased, overhanging areas where people would pass and were presenting a safety risk. The site had been visited by Forestry and Dorset Council and they were satisfied that all was in order. An application has been made to the Dorset Council Tree Officer and when this has been approved the work will continue. An assurance was given that any work or development requiring formal permission will be applied for in the usual manner, that it was very much a local project and any concerns of the residents would be addressed.

It was agreed that many of the complaints were owing to the natural concern in the countryside when trees are being felled and that communication in this instance was essential. The Parish Council is always a good forum for this and we thanked Mr Cook and Mr Alford for taking the trouble to attend and let everyone know what is proposed.

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.

Dorset Council

Dorset Councillor Ben Wilson said that the main item concerning Purbeck was the statutory Public Inquiry triggered by the application by the Ferry Company to increase its fares yet again. The venue for the inquiry is to be in Poole

which is unpopular with the people in Purbeck who are most affected and it will held in January. More can be found on the ferry company website.

Planning

P/VOC/2024/03369 Barnhouse, Whiteway Farm, Steeple. New garage building. The parish council had no objection to the application.

Wessex Water and the Corfe River.

The clerk and Councillor Newns attended a meeting with Wessex Water executives in Dorchester about the overflows from their sewage treatment works into the Corfe River and Wessex Water's proposed program of works to deal with this. The Corfe River has the attention of the Chief Executive and it was a very productive and worthwhile meeting. A visit to these local sewage treatment works will be arranged in the new year and anyone interested in being invited can contact the clerk.

The meeting finished at 7:40 pm after which there was an informal gathering involving mince pies. The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be at the Church Knowle Village Hall at 6:30 on 14th January 2024.



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Environmental Group Update

This month we have some ideas for a nature based (late) New Year's Resolution



Explore a new wild place in Purbeck (or further afield) once every season
Tread a new path, breathe fresh, clean air and reconnect with nature. With the wonderful variety of coastline and countryside we have on our doorstep, there's hopefully somewhere new for you to discover. Seeking out a new place to explore four times a year should be an achievable goal.

Learn more about the nature around us

Resolutions are often about learning a new skill or talent – perhaps a language or a musical instrument. Broaden your horizons by learning more about a new subject, like the environment around us. Knowing more about the nature we see every day helps us to better appreciate it – and we can learn how to protect it too. Why not try the Woodland Trust Tree ID app? This is available for iPhones and Android phones and can be used to identify the UK's native and non-native trees.

Contribute to a Citizen Science project

You can be a citizen scientist. The records collected by citizen scientists are enormously valuable to our understanding of biodiversity. It would be impossible to collect all the data needed to protect nature without the help of volunteers. This data is vital to aid our understanding of the natural world, helping to protect species and habitats, and informing research, policy and management. The Dorset Environmental Records Centre has details of projects you can get involved in, including the RSPB's Swift Mapper, or the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation's Garden Dragon Watch.

Watch a wildlife webcam

Unable to access a nature reserve? Another wonderful way to engage with nature is by viewing wildlife from the comfort of your own home via a webcam! Dorset Wildlife Trust's has three wildlife webcams up and running; the barn owl webcam at Lorton Meadows where the owl parents are still sheltering after their chicks have fledged, and two webcams situated on the Brownsea Lagoon, looking out from the Tern and Avocet Hides.

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

Facebook: "Corfe Castle Environmental Group"

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

News from the Castle



National Trust

Book Fair

Join us at Castle View on *Saturday, January 18, 2025, from 10am to 3pm* for a second-hand book fair. The event starts with a storytelling session for children under 10 from 10am to 11am.

Don't miss the chance to meet Iain Dryden, who will be signing copies of his book about the Jurassic Coast called *The Wonder Coast*, from 12pm to 2:30pm. You'll find books of all genres, including some special first editions, at great prices: £3 for hardbacks, £2 for paperbacks, and £2 for children's books. All proceeds go directly towards conservation works at the castle. Book donations gratefully received at Castle View or the ticket office.

The Kings' View

Following permission from Historic England, we have erected a viewing platform within the Keep at the height of the former royal living quarters of the castle. Until now, this part of the castle has been inaccessible except to conservation teams on ropes. The platform is stand-alone, so it doesn't impact the structure and will be in place for up to a year while conservation works are in progress.

The platform not only offers panoramic views but also provides close-up views of rare historical features. One notable feature is an 'appearance door' built for King Henry I to show himself to the local public, much like the balcony at Buckingham Palace is used today. The castle served as both a royal residence and a private home for 500 years, and it's fascinating to see up close the various internal and external home improvements made to keep up with changing fashions.

Kings' View tours are an additional cost and all funds raised will go directly towards the conservation effort. Please see website for further details.

2025:

Alongside our usual school holiday activities and events, this year we've got a Mothers Day activity 29 & 30 March, the Vikings are back at the castle (300 of them!) 3-5 May to recreate the siege of Wareham, Living History weekends

in June and July, Food and Drink festival in July, Summer theatre and cinema in August, and the English Civil War Society are back to recreate the siege in September. We hope to welcome you back soon.

Other news:

We're delighted to have been given a commendation for *Rang Barse: Colours over Corfe Castle* within the Tourism Event/ Festival of the Year category at the Dorset Tourism Awards.

The event, which attracted 3,000 people was in partnership with BPC Indian Association to bring all cultures together for Holi – the Hindu festival celebrating the arrival of spring with vibrant colours, music and dance.



We wanted to share this fantastic photo by Lewis Johnstone Photography of the castle lit at night with Poole in the background.

Nature updates from the National Trust



National Trust

Haunting the heaths

One of nature's most haunting calls can be heard over the Purbeck Heaths this season. The curlew, with its distinctive 'cur-lee' call, is our largest wader, and also one of the most endangered. They move to the coastline for the winter and survive on a diet of worms, shellfish and



Photo: Mark Singleton

shrimps. Watch for them probing in the mud with their long beaks to find food, which they often toss into the air before swallowing!

A fantastic place to watch curlews is from the bird hide on Middlebere Heath – numbers have increased now the land is being managed in nature-friendly ways. Please don't disturb any of the

overwintering birds you see – they need their energy for feeding and surviving the cold.

The 'shrieker of the woods'

Another bird you often hear, rather than see, is the jay. This colourful crow is shy and secretive but gets the name 'shrieker of the woods' from its loud screaming calls. You might spot one on Corfe Common looking for the acorns they stashed over the autumn as winter food.



Photo: Pete Christie

Did you know:

- Many of the oak trees you see will have been planted by jays. Even though they have a brilliant memory, some of the acorns they bury inevitably get left to grow into trees. A single jay can bury some 5,000 acorns in a season.
- Jays can mimic the calls of other birds and animals, and even sounds like mobile phones and car alarms! They often use these noises when threatened.

Gorse – the burning question

With bright yellow flowers and coconut scent, gorse is a familiar and much-loved feature of our countryside. It also provides food and shelter for wildlife. So why do we burn it?

The answer is that we burn small areas of gorse on the Purbeck Heaths and Corfe Common because without control, it will quickly take over the heathland, causing the loss of light-loving plants and insects, and blocking



Photo: Cathy Lewis

access for people. Its flammability also makes it a serious wildfire hazard in dry conditions. Burning is carried out in winter by skilled rangers or contractors. [Read more about it here.](#)

If you have any queries about wildlife or how we are looking after the Corfe Commons and Purbeck Heaths, do email us on

purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk

Cathy Lewis, the National Trust

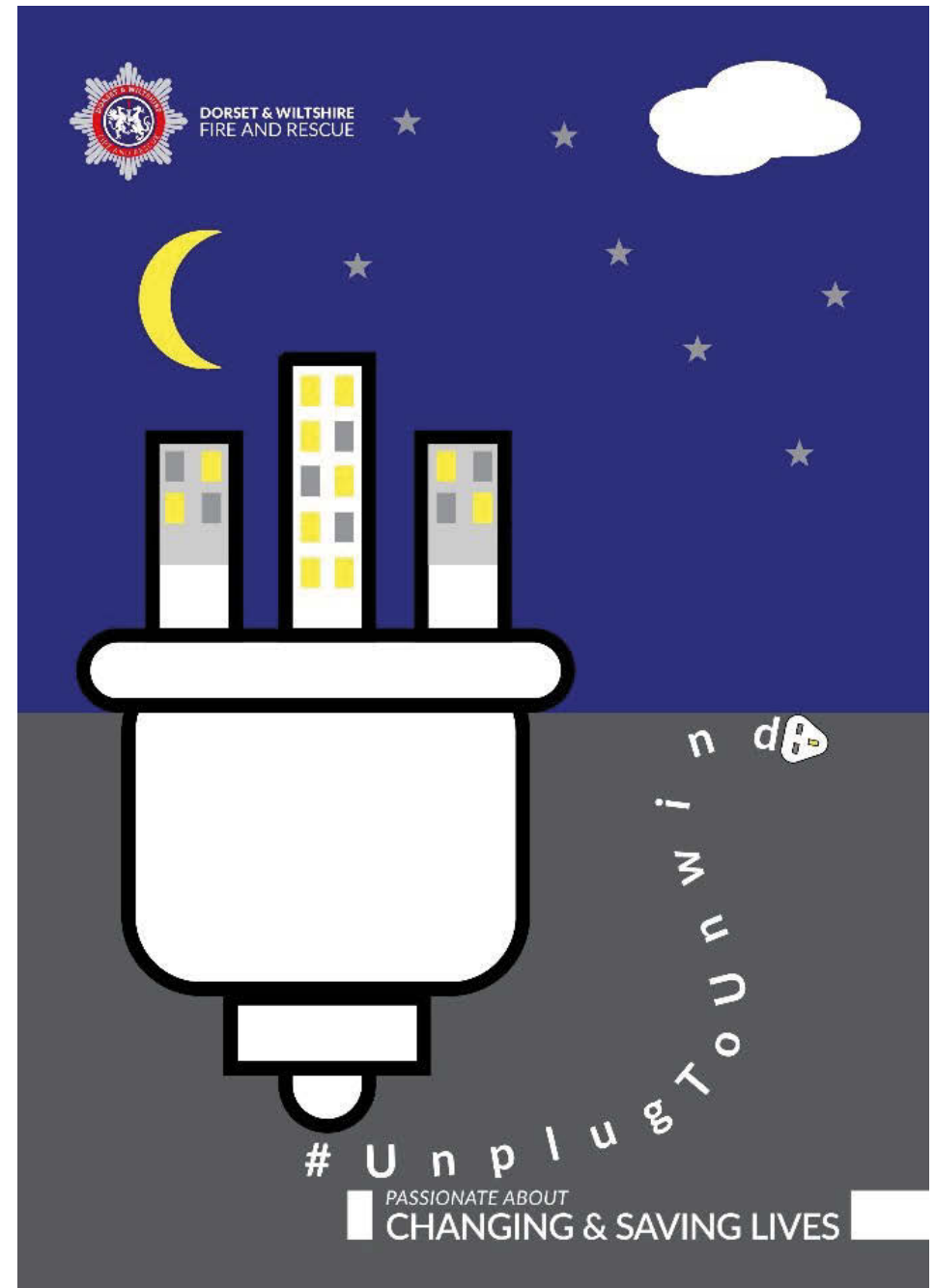


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Surgery and Patient Participation Group

By the time readers receive the CVN, Dubber or Studland News we will be approaching a new year which will, without doubt, bring its challenges for us as patients and for those looking after us within the NHS. As a PPG we will continue to support our wonderful surgery as best we can whilst also acting as a critical friend by being a link between Surgery and patient if needed. Kerry Norman Practice Manager and I will now be sharing the monthly articles we write aiming to keep everyone up to date with practice news but individually writing every 2 months - the copy dates come around very quickly!

As someone who has worked in the NHS as both nurse and manager, I am very aware that the NHS is not only about 'doctors and nurses', it relies very heavily on those who provide the administrative infrastructure to support those who give professional care. The Government is keen to reduce the numbers of this invaluable workforce - the total percentage of which is far less than other countries - but I hope this will be done with care and common sense if implemented. Already many NHS staff work extra hours unpaid, and through goodwill, so to them I say 'thank you, your time is appreciated and I trust by working together, especially locally, we can help to maintain the high standard of local services we are fortunate to have - in particular through Corfe Surgery!

We are an envied group of patients.

Wishing everyone a 'Happy New Year' and please do contact us by email or through the surgery if we can be of help. Corfecastleppg@gmail.com

Maggie Hardy PPG Chair



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The advertisement features a circular logo with a chimney and two brooms, and a small icon of a person sweeping a chimney.



3 in 1 Fund-Raiser Corfe Castle Village Hall

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& Race Night

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6.00 for 6.30 pm, 18th January 2025

To raise funds for a New Kitchen

£12 pp which includes 2 drinks, tickets available from village shop, any VH TRUSTEE or Sue Sedgley 01929 289102





Corfe Castle CE Primary School & Pre-School



For many of us, Christmas is a distant memory of food, cake, mince-pies, various beverages, presents, children, grandchildren, relatives and the joining of people across many different walks of life.

Due to the unpredictable weather, we were unable to sing in the square for the Switching on of the lights, however, the Festivities Committee delivered chocolate gifts which could then be shared with each child. On the last Monday of term, Santa visits and handed out the gifts to our children across the pre-school and school. For this, we are very grateful – thank you Festivities Committee.



It's important, as we enter this cold and relatively bleak month of January, that we have so much to be thankful for. Some of the best days of the year are here right now. Take time for yourself to enjoy the brisk breezes and cold sea air as you stand alone, or with loved ones, on some of the best beaches this country can offer.

January is often the month for New Year's Resolutions, but be wise and realistic with your targets. Take time to remember these key words - *"January is the month of opportunity, the month of inspiration, and the month of change". "January reminds us that we have 12 new chapters to fill. Make the most of each one"*

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



TAPAS EVENING

Corfe Community Kitchen

Soup 'n Pud

Corfe Castle Village Hall

Saturday 15th February 2025

6.45 pm for 7.00 pm

Tickets £20 pp for 3 course meal

Free glass of Sangria

Table Quiz & Wine Bottle Raffle

Fund raising venture for the Village Hall New Kitchen



Tickets from The Village Stores or Gill, Sue and Chris



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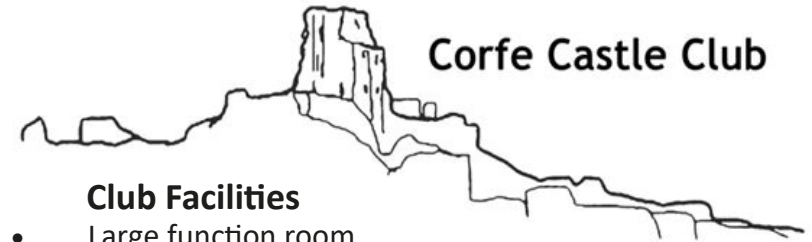


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 Saturday: All day 12.00 - 11.00pm
 Sunday: All day 12.00 - 7.00pm

Weekly Events

Poker Night: Wed 8.30pm
 One Card Bingo: Fri 8.30pm
 Chase the Ace Draw: Sat 9.00pm
 Beer/Meat Draw: Sat evening
 One Card Bingo: Sun 1.00pm

Forthcoming Events

Club AGM
 Weds 29th January
 7.30 pm

Membership application forms are available from
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'This Secret Isle' – A Great Success!

Thank you to everyone involved in this production (especially Pete Smith), and to everyone who came along to see it. It certainly ranks among our best performances, and was very successful financially too. As well as the very healthy ticket sales, we are grateful to everyone who supported the raffle at each performance, and to all those who provided raffle prizes, including Dragon's Bakery, The Villages Stores, and the Sweet Shop.

The generosity of our audiences through the raffle and the bucket collection means that we are able to donate a significant sum of money to Pancreatic Cancer UK, in memory of Maryrose Bray and Gerald Ward. We are planning an event for the hand-over of our donation - watch this space!

What is Double Act planning for 2025?

Our first meeting will be for a Workshop on Theatre Skills – stagecraft and voice projection – on Feb 10th at 7pm. Charmaine led us expertly through the Shaftesbury Tales this last summer with Treehouse Theatre, and we are thrilled to welcome her back to lead this evening activity. All Members and Friends are of course invited, and anyone else interested is welcome to come along (we request £1 per person); you might feel like joining the Society afterwards perhaps! On March 3rd we will hold our AGM, followed by a DIY entertainment by our own members. Who knows what hidden talents will be displayed then? As always, others are invited to come along and enjoy the evening.

There will be a series of Murder Mystery Walks again this summer, on Wednesday evenings from July 16th to August 20th. Look out for further details as tickets are snapped up fast!

It's Panto Time this year! In late November we are putting on 'Alice In Cuckoo Land' by Peter Nuttall. This original take on Alice and her Wonderland friends contains everything you would hope for and expect in a seasonal pantomime. Put the dates – Nov 27th to 29th – in your diary and on your calendar now!

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!



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**Corfe Community Kitchen
Soup 'n Pud
A choice of Soups and a Roll
Followed by Puds with Custard
Corfe Castle Village Hall
Saturday January 4th 2025
12.30 - 1.45pm**



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

This venture is provided by volunteers, on a not-for-profit basis, in a friendly environment for local residents to increase community spirit. If you wish to make a donation, either of food or money please feel free but it is not obligatory.

Our Christmas themed lunch went well with over 50 attendees. Lots had got into the festive mood wearing appropriate hats and jumpers and enjoyed the chestnut or vegetable soup and apple and mince meat tart or banana trifle. The banana cake had been donated by one of our volunteers. A very kind local had given us some red and white wine that went down well and we also provided some non alcoholic bucks fizz to add a little zing to the occasion! The teas and coffees were accompanied by orange flavoured chocolates.

Soup 'n Pud has gone from strength to strength, with lots of people enjoying both the food and the camaraderie. It is very encouraging that so many find it a valuable addition to village life and find comfort from the food and friendship.

We cater for vegetarians and food allergies but if you do have a serious allergy please let us know beforehand so that we can adjust our menus to fit.

As usual we thank all our volunteers for their help and Dragons Bakery for the bread rolls.

On February 15th we are planning to hold a TAPAS EVENING in the Village Hall as a fund raising venture for the new kitchen that is proposed at the hall. This will be in addition to our usual monthly Soup 'n Pud and will be a ticketed event. The cost will be £20.00 per person to include a 3 course meal and a free glass of sangria. There will be a simple table quiz and a wine bottle raffle for between courses to add to the fun. We are hoping for at least 9 tables of 6 but will need to know numbers by February 9th for catering purposes.

Tickets will be on sale at the Village Stores or from Gill, Sue and Chris.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR from all at SOUP 'N PUD.



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Email - contact@thefoxinncorfecastle.com



JANUARY DEALS

Monday – Friday, 12pm – 5pm

Homemade Pie and Chips / Traditional Fish and Chips
with a FREE dessert

Weekend Breakfast


Every weekend in January (Saturday and Sunday) we will be
serving breakfast from 10am – 12pm.

Sunday Evening Roast

Buy one get one free on our roast dinners every Sunday
evening from 6 – 8pm in January. Advance bookings only.

Wednesday Steak Night

X2 Rib Eye steaks, Koffmann's chips, homemade onion
rings, watercress, peppercorn sauce and a bottle of wine.
ALL for £50! Available every Wednesday through January.

Cupid returns on 14th February ... contact us for details 

News from the Library



Learn about the old shops of Corfe with Louise Haywood

We all remember shops that no longer exist in Corfe but the scale of change today is nothing compared to the scale of change in historical terms. Before the advent on the motor car Corfe had to be virtually self-sufficient in terms of shops and had a multitude of industries aside from those associated with quarrying and clay mining. In the 19th century these included two blacksmiths, a carpenter's shop, a tannery, a brew house, a timber yard, three bakeries, a slaughterhouse, a malthouse and even more pubs than we have now.

Local historian Louise Haywood returns to talk to us about the old shops in an illustrated talk on January 17th 2025 in the Village Hall's Bill Carter Room at 2.00pm. We will hold our Annual General Meeting at the same time (we will make a bid for the shortest AGM ever! They are usually well under ten minutes).

The Old Shops of Corfe Castle by Louise Haywood of Corfe Castle Town Trust (after a very short AGM). In the Village Hall, Bill Carter Room. Friday 17th January at 2.00pm.

Come in for a free Cuppa and a Biscuit!

Get away from the cold. We will be offering a hot drink and biscuits for anyone who would like to come into the library and have a chat.

Normal Library Opening Hours

Monday 3.00 - 5.00 p.m.

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

Saturday 10.00 - 12.00 a.m.



3rd December – It was lovely to get together to celebrate the festive season. We were entertained by the Ukulele Group, who played and sang many Christmas favourites. Occasionally, the lyrics had been altered to make the song specific to Corfe Castle, which was very humorous. We shared nibbles, mince pies, stollen and mulled wine. There was also a raffle, and Janet Andrews won the star prize of a Christmas hamper.



7th January 2025 – David Kemp will be telling us about his epic 57 mile walk in Cambodia and Vietnam to raise money for Julia's House Children's Hospice. Originally, David had planned to trek across the Wadi Rum Dessert, Jordan, in the Middle East. However, the conflict between Israel and Palestine made that too dangerous and so instead David's walk moved to Vietnam and Cambodia, incorporating tropical rain forests, rice paddy fields and jungle along the way. This will be an open meeting so anyone is welcome to join us.



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SPEAKERS AT FUTURE MEETINGS:

These remain provisional, unless stated as confirmed.

4th February (confirmed)– We will give our Aquarius donation to our nominated charity, the Motor Neurone Disease Charity, with a talk by their representative. *(We also vote in the February meeting for the new charity for the coming year which has to be local)*

4th March (confirmed) - AGM plus activities

1st April (confirmed) - Mary van Coller will be talking about her book ‘Downstream Dorset, River Tales and Local History’

Date to be confirmed – Alan Neal will give a talk about the amazing life and achievements of Marie Curie.

AQUARIUS GROUPS:

Just a reminder of the full list of our regular groups that are available to members:

Walkers Group: Meet 3rd Monday monthly at various locations.

Strollers Group: Meet 2nd Tuesday monthly from Colletts Close, 10.00am.

Tertius Book Group: Meet 2nd Monday monthly in member’s homes, 7.00pm.

Aquarius Book Group: Meet 3pm on Wednesday every six weeks.

Lunch Club: Meet 4th Thursday at 12:30 monthly at various locations.

New Members – we are a friendly lot so please come and join us!

Our Ladies Group is at Corfe Castle Village Hall every 1st Tuesday of the month from 2pm and we have a fun and sociable afternoon. Visitors are welcome at £3 per meeting.

We have a good selection of interesting speakers and our satellite groups include walkers, strollers, lunch club and bookgroups.

Email: 2008aquariustadies@gmail.com or phone Sue Sedgley at 01929 289102



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News from The Castle

Happy New Year from the Castle Inn Team! We are sure like us, you cannot believe how quickly 2024 went, now we are in January 2025. We know January can feel like the longest month of the year, which is why we have planned a fantastic month to keep you all going. We look forward to seeing you there.

Mid-Week £9.95 Lunch Deal

From Monday to Thursday, we will be offering a 2-course lunch deal. This will include a starter & a main between 12pm to 2:30pm. Come & enjoy a delicious meal in our warm, cosy pub for only £9.95. Look out for a specials board on the bar to take advantage of this fantastic offer.

25th January is Burns Night

Join us to celebrate this Scottish tradition on the 25th of January from 6pm. We will be offering traditional, Scottish dishes including the famous Haggis! You might even spot a Scotsman in his kilt! Bookings being taken now.

Chinese New Year – Saturday 1st of February

Always a popular night, the Chinese New Year is back! Our chefs are working hard behind the scenes to deliver a delicious Chinese menu, and our front of house staff will be working hard getting the pub decorated & ready for your fun-filled evening. This night gets booked quickly, so be sure to book your table now!

From everyone at The Castle Inn, wishing a fantastic 2025!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

(To everyone
except storm
Darragh)

Please feel free to get in touch:
ccfestivities@gmail.com

Such a shame the storm scuppered our plans for a reformatted switch on event, but we will be back next year. In the meantime the lights continue to give pleasure to many.

The committee would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who supported us in 2024, with their time, money, ESPECIALLY donations of gifts for our raffles, and in many other ways.

Had the event gone ahead, there were special thanks due on the night:

- Macelio at the Model Village for holding our big fundraising Midsummer party
- Macelio at the Model Village and Nigel at the bakery for sustaining the lights team with coffee and butties (the bakery would also have provided all the rolls for our hotdog stall)
- The Fox Inn for cooking the sausages (that would have gone in the rolls)
- Norden Farm Shop for the small trees
- Rempstone Estate for the large tree
- Perenco for their generous donation towards electricity costs

We are very grateful to all, and we thank committee members past and present who make this all possible every year.

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT
IN AID OF
JULIA'S HOUSE
 Supporting
Julia's House
 Dorset & Wiltshire Children's Hospices

Friday 7th February
CORFE CASTLE VILLAGE HALL
 Doors open at: 06:30pm
 Starts at: 07:00pm

Tickets £5 each
 OR
 Enter a team of up to 6 people for £20

FEATURES:
 Grand Raffle Draw
 Beer, Wine and Soft drinks, teas/coffees at reasonable prices.
 (Cash only on the night)

Please contact Darryl Stocks for your tickets on 07716684853, or email lesbrs1970@hotmail.com

SEE YOU THERE!

Corfe Castle Village Hall

general news:

Thanks to all those who attended the December VH Coffee Morning. £194.42 was raised for Village Hall funds.

The December 100 club draw was made at the Coffee Morning. The first prize of £20 was won by member 29, with member 74 getting second prize £10 and member 41 winning the third prize £5. **If you would like to join the many villagers who support their local village hall in this way please contact Penny Barker on 01929 481477.**

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

regular weekly events:

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

regular monthly events:

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

Kitchen / Chair Store news and Dates for your Diary:

The construction work on the chair store at the South end of the main hall has largely been completed, so the full hall is now clearer for activities such as dance, pickleball & badminton. We have also made progress on obtaining quotations for the kitchen work, and are now boosting the drive to secure sufficient funds to make this happen in 2025.

Our fund-raising event on Saturday 18th January is now called "**Three in One**" as it combines three different aspects - **Cheese and Wine, a Silent Auction and a Race Night**. This will not merely be a good social evening out, but also an opportunity to bid for some fabulous prizes or win some money on a race or two. More details elsewhere in the January CVN and posters around the village nearer the time,

On Saturday 15th February the Soup 'N Pud team are putting on a fabulous **Tapas Evening**, with the proceeds also going to the kitchen fund. Most of us already know how good their meals are! More details elsewhere in the February CVN and posters around the village nearer the time,

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



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see page 82 for more information



Happy New Year

Many thanks for all your support in 2024 & Best Wishes for 2025

Shop our Sale for lots of end of line bargains!

We are refurbishing stock cupboards in Feb. so will temporarily close the bottom room towards the end of the month. We'll try to keep disruption to a minimum but please bear with us. We're aiming to keep the top room open every day, but FaceBook & Instagram are the best ways to stay updated.

Congrats to Christine who won our Nov. hamper worth £150!

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CORFE VALLEY NEWS

CALENDAR for JANUARY 2025

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

4	January	Saturday	10.15 am	Village Coffee Morning - Corfe Castle Village Hall
4	January	Saturday	12.30 – 1.45 pm	Soup and Pud Community Lunch – Corfe Castle Village Hall
7	January	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius – David Kemp talks about his Far East Walk – Corfe Castle Village Hall
13	January	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
14	January	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Church Knowle Village Hall
17	January	Friday	2 pm	Library talk “The Old Shops of Corfe” Corfe Castle Village Hall
18	January	Saturday	6 pm	3 in 1 fundraiser for Village Hall kitchen. Corfe Castle Village Hall
19	January	Sunday	4 pm	Mayday Singers Winter Song followed by refreshments – St George, Langton

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

1	February	Saturday	10.15 am	Village Coffee Morning - Corfe Castle Village Hall
1	February	Saturday	12.30 – 1.45 pm	Soup and Pud Community Lunch – Corfe Castle Village Hall
4	February	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius charitable donation presented plus talk Corfe Castle Village Hall
6	February	Thursday	7.45 pm	Gardening Club AGM and quiz. Corfe Castle Village Hall
7	February	Friday	7 pm	Charity Quiz Night for Julia’s House – Corfe Castle Village Hall
10	February	Monday	7 pm	Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting – Corfe Castle Village Hall
10	February	Monday	7 pm	Double Act workshop on theatre skills Corfe Castle Village Hall
11	February	Tuesday	6.30 pm	Church Knowle Parish Council meeting – Furzebrook Village Hall
15	February	Saturday	6.45 pm	Soup and pud Tapas evening Corfe Castle Village Hall
4	March	Tuesday	2 pm	Aquarius AGM and activities Corfe Castle Village Hall

More Useful Phone Numbers

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

Western Power Distribution:
0800 365900 (free phone land line and mobiles)

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

Gas - Transco - Gas Emergency:
0800 111999 (free phone, mobile phone charged as per the local provider rate)

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

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

Dorset Council (including incidents on the Dorset Council highway):
01305 221000 (10p per minute from a land line or 3p - 40p per minute from a mobile dependent upon the provider)

Flooding - Environment Agency - Flood Line:
0345 9881188 (calls are charged depending on the callers service provider and where there call is made).

Dorset Council out of hours Emergency Contact Number – 01929 556561

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

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

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

Reporting non injury collisions or near misses

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

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

Church of England

St Aldhelm's Benefice

Contact Details for St Aldhelm's Benefice

Rector Richard and Louise White revrichardwhite@outlook.com
01929 208578

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

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 admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org

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

www.staldhelmpurbeck.wordpress.com

 [St Aldhelm Benefice](https://www.facebook.com/StAldhelmBenefice)
 [@StAldhelm](https://twitter.com/StAldhelm)

Church Wardens in the Valley Churches

Corfe Castle: Penelope Smith 480109 John Lindsay 481498

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

Rev Louise White writes

As I write this, I am planning for the carol services we shall be holding through December. But by the time you read this it will all be over! And January will be here, that most difficult of all months, when the bills come in, when maybe we realise that we have spent far too much on our gifts and celebrations, when the world we live in is at its coldest and darkest: with no Christmas celebrations, no pretty lights, no family visits, no extravagant food, nothing to cheer us.

I've been struck recently by the write-ups on a book called "Wintering" by Katharine May. Encouraging us to embrace the depths of winter, the lack of light, the times which might be inviting us to rest more and to be renewed. Maybe there is something about this difficult time of year which is very necessary for us as humans. That is certainly the case in the natural world, where some animals hibernate, and most plants lose their leaves and halt their growing. What is there about this season that we can take on board to enhance our lives?

Seasons are important in nature. And seasons can be important in the Church year too. We're moving from the season of Christmas to the season of Epiphany, which means "revelation". A season that reminds us to ask God to reveal new paths he invites us to follow, like the star guiding those wise men (and maybe women!) in the dark of night to Christ. A season to find rest, renewal, a new beginning, in the one who grew into a man and said, "Come unto me all you who are weary and burdened and I will give you rest for your soul."

Louise

Bible Readings – January 2025

5 th January	Second Sunday after Christmas Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a Matthew 2:13-15,19-23 or Luke 2:41-52 or Matthew 2:1-12
12 th January	First Sunday after the Epiphany Acts 8:14-17 Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
19 th January	Second Sunday after the Epiphany 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 John 2:1-11
26 th January	Third Sunday after the Epiphany 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a Luke 4:14-21

Services in January 2025

Sunday 5th January Corfe Castle – 10.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 12th January Steeple - 9.30am Corfe Castle - 10.30am Kingston - 11.30am	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Informal Worship
Sunday 19th January Corfe Castle – 10.30am Harmans Cross – 6pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer
Sunday 26th January Corfe Castle – 10.30am Kingston – 11.30am	Holy Communion Holy Communion

Please wrap up very well. The heating system is out of order at St Edward's Corfe Castle, though you are sure of a warm welcome!

Vacancy: PCC Treasurer – St Peter's Church Knowle

Are you looking for a local activity that is engaging and rewarding? No accounting qualifications required – just a methodical mind; ability to work in a team; an interest in being involved in one of Purbeck's historic icons; and ability to attend four meetings a year. Church attendance is not required – although of course always appreciated.

Lyn has been our Treasurer for the past 25 years, and justifiably feels ready to enjoy retirement. It is an exciting time to be taking over the reins as we look ahead in confidence to developing and enhancing St Peter's.

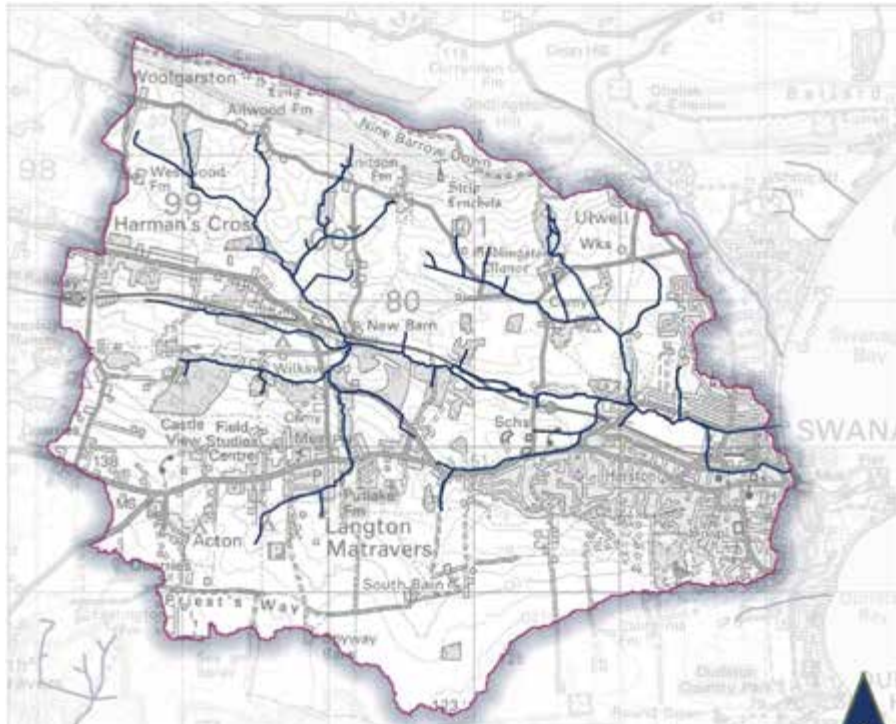
If you think this might be of interest, please contact Lyn Higgs for more details:

t.higgins@talk21.com or 07815 298061

Swanage Streams Project

Local residents are being invited to take part in a ground-breaking river restoration and flood protection project.

The call to action follows the formation of a body known as Swanage Streams Partnership – a collaboration between the National Trust, Dorset National Landscape, community group Planet Purbeck and Swanage Town Council.



Swan Brook and its catchment area. Picture: Dorset National Landscape.

It is already looking at the grim state of Swanage's Swan Brook and its catchment area, which stretches to Langton Matravers, Harmans Cross and Ulwell, and the flooding risk it poses.

But the group is also keen to draw in local people to help resolve issues such as drainage, pollution, nutrient levels and struggling natural habitat – making it a significant community project.

The partnership will be formally launched at The Swanage School on the evening of Tuesday November 26. And all, whether they are individuals,

landowners or action groups, are invited to come along to learn about steps that will be taken and the potential for getting involved.

The need for intervention on Swan Brook is pressing. Its condition is officially classified as “poor” by the Environment Agency and it is therefore considered a failing watercourse in need of improvement. And there is a notable risk of flooding despite Swanage's alleviation infrastructure.

Such waterways are sometimes known as “Cinderella” streams because they are relatively neglected compared to nationally recognised rivers such as Wareham's Frome and Piddle.

Ian Rees, Countryside Projects Manager of Dorset National Landscape, said: “We are particularly interested in small streams like Swan Brook that aren't designated, have no spotlight on them and often aren't on anyone's agenda to look after them. So if no one else is doing it, it's up to us.”

Mr Rees said the project offers Purbeck residents a chance to “improve the health of their back garden”.

He added: “It will get you together with a group of like-minded people to tackle an issue close to your heart. You can make a difference by improving the environment for people and for wildlife. It's good for the soul.”



*National Trust staff monitor stream flow.
Picture: David Brown.*

Planet Purbeck has been tasked with engaging the community in the project and raising awareness through various events such as talks, tours of existing flood defence systems and demonstrations of helpful activities that can afterwards be self-led.

Luke M Luke, Planet Purbeck's co-leader, said: “We're proud to unite with such top-tier partners to help transform Swan Brook and surrounding streams.

“Their current state is pretty shocking. But with the help of the Purbeck community we hope to foster a legacy of fun and sustainable practices to rejuvenate these precious habitats.”

More information can be found at www.planetpurbeck.org.



People experiencing depression, anxiety or loneliness are being offered a free nature-based course aimed at improving their mental health.

The move is part of the NHS's new drive on preventative medicine, with

an emphasis on helping people to help themselves.

Community group Planet Purbeck has been awarded funding from NHS Dorset to conduct a pilot scheme in the local area.



The three lynchpins of the course (left to right) Jane Woods, Rob Waitt and Sara Greenwood

And the result is a nine-week course called Thrive In Nature, run free of charge by wellbeing experts Sara Greenwood and Jane Woods.

Sara, whose services under the name Vibrant Earth include "nature and forest therapy," said: "If you're feeling anxious, depressed, lonely, isolated or living with a long-term health condition this could be the course for you."

Participants in the programme, which will run on Wednesday mornings across January, February and March, will be given opportunities to work creatively with natural materials such as clay and leaves. And there will be walks, talks and moments of contemplation in the glorious Purbeck countryside.

Sara said: "We are aiming to create a small, friendly, supportive and understanding group to help with stress reduction and build resilience. The focus will be on self-care and fostering positive changes in day-to-day living."

Both Sara and Jane, who runs Jane Woods Coaching to "help people navigate the ups and downs of life," are active supporters of Planet Purbeck.

Jane said: "We hope this course will enable people to feel less alone and will provide strategies to boost wellbeing for those living in the Purbeck community."



A group bird watching at Poole Harbour



The course will explore creativity with nature-based activities

The NHS's prevention plan seeks to reduce the burden on hospitals and other services by encouraging individuals to take action through supported self-management. A crucial part of the scheme involves funding local projects, in this case via the Dorset Community Foundation.

Planet Purbeck's co-leader Rob Waitt said: "It is an honour for us to be delivering such a course for the NHS, in which we all have a

stake. And we are confident those who take part in it will emerge with new hope for the future."

For more information email thriveinnaturepurbeck@gmail.com or go to planetpurbeck.org.

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Quiz Night

We are thrilled to announce our weekly quiz night continues every Tuesday in the Sawmill restaurant - 7:30pm arrival for 7:45pm start. The quiz is completely FREE to enter although we will gladly accept donations to our nominated charity of the year.

Locals Lunch

Delighted to announce our popular Locals Lunch will continue through into 2-25. Book for a Thursday lunchtime to enjoy 2 courses for £15 or 3 courses for £20. Groups and organisations very welcome too with plenty of free parking and space for minibuses or coaches.

Feed the Family for £40!

Throughout the month of January come along on a Sunday and feed the family for just £40. Roast dinner for 2 adults and 2 children between 12 noon - 9pm. This offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other.

Catch the Bus!

We are now on the Number 40 bus route with a bus stop directly outside Kingston Country Courtyard. We were thrilled to have the permanent bus stop installed as another step on our environmental journey. It's now easier than ever to pop up and enjoy the facilities.

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Friday 7th February



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After the roaring success of our November event we are back with Lytchett Venison to provide a spectacular intimate Venison Masterclass evening.

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CERAMICS ON DISPLAY

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



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

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Notices and Thanks

Corfe Castle Gardening Club.

We hope you have all had a wonderful and relaxed Christmas with family and friends.

Like us, you will be looking forward to the longer days and better weather in the spring, but until that arrives there will be lots of planning to do for your garden.

In December we had the annual Member's Christmas Bring and Share Supper in the Village Hall. It was a very happy evening and members brought an amazing array of fabulous, varied and delicious dishes. Thank you to everyone. Catherine Ramm demonstrated how we could deconstruct our Christmas Wreaths and use them to add small plants like polyanthus and tiny bulbs to make a beautiful wreath for the spring. It is a wonderful idea for recycling your wreath base.

She kindly donated the wreath she made to our raffle and thank you to members who also contributed to the raffle prizes. Thanks to Wren's excellent sales technique we made £127 towards Club Funds.

We won't be meeting in January but will get together again on 6th February for a short AGM and a fun quiz. By then we will be looking forward to a full programme for 2025 and details of this will be sent to members by e-mail

If you are interested in Gardens and Gardening and would like to join a friendly local group, please get in touch with Chris on 10929 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 for £3 if they are interested in a particular talk.

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND HAPPY GARDENING IN 2025.

Chris Clarke
For the Committee.



Citizens Advice East Dorset & Purbeck

Citizens Advice continues to be available for residents offering free, confidential and impartial advice. Advice can be accessed via email, telephone, or in-person at outreaches and at the Advice Bus.

Advice Bus

The Advice Bus has changed locations in Corfe Castle. It will now be stopping at the Residents Car Park, West Street, the third Friday of the month. It also stops weekly at Swanage Market on a Friday morning, 9.30am-1.30pm.

Advisers can offer advice on a number of different issues including: benefits, debt & money, employment, energy, family, housing and legal. If you're struggling to pay your Wessex Water bills and if you're on pension credit you may be entitled to additional help. Advice is free and confidential and you don't need to book an appointment.

Visit our website for all of our bus locations www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/advice-bus

Drop-in locations

Here's a list of local drop-ins for residents at nearby outreaches. No appointment is needed:

- Swanage Library – Tuesday, 10am-12pm (from 2nd July 2024)
- Herston Village Hall, Swanage – Monday, 10am-12pm
- Wareham Citizens Advice – Tuesday & Thursday, 10am-12pm
- Lytchett Minster & Upton Town Council – Tuesday, 10am-12pm
- Upton Library – Wednesday, 2pm-4pm

For more information about Citizens Advice services, including all of our outreaches, visit www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk to speak to an Adviser, call the Dorset Adviceline freephone on 0800 144 8848, 10am-4pm weekdays.

Our Energy Advisers help households across the whole of Dorset who may be struggling to pay energy bills, need help resolving billing issues with suppliers and they can also check if you're eligible for extra income. If you have a question about your bill, or need more detailed support, we can help.

Contact the Dorset Energy Team on 01929 775500 or email energy@edpcitizensadvice.org.uk

Unplug to Unwind

Leaving small electrical devices on charge overnight has been the cause of multiple house fires in recent years, so Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is urging people to 'Unplug to Unwind'.

Only large appliances such as fridges are designed to be left switched on all the time, so ensuring that everything else is unplugged before you go to bed is a simple routine that could protect your home from fire.

To help reduce the risk of a fire in your home, take these simple steps:

- Make sure an electrical appliance has a British or European safety mark when you buy it. Only buy your electrical chargers from a reputable source.
- Never leave items on charge when you are sleeping or when you are not at home.
- Don't overload sockets.



- Regularly check for frayed or worn cables and wires.
- Buy your electrical chargers from a reputable source.
- Register your appliances to receive notification of safety alerts or product recalls at www.registermyappliance.org.uk

More information about the Unplug To Unwind campaign can be found on the DWFRS website www.dwfire.org.uk/unplug-to-unwind/

Bin Collections

The standard collection day is Wednesday.

	Recycling and Food	Rubbish and Food
January 2025	9(Thurs), 22	3(Fri), 15, 29

Thank you!

We have commented before in this admirable magazine about the level of generosity and public spirit shown in this lovely area of ours. As we begin a New Year we would like to express our thanks to the people who have improved life for us in the year just ended. This is also an encouragement to them to continue with their good work, and to the rest of us to get stuck in and help them where we can.

In no order of importance, for each is as important as every other: Double Act - This Secret Isle was a tour de force of research, writing, staging and acting, Aquarius, lively and welcoming, The Community Kitchen team for Soup and Puds, The Coffee Morning team, always a joy to see them, the Library Volunteers, not just books but a warm space, friendship and a cuppa, The Churches The Gardening Club, trying to educate as well as broaden our horizons and entertain, the Secret Garden team, The Friends of the Surgery, and, of the course the staff there. Any groups or individual initiatives we have omitted are those we don't have personal experience of, like the Pre-school and the School and their parent group, and we leave it to those of you who do benefit from their work and service to tell them so. We also thank all the traders who contribute so much to the appeal of this area, Thank you, without you where would we be? (in an isolated desert)

And, finally, for now: Thank you to our esteemed Editor, his assistants and delivery team. We receive many magazines in our house from organisations we support or groups to which we belong, or have belonged. The one mag that is read from cover to cover each month is the CVN. It is our window into the life of the isle of Purbeck. "Good on ya!"

The above was received with thanks from an anonymous contributor - Editor



Corfe Crafters
Wednesday 9.00am to 12 midday
Contact Cheryl - 07745242511



New Mobility Scooter For Sale.

Brand new and unused mobility scooter, complete with charger and still has some of the protective packaging in place. It was purchased just a few weeks ago but didn't get used and is no longer needed. Retails at £1200 inc VAT, so grab yourself a bargain at £1000 or near offer. Comes with all of the original equipment (charger, front basket), two keys, and disassembles so it can fit into a small car. The scooter has a speed adjustment, and simple controls for forward / backwards motion. The seat swivels for easy access / egress. Manufacturer link: <https://motionhealthcare.co.uk/products/etravel/>

Viewings and questions absolutely welcome, come and see it working and test it out. I'm based in Bristol, BS4 3HU or ring 01929 480007 for more information.

PurbeckParkys,

PurbeckParkys, a support group for families living with Parkinson's, meets on the third Wednesday of each month, 2.30 - 4.30 at the Swanage Cricket Cub BH19 1LG

For more details contact the co-ordinator: david.gynes@parkinsons-uk.goassemble.com

January 15th, 2025; February 19th, 2025; March 19th 2025

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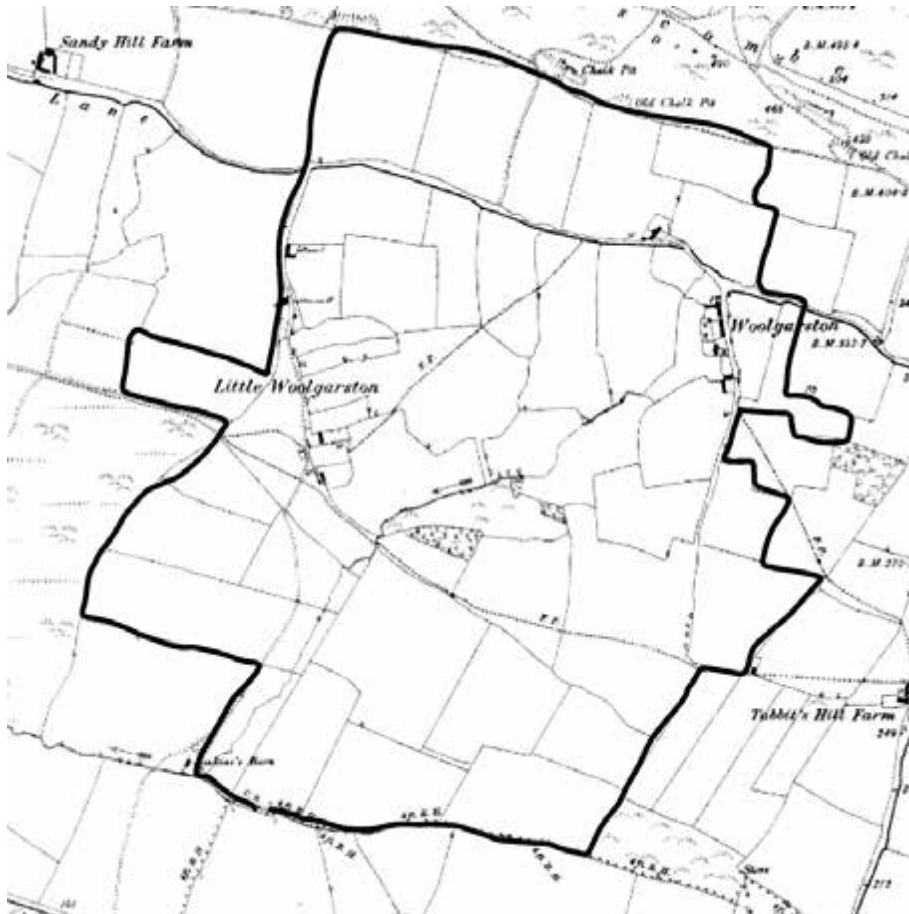
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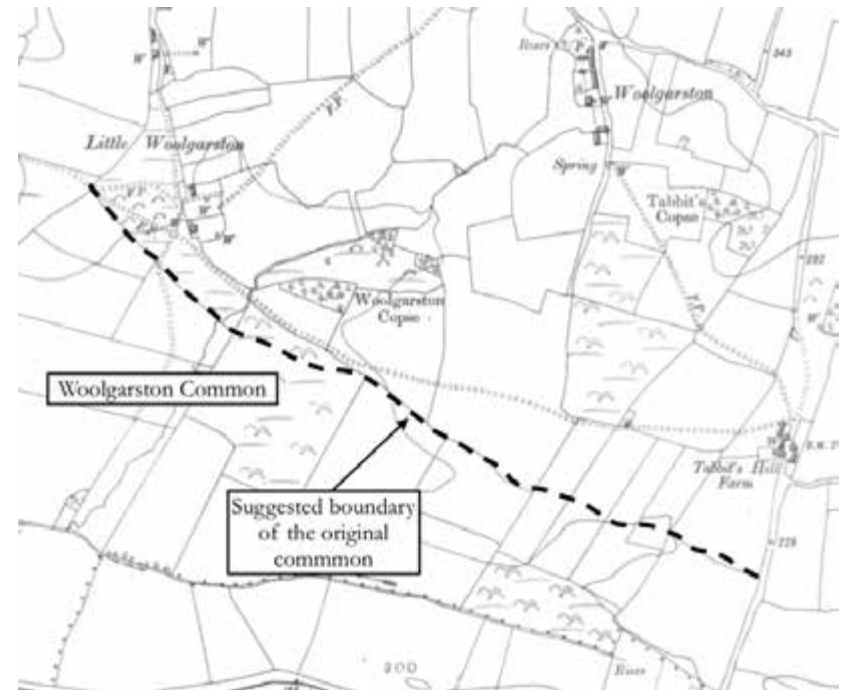


The Woolgarston Farms

Woolgarston, or Wolston, was divided up into the east and the west parts with both lying in the Hundred of Ailwood; the western section became called Little Woolgarston. In July 1919 both East and West Woolgarston encompassed the outlined area shown on the map below.



Land had been absorbed from Sandyhills Farm and Tabbits Hill Farm by 1919. The more southerly part of Woolgarston had been Common land, and this had been enclosed in 1731 producing a much larger area. The Anglo-Saxons created defined communal land, but the Domesday Book does not mention it as it was of little value to the crown.



Suggested Boundary of Woolgarston Common.

By 1066, the Norman clerk recorded that the area had been divided up amongst five Thegns (no names are given). During the Anglo-Saxon period, if a man claimed the rank of Thegn, then he would hold about 5 hides of land but the clerk assessed the land here as '2 hides less 4 acres' (meaning 236 acres) and added that there was 8 acres of meadow, and pastureland a furlong wide (220 yards or, in Anglo Saxon terms, the length of a furrow in a 10-acre field) and ½ a league long (a league is defined as 3 miles). One gets the impression of a long strip of land - more research is needed here!

The suffix 'ton' (a settlement or farmstead) identifies the place as Anglo-Saxon and the name itself derives from a Thegn called Wulfgar, meaning Wolf-spear, who built his timbered farm here. Little is known about him as documentation is rather sparse during this period. Any mention of Woolgarston (however you spell it) jumps from 1086, the Domesday Book, to 1213, the Curia Regis Rolls.

Interestingly, in the reign of Edward, the Elder, King of Wessex, a coin was minted by a Thegn called Wulfgar. Maybe this was the Wulfgar of Woolgarstone? Was he one of the two 'moneyers' who were permitted to mint coins in the Saxon 'burgh' of Wareham for trade? Possibly, but we may never know.



Vulfgar/Wulfgar's silver penny dated 915-920 for Edward, the elder, King of Wessex,
held by The British Museum

Louise Haywood

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Kimmeridge News

Christmas Events

Lots has been happening in Kimmeridge in December! On 1st December we lit the Christmas Tree Lights at the top of the village, followed by mulled wine & nibbles in the Village Hall. Thanks as always to Gerry & Ben Hole for providing the tree and making the lights work – a really cheerful sight as you drive into the village. The very next day was Bingo Night in the Village Hall. Thank you to everyone who attended another hugely successful evening. As always we were entertained by our caller extraordinaire Pat Ward, backed up by his glamorous assistant Nick the fish Ford. We raised over £700 towards the children's Christmas party and maintenance/insurance of the village play park. None of this would have been possible without the incredibly generous donations from our wonderful community. The Bingo night pays for our Children's Party which Emma organised on 14th. As I write this we are still looking forward to the Kimmeridge Christmas Meal at Clavells on 18th, Christmas Carols & Lessons on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve in the Village Hall. These events don't just happen and a special thanks goes to Rose Clarke & the Village Committee for making this such a great place to live!

Verena Dalling

We were all saddened to hear that our much-loved Verena Dalling passed away on 19th November. Verena was someone who was always so gentle and as she walked regularly to the Bay, would always have time to stop and chat. One of those quiet people who keeps a village alive. She will certainly be missed. It is hoped that there will be a memorial event in the spring so we can all share in her memory.

Into 2025

If 2024 was somewhat dominated by David Attenborough and a Giant Sea Monster; who knows what excitement 2025 will bring! One of the big stories will be the search for the rest of the Pliosaur and plans are being made for this mammoth task!

In less exciting, but still important news, our Church, after many, many years, needs re-wiring – something that will cost a lot of money. 2025 will be a fundraising year I expect!

Steve & Helen Earwicker

Eyes to the Skies

Well, it's been an absolutely beautiful day here in Kimmeridge, blue sky, fluffy white clouds pushed along by a cool gentle breeze from the north west

and dappled sunlight making the surrounding fields every shade of green.

There is plenty of bird activity around the tollgate feeders, my family of Great spotted woodpeckers are still feeding daily along with various tits and finches.

In the last few days the birds of prey have been busy around the hut with a pair of peregrines hunting the meadows pipit flocks in the surrounding fields, kestrel Red kite and white tailed sea eagle along the ridge.

My favourite moment happened quite unexpectedly though; as I pondered how I was going to deter the rat that was also enjoying all the fallen seed and becoming fatter and bolder everyday. Suddenly the rat was gone in one fowl swoop (as the saying goes) An adult buzzard swooped in as quick and agile as any sparrow hawk scattering the many ground feeding birds and hit its target.... problem solved, it's been keeping a keen eye on the feeders ever since.

Happy birding, cheers

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Chapel on the Green

It's A Wonderful Life

As the seasons change, many of us find that the annual arrival of Christmas and the few days after is the passing of yet another year. For some, Christmas marks the passing of yet another year brimming with happy and joyful memories, whilst others remember only sadness and disappointment. Perhaps the dreams for the past year were never realised and last year's resolutions seem nothing but a distant past.

There is a very popular Film which is often shown at Christmas time and first made in 1946, called 'It's A Wonderful Life'. This highly acclaimed film directed by Frank Capra and starring James Stewart and Donna Reed, remains one of the most popular Christmas films. Although those of us who have seen the film, would class it as a 'feel good' movie, the first part of the film is far from a perfect story. The scenes are about the darkness of George's (the leading character) mood as his mounting personal and financial troubles plunge him to the brink of ruin and into an abyss of despair and suicide. This is a story about broken dreams.

If someone were to ask us if we had a 'Wonderful Life', what would our response be? In fact, how would we define a 'Wonderful Life'? Perhaps one filled with material gain, financial prosperity or a successful and ever thriving career? Maybe a life packed with adventure, enriched by frequent and luxurious visits to far off distant lands?

Yet realising that Christmas has swiftly come and gone, do we wonder if there is something more? More than we have yet to experience or even discover? Is there some other ingredient to life that without which, we simply cannot call our life 'Wonderful'?

The original working title for 'It's A Wonderful Life' was 'The Greatest Gift'. What 'greatest gift over Christmas could have possibly been enough to shatter our previous dulled experiences and reveal to us something new for the years to come?

At Christmas we remembered a man, born in a Bethlehem stable, who promises us exactly this. Indeed, Jesus Christ offers the gift of a 'Wonderful Life'.

May the arrival of the New Year be the perfect opportunity for you to make a change in your life by receiving our Saviour in your heart. Jesus said "My purpose is to give life in all its fullness" Abundant Life is really less about us and more about GOD.....

May the arrival of the new year be the perfect opportunity for you to make a change in your life, by receiving our Saviour in your heart.

SUNDAY SERVICES FOR JANUARY

**12th Morning Service at 10.30am
with Video Sermon
19th Afternoon Service at 3pm
26th Morning Service at 10.30am**

**COFFEE MORNINGS
See Notice Board**

Celia Taylor (Church Secretary)

Fr_ee2talk@yahoo.co.uk

Mob. 07908807115

SF CONSTRUCTION

General Building and
Landscaping





Landscaping
Groundworks
Patios
Fencing
Stone Work
Brick Work
Extensions
General Building

Sam Fooks
07772794056
samfooks1988@icloud.com



**Artists in
Purbeck**
Spirit of Place

12 October 2024
- 16 March 2025

Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum
East Cliff, Bournemouth, BH1 3AA
www.russellcotes.com

RUSSELL-COTES
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© the Leslie Moffat Ward Estate Image credit: Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum

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- **THATCH INSURANCE INSPECTIONS**
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HETAS

Company number: 13488818
VAT number: 422671314

NACE



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Wareham, Dorset. BH20 5PE

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MAIN COURSE & DESSERT

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www.clavellsrestaurant.co.uk
Clavells Restaurant, Kimmeridge,
Wareham, Dorset. BH20 5PE





What's On at Harmans Cross Village Hall

Happy New Year to everyone. Here are some dates for your diaries for January and February of events at Harmans Cross:

Move Nights – doors and bar open at 7pm

Tuesday 14 January – The Miracle Club

A lovely, heart-warming comedy about three close friends who have never left the outskirts of Dublin (much less Ireland) get the journey of a lifetime — a visit to Lourdes, the picturesque French town and place of miracles. Starring Dame Maggie Smith and Kathy Bates.

Tuesday 11 February – Battle Over Britain

Set over a period of just 24 hours, Battle Over Britain tells the story of a handful of heroic spitfire pilots as they fight to the last man in the skies over Britain, against overwhelming odds.

Coffee Junction – alternate Thursday mornings 10.30-12.30

Come along for coffee (or tea) and conversation. 9 and 23 January and 6 and 20 February.

Church Service starting at 6pm – 19 January and 16 February

Stalls at the Hall from 9.30am – Noon on Saturday 1st March

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

Alison and the HXVH Committee

TO BOOK FURZEBROOK VILLAGE HALL
TELEPHONE 07935 068881
Or
W.W.W.FURZEBROOKVILLAGEHALL.ORG

REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

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

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

- **Shotokan Karate** www.warehamskc.co.uk

FRIDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

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

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



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

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Call Michael : 01929 781212 / 07914946106

Email: mickajoyce@outlook.com



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 HY-BRID Automatic, Sat Nav, 7" Touch Screen, Lane Departure
 Warning System, Rear View Camera, DAB Radio, Bluetooth, Air
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 Rear Windows, 82700 Miles. **£10995**

2015 (15) TOYOTA YARIS 1.33 VVT-I SPORT (NAV/PAN ROOF)
 Satellite Navigation with 7" Touch Screen, Panoramic Roof,
 Reverse Camera, Bluetooth System, DAB Digital Radio,
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2019 (19) DACIA DUSTER COMFORT TCE 1.3 5 Dr in White
 Sat Nav with 7" Touch Screen, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto,
 Cruise Control, Bluetooth Connectivity, Rear parking Camera,
 Rear Parking Sensors, Electric Windows/Mirrors, Air Con,
 50800 Miles with Full Service History. **£9795**

2015 (65) MINI COOPER 1.5 AUTOMATIC 5 Dr in White/Black
 Panoramic Roof with Electric Opening Sunroof, Alloys, DAB Digital
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 Mirrors, Only 37000 Miles with FSH. **£10495**

2015 (65) VAUXHALL VIVA 1.0 SE
 Air Con, Cruise Control, Lane Departure Warning System,
 Electric Front Windows, Electric Mirrors, Euro 6 Compliant,
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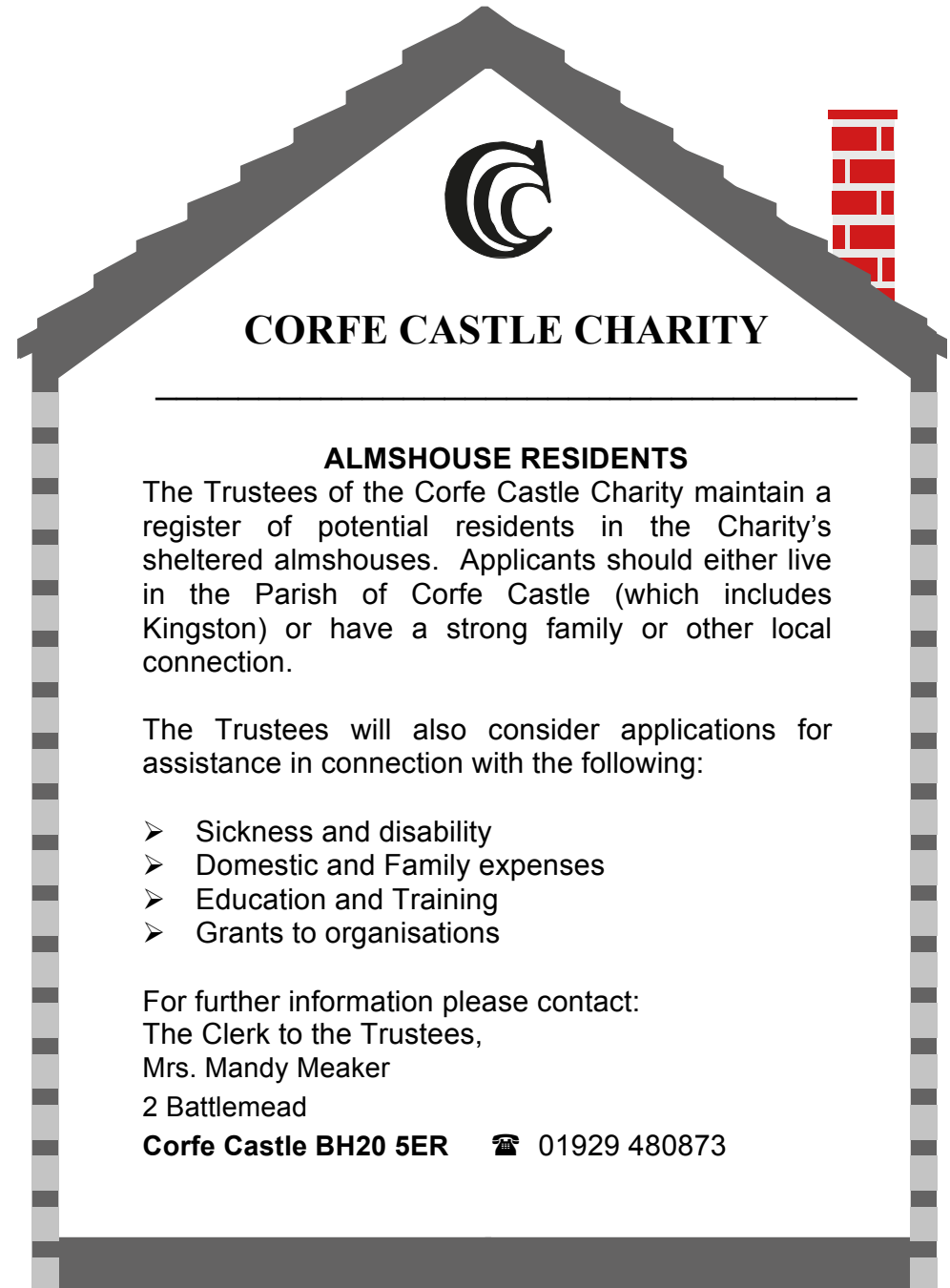
2015 (15) SKODA FABIA 1.2TSI SE-L ESTATE in Silver
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CORFE CASTLE CHARITY

ALMSHOUSE RESIDENTS

The Trustees of the Corfe Castle Charity maintain a register of potential residents in the Charity's sheltered almshouses. Applicants should either live in the Parish of Corfe Castle (which includes Kingston) or have a strong family or other local connection.

The Trustees will also consider applications for assistance in connection with the following:

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

For further information please contact:

The Clerk to the Trustees,
 Mrs. Mandy Meaker

2 Battlemead

Corfe Castle BH20 5ER ☎ 01929 480873



Church Knowle Village Hall

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

Large Car Park – Close to the Church – PRS Licence

All enquires - 01929 480534

or email – villagehall@churchknowle.com

*** Minimum hire charge of £40**

Regular and long-term hires by negotiation

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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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Postal Address:

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

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	Aquarius	C C Village Hall
2 nd	7.30pm	CK parish Council	Odd months Furzebrook VH; even CK
WEDNESDAY			
Each	8.50am - 2.50pm	Community Pre	The Pre School
Each	9.30am- noon	Intermediate yoga	Kimmeridge 477169
Each	9.00am-12.00	Corfe Crafters	C.C. Village Hall
Term time,	5.30- 6.45pm jnrs	Youth Club	C C Village Hall
	6.45-8.00pm snrs		
Each	8.30	Poker	Corfe Castle Club
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.com	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 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