DIRECTORY OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

AQUARIUS CORFE CASTLE WOMEN IN TOUCH	TERESA NEAL	556041
BADMINTON	CHRISTINE KEMP	480007
CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES	STEFF ROBINSON	07584079401
CHURCH KNOWLE FRIENDS OF ST PETERS	DEBBIE EVANS	07879473693
CHURCH KNOWLE PARISH CLERK	ANDREW PARSONS	208215
CHURCH KNOWLE VILLAGE HALL	JONATHAN EVANS	07880780677
CHURCH KNOWLE READING ROOM BOOKINGS	ANGELA BOON	07890646455
EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	CELIA TAYLOR	07908807115
CORFE CASTLE CHARITY	MANDY MEAKER	480873
CORFE CASTLE CLUB	BAR STEWARD (CHUBBY)	480591
CORFE CASTLE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST	SUE LOSEBY	07739873989
CORFE CASTLE COMMUNITY LIBRARY		480760
CORFE CASTLE CE PRIMARY & PRESCHOOL	Mr R STONER (HEADTEACHER)	480428
CORFE CASTLE FOOTBALL CLUB	STEVE NORMAN	07971986093
CORFE CASTLE GARDENING CLUB	CHRIS CLARKE	480095
CORFE CASTLE RINGERS	JOHN BEAUCHAMP	480915
CORFE CASTLE SURGERY	Dr MARK LEPPER	480441
CRAZY 4 CORFE	DENISE FULLER	07736858132
CORFE CASTLE LATIN AMERICAN & BALLROOM	DONNA DEBELIUS	07518 056149
CORFE CASTLE LINE DANCE	DONNA DEBELIUS	07518 056149
CORFE CASTLE PARISH CLERK	SARAH FORWOOD	07986880999
CORFE CASTLE TOWN TRUST	LOUISE HAYWOOD	481375
CORFE CASTLE TOWN HALL BOOKINGS	JOHN LINDSAY	481498
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CORFE CASTLE TODDLER GROUP	CHERYL THAKE	07745242511
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CORFE CRAFTERS	CHERYL THAKE	07745242511
DORSET WILDLIFE TRUST KIMMERIDGE	JULIE HATCHER	481044
DOUBLE ACT DRAMA GROUP	DAVID WATSON	481265
DORSET BLIND ASSOCIATION	LEAH CROSS	01202 712869
FRIENDS OF THE SURGERY	KATHY MORRIS	425890
FURZEBROOK HALL BOOKINGS	TINA BEST	07935068881
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PROBUS CLUB	TONY NOTT	07541303941
PURBECK ASS'N of the NATIONAL TRUST	LES WRIGHT	552872
PURBECK CHESS CLUB	STEVE PEIRSON	552504
PURBECK GARDENING CLUB	CYRIL HARRISON	552105
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SANDY HILL ARTS TRUST	ANGHARAD HOLLOWAY	07929771219
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CORFE VALLEY NEWS



NOVEMBER 2026

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 535 November 2026

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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@gmail.com**
Items received after the 15th may not be printed until the next issue

Editorial

November has arrived in Purbeck, bringing with it the storms and rain that so often mark the turn of the season. The gales rolling in off the Channel, the sodden fields and the swollen streams are a reminder of the power of the weather in this corner of Dorset, and of how snug a warm fireside can feel by contrast. Even so, there is a beauty in the bare branches, the low light and the dramatic skies over the Purbeck Hills.

This month we also pause to mark Remembrance Day. Our villages will once again gather at their war memorials to honour those who served and those who never came home, and we hope readers will join their neighbours in quiet reflection. With Christmas now looming on the horizon, many of us are beginning to turn our thoughts to festive events, markets and preparations, and we look forward to sharing details of what is happening locally in the coming issues.

If you've been inspired by the autumn light, don't forget our **Draw Purbeck competition** is open for entries. We're looking for black and white drawings of local places and people, with the best entries published here in the Corfe Valley News, and the chance for a winning image to feature on a future cover. Full details are on page 45.

Please remember to use our new email - corfevalleynews@gmail.com in all communications with the CVN. The gmail account is already in operation.

Maria

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 page picture is a sketch of Tyneham Village from "The Artists A to Z of the Isle of Purbeck" dated from the late 1970's. The only remaining buildings which are still there today are the school room and the Church. The Church is still used for a Remembrance Day service every year. The other buildings have largely been removed for safety reasons and the trees have grown up considerably. The artist is unknown

OCTOBER CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL

October's Parish Council meeting was well attended; it was encouraging to see so many members of the community taking an active interest in local issues and sharing their views on topics that matter to Corfe Castle and the surrounding area.

Public Concerns Heard

The public session covered several important subjects. Concerns were raised about maintenance in East Street Cemetery, including the removal of brambles and ensuring grass cuttings are not left on graves. The Parish Council agreed to contact Dorset Council to seek improvements to the current maintenance arrangements.

Residents also shared their views on proposed Traffic Regulation Order changes in West Street and East Street. Parking arrangements, disabled parking provision, road safety and emergency vehicle access were all discussed at length. The Parish Council will continue to engage with Dorset Council to ensure resident's concerns are properly considered.

Further issues raised included road resurfacing works in West Street and faded road markings at the West Street car park exit. These matters will be followed up with Dorset Council Highways.

Representatives speaking on behalf of residents in Harmans Cross attended the meeting to discuss proposals for affordable housing at Tabbit's Hill Lane. Views from local residents and findings from a recent survey were presented to councillors. The Parish Council confirmed that it will consider the proposal once a formal planning application is submitted and has reiterated its commitment to ensuring local residents are consulted as part of the process

Report from Dorset Councillor:

Work has begun on setting Dorset Council's 2027/28 budget, and residents are once again invited to take part in the Budget Simulator exercise to better understand the challenges of balancing services and spending. Dorset Council has also recently undergone an independent Corporate Peer Challenge, with the findings expected to be published in January 2027. Looking ahead, residents are encouraged to engage with the Dorset Local Plan Scoping Consultation, which is helping to shape future planning priorities across the county. Councillors also noted proposals to improve public and community transport, including potential investment in flexible rural transport services that could benefit communities across Purbeck.

Updates from National Trust

The National Trust provided an update on several initiatives taking place within the village. One of the most significant announcements was a major investment programme in properties around the Square, including the bakery, sweet shop and

National Trust shop. The project, valued at around £750,000, will address roofing and structural issues while taking care to protect wildlife, including swifts and bats. The bakery is expected to remain trading throughout the works.

The Trust also shared details of an upcoming Diwali celebration at Corfe Castle.

Corfe Castle Playground

Playground safety remains a priority for the Parish Council. Following recommendations from inspectors, further information and quotations will be sought regarding the village swing set, including the possibility of replacement if required.

Parish Council Budget for 2026-27

The council will have a detailed look at the estimates for next year. Residents who would like the council to review an area of expenditure or suggest changes are invited to contact the Clerk

Planning Matters

The Planning Working Group reviewed a tree work application, with no objections raised, this included several ash trees affected by dieback. A discussion is planned with the owners of the Purbeck Ice cream/Cider farm about planning issues

Preparing for Winter

Flooding and emergency access to the Purbeck peninsula were discussed ahead of the winter months. The Parish Council is asking Dorset Council for improved flood warning systems, better traffic management when roads become impassable and measures to ensure emergency vehicles can continue to access the area during periods of severe weather.

Pedestrian access along A351 to Woodyhyde Camping site

Worth Matravers PC had written expressing concern about the dangers walkers experience in walking along the main road to Corfe Castle from Woodyhyde, a view we endorsed. We will be asking local landowners for help in trying to resolve this.

New Dorset Plan preparation

The current Purbeck Local plan has restrictions on the sale of new homes as second homes. The new Dorset Local plan scheduled for 2029 may not include this restriction as only the coastal areas are affected. We supported calls from Langton Matravers PC for the new Plan to incorporate restrictions on second homes for new development sites.

Next Council Meeting - Monday 9th November 2026, at 7pm in the Corfe Castle

Village Hall, Bill Carter Room. To start the meeting is a public half hour, so please come and join us and have your say.

Parish Council contact details: Clerk: Sarah Forwood,
Telephone: 07986 880999,
Email: clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk,
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC,
Website: www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk





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

Church Knowle Parish Council – October Meeting

The October meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council took place in the Furzebrook Village Hall on Tuesday 23th October 2026 at 6:30pm. It was attended by five members of the Council (Cllr Newns in the chair) 22 members of the public and the Dorset Councillor Ben Wilson.

The Margaret Green Animal Sanctuary

Joanna Tiffen, the Chief Operating Officer of the Sanctuary thanked the community for its comments on the new plans for the kennels and stables it is proposing. The Sanctuary is modifying these plans in direct response to the this input. The plans for the kennels will be put on hold until the problems and objections are resolved. The plans for the Chase, which will be for horses, putting disused land back into use, with the construction of a new stables, will go ahead and will likely be submitted before Christmas.

Most of the members of the public were present at the meeting to emphasise the importance of the Margaret Green proposals to the community.

The Chair thanked Joanna and Margaret Green for their collaborative approach, involving extensive local consultation, to these planning proposals and noted that this was the way planning at a local level should work and ultimately benefits all parties.

Vacancies on Parish Council

There are still two vacancies on the council which has a full strength of nine and any interested parishioners can apply to clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk. or can come along to the meeting, everyone is welcome.

The Parish Wall Map

The Parish has a stock of these available at £10 each. They are on display in the Village Halls and on the website (www.churchknowle-pc.gov.uk) on the front page. Dimensions are 600x420mm and they are printed in full colour on heavy good quality paper. These may be obtained from the Clerk (*clerk@churchknowle-pc.gov.uk*) and can be posted (additional £7) or picked up at the next Parish Council meeting.

Planning

Five applications were considered:

- P/FUL/2026/05189 Woodsmoke, Cedar Barn, Grange Road. Change of use to Photographic and design studio with cafe. The Council resolved to defer a decision until more information on the application was obtained.

- P/FUL/2026/05179 The Blue Pool - Erect sculpture
- P/FUL/2026/05180 The Blue Pool - Repurpose existing holiday accommodation to wildlife hides.
- P/FUL/2026/05181 The Blue Pool - Erect pergola
- P/FUL/2026/05182 The Blue Pool - Erect rope bridge

The Council resolved to object to these applications, all of which are retrospective, on the same grounds that they were originally refused.

It was reported by the Dorset Councillor that the planning system is changing to give fewer powers to refuse applications and to allow more to be passed by delegation.

Highways

Dorset Highways are looking at the possibility of imposing a speed limit on Grange Road and also a speed limit on Furzebrook Road from the Stoborough roundabout to the Furzebrook Village Hall. The Parish Council supports the initiative for these speed limits.

Neighbourhood Plan

The Plan will take the information gathered to date and consolidate it into a Plan. Any further research into possible housing sites will be postponed.

The meeting finished at 8:28 pm. The next meeting of the Church Knowle Parish Council will be at the Church Knowle Village Hall at 6:30 on 10th November 2026.

Corfe Castle CE Primary School & Pre-School

"Let us live in awe of the LORD our God, for He gives us rain each spring and fall, assuring us of a harvest when the time is right." (Jer 5:24)



As we reach the end of our first half term, the changing season seems particularly fitting. Last month brought about change for our school, as I shared in my previous update, and autumn has arrived alongside it. Crisp mornings, mist across the fields and leaves crunching underfoot provide a wonderful reminder of the beautiful landscape that surrounds our school and the opportunities it gives our children to notice, explore and appreciate the natural world.

It has also been a busy half term beyond the classroom. Our youngest learners enjoyed a visit to Putlake Farm, spending time with the animals and enjoying physical activity in the soft-play area.

Harvest provided an opportunity for our whole school community to come together. Our Pre-school, Reception and Year 1 children shared songs and words with their families at church, alongside a short talk from Rev Louise White. Our Year 2 to Year 6 children then shared a thoughtful collection of songs, hymns, poems and prayers, complemented by a reflection from Rev Richard White.

It was particularly lovely to see a small but mighty group of children continue these celebrations by taking part in the Sunday Harvest Festival, sharing their songs and joining with the wider church community.



With Christmas fast approaching, please do share our Holiday Club provision, which will run on Monday 21st December – Wednesday 23rd December this year.



Join our Pre-school! - Spaces available for 2 to 4 year olds with up to 30 hours government funding available.



Call or email us today to find out more.
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From all the team at Corfe Castle CE Primary School and Pre-School we thank you for your continued support.

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THE CAT AND THE CANARY

Written by John Willard
Adapted for Double Act by Dougal Dixon



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

Corfe Castle Village Hall

18th, 19th & 20th Nov 2026 at 7.30pm and November 21st at 5pm

Doors & Bar open at 7pm (4.30pm on Saturday.

Adults £10 / Children £5 (unsuitable for under 5's)

Warning – flashing lights, scary scenes, dread & murder.

Tickets from Corfe Castle Village Stores &
www.ticketsource.co.uk/double-act-drama-group

10% reductions for groups of 10 & over

THE CAT AND THE CANARY

On a dark & stormy night, an ancient law insists that the will & testament of eccentric old Cyrus Carduelin must be read at midnight on the 21st anniversary of his death. And where-else but in the gloomy library of his deserted mansion that may or may not be haunted – in the presence of the squabbling, jealous survivors of his dysfunctional family, who cannot leave until morning. There may even be a murderous monster lurking in the shadows!

None of these cliches are new because it all started in the 1922 Broadway hit by John Willard, The Cat and the Canary. This invented the concept of the "old dark house" melodrama and presented it as thrilling, involving entertainment. Various films and theatrical productions have followed but now Double Act drama group are bringing their own unique interpretation to the stage presented in the spirit in which John Willard wrote it.

This presentation of The Cat and the Canary has been adapted for Double Act drama group by local imaginative writer Dougal Dixon, bringing the action up to date & moving the setting from up-state New York to the storm blasted heathland above Wareham, giving it a contemporary local twist!

Do the true riches of the Carduelin estate really reside in a lost cache of priceless diamonds? Is there actually a ghost in the wainscoting of the crumbling mansion? What is the truth behind the story of the killer monster? Dare you come to be intrigued, mystified, amused & thrilled by jump-scares & cliffhangers in ...

THE CAT AND THE CANARY

Corfe Castle Village Hall
November 18th, 19th, 20th at 7.30pm and 21st at 5pm.
Adults £10 – Youngsters £5
Tickets from Corfe Castle Village Stores and
www.ticketsource.co.uk/double-act-drama-group

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www.compasstimberandstone.com
Email:compassandcrew@gmail.com

CORFE COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Soup 'n' Pud

A choice of 2 soups and puds with custard

Corfe Castle Village Hall

Saturday November 7th '26

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.

Once again autumn has proved a great time for excess fruit and veg and folk have been very generous with their donations. Our lunch in October included a fine apple crumble with apples supplied by an East Street regular and the courgettes for the minestrone came from the West Street allotments. Please keep them coming as it is lovely having home grown produce and also it helps us to keep the costs down. Last month we also sold some jars of homemade chutney and some picked sage. We will soon be using the curiously shaped squash we were given at our last meal. We are always very grateful to all donators from across the village and beyond.

Would you believe that this November sees us celebrating 4 years of Soup 'n' Pud!! Where has that time gone?

It has been a wonderful experience and everyone seems to have really taken it to their hearts and enjoy the tasty food and good company. We must be doing something right!! That doesn't mean that we are complacent and are always happy for new people, both as punters and volunteers and always welcome different ideas. We are already looking ahead to our December menu which as usual will have some festive inspirations.

We are very thankful for the help and support we get from our volunteers, without whom we would be unable to function and The Village Bakery for donating to us the bread rolls.

We look forward to welcoming regulars and new folk alike on Saturday November 7th.

WHY DON'T YOU GIVE SOUP 'N' PUD A TRY?

Nature updates from the National Trust

Chick this out!

Fifteen barn owl chicks have been ringed in Purbeck as part of a new monitoring programme. The project will help track the fortunes of these beautiful birds and measure whether nature-friendly farming is supporting their recovery.



Barn Owl ringing. Credit Kate Fox

Barn owls have declined nationally over recent decades, but this year have seen an increase in numbers. Let's hope the trend continues for these iconic farmland birds.

The ringing was carried out under licence by specialists from the Carey Ringing Centre, and the sites include Middlebere Farm near Corfe on the Purbeck Heaths.

Read more here:

https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/spyway/barn-owl-ringing-helps-measure-nature-recovery

Letting in light

In October, our rangers began coppicing work in Langton West Wood with the help of volunteers. Coppicing is a traditional woodland management technique where trees are cut down close to ground level. New shoots grow quickly from the stump.



Speckled wood butterfly. Courtesy Mark Singleton

Coppicing benefits the woodland by creating a diverse age structure. It also opens up areas of the woodland floor, creating sunlit areas where wildflowers can thrive. This attracts insects, birds and mammals. The cut material will be used to create a dead hedge to protect the regrowth from deer browsing.

New insights into Winspit's bats

We've reported before about the nighttime 'bat highway' that runs over the Corfe Valley during the autumn swarming season. These bats are heading to and from Winspit Quarry, one of the most important bat sites in the country. Together with Dorset Bat Group, we are still collating the data collected by audio detectors installed in the quarry in 2024. It has taken some time to do this – the detectors generated almost 4TB of data!

Cricket calls and other species were removed from the dataset leaving almost 150,000 files of bat recordings. Analysis was done with specialist software and expertise from the RSPB. We are now summarising the findings, but the headlines are:



Grey long-eared bat, Courtesy Nick Tomlinson

- The most recordings were from the common pipistrelle.
- There was a high proportion of barbastelle bats, a woodland specialist species which is drawn to Winspit in the autumn swarming season.
- Amongst the rarest bats to be recorded were the grey long-eared, along with a number of greater horseshoes, our largest bat species.

Overall, 15 of the UK's 17 native breeding species of bat have now been recorded at Winspit.

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

Cathy Lewis, the National Trust

National Trust News from the Castle

During the first siege of the Castle in 1643, local people counted the cost. On 14 November 1643, Corfe tradesman Richard Brine petitioned Parliament. He claimed that in May 1643 Lady Mary Bankes had raised a garrison of over 80-armed men at the castle, ruining Purbeck and bringing the county under Royalist control. A staunch Parliamentarian, Brine said soldiers took £200 of his goods and pulled down two of his houses for stone to use against the besiegers. He asked to be compensated from Lady Bankes's estate.

Pumpkins The pumpkins used during our October half-term activities have all gone off to local Margaret Green Animal Sanctuary for the animals to enjoy.

Castle Lit 18th November. We are lighting the castle with orange to raise awareness about LMNA-related congenital muscular dystrophy and related LMNA conditions.

Mindfulness Walk, Friday 27 November 8:45-10am. Join us for a free guided walk through the ruins before visitors arrive. Booking is essential via website.



Castle in the mist. Image courtesy Ben Buxton

Surgery and Patient Participation Group

"What a lovely surprise to be given a flu jab and offered cake and coffee!" -said a grateful patient.
On Saturday 3rd October '26 the Corfe Surgery team, supported by PPG members, provided 460 flu vaccinations - a record number of attendances for the hard working team who coped admirably with a steady flow of patients for the whole session. Team work at its best for this very well organised morning .

Thank you to all.

The morning which becomes a "social gathering" for many also benefited from a Macmillan coffee morning organised by Dilys Thomas raising an amazing £435.65 for this excellent cause.(twice as much as last year)
For those who missed the session,appointments can be made through the surgery and Dr Lepper may be leading another Saturday session later in the month (but no coffee and cake this time!)

I have now become a member of the PPG led Exercise group which meets on Thursday morning at Corfe Village Hall at the new time of 10 -11. The benefits of this chair based exercise class, in a friendly group led by Vanessa Neish, are valuable and recommended. If you are interested please contact Sally on 01929 439052 to book a place. Session cost is £8 with some concessions available for Corfe residents.

The Surgery is still losing a lot of clinical time due to patients not attending booked appointments. Please cancel any unwanted appointments so that they can be offered to other patients .

Our recently extended PPG group will be meeting later this month to discuss any issues, ideas that have been raised during our PPG survey - we will feedback in this column.

Maggie Hardy, PPG Chair

Patients of the Practice who were with us in the Portacabin Days will be sad to hear of the death of Ruth Lewis – a much-loved colleague and friend to us all

Information from Joan Ingarfield

BANKES ARMS

CORFE CASTLE

Village pub & dining with rooms

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Pies: Our kitchen team have created some wonderful pies with mashed potato, beer braised hispi cabbage and pie gravy. Available throughout November.

Autumn Rugby Internationals from 6th to 29th
shown in the private Castle room, with direct access to the bar.
Enjoy a pint and an incredible hot dog!
Great food and great drinks served all day.

DECEMBER

Quiz: Tuesday 15th December, 7pm start.
Christmas movie & music quiz hosted by Quizmaster Zac with **'BBFC'** Bankes Buttermilk fried chicken in a basket with corn, slaw, fries & gravy. *(please order when reserving your table)*

NEW YEARS EVE 2026

We're keeping this one straight forward with no gimmicks, no deafening bands and no overpriced set menus.

Join us for a glass of wine, some great cask ales and a good old-fashioned night at the pub, in front of the fire with a nostalgic playlist in the background. We're serving some incredibly tasty small plates which you can share or keep all to yourself, and you can have as many or as little as you wish.

*Also, don't forget to book your **Christmas party**.*
The diary is filling up. Call in to grab a menu or visit us online.

FESTIVE OPENING HOURS

24th open as normal
25th CLOSED
26th open from 12 noon for **Brunch**
31st open as normal until late
1st Jan open from 12 noon for **Brunch**

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Corfe Castle Village Hall



Grand Fun Quiz Night

Sunday 28th November 2026

7pm for 7.30pm

in aid of the Village Hall Funds

Nibbles will be provided, Drinks & Cheese Straws will be on sale, and also tickets for a half-time Raffle

quizmaster
Bazza



Come as a team of up to 6
Or come by yourselves to make up a team on the night



Tickets £5 each or team of 5 or 6 for just £25
at the door or in advance from David on 07590 352219

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November sees us fully stocked for Christmas – certain ranges are limited, so best grab things whilst you can!

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It's definitely the month to buy our perenially popular advent candles and calendars.



It's also officially the start of the 'Twinkly Light Season', and we've plenty of options to ward away the gloomy days, as well as candles, candle holders, tea lights and wax melts.

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

Budapest Café Orchestra

A welcome return of the hugely talented gypsy-style quartet, who last played here in Corfe Castle in 2018. Eminent violinist Christian Garrick is joined by guitarist Adrian Zolotuhin, accordianist Eddie Hessian and double bassist Kelly Cantelan.

They use their roots in classical / jazz music to influence their performance of Balkan folk tunes, with Brahms, Mahler and maybe a bit of ELO thrown in. Expect to see four great musicians showing off their talent and having fun! I'm hoping Adrian will get his Saz or perhaps his Domra out.

Light refreshments will be available.

"The fiery vivacity and awe-inspiring musicianship of the finest purveyors of Eastern European gypsy music this side of a Lada scrap heap will leave you with a grin on your face and rhythm in your feet..."

Saturday December 12th 2026 at 7.30pm

Tickets (£13 adult, £6 u18) available from www.artsreach.co.uk, the Village Stores or David on 07590 352219

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OUR AUTUMN DEALS CONTINUE …

Monday – Friday, 12pm – 5pm

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

Sunday Evening Roast

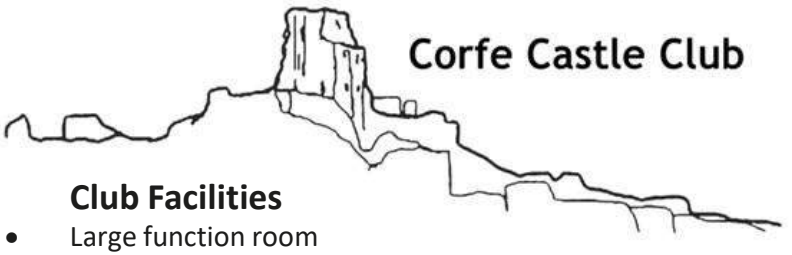
Buy one get one free on our roast dinners every Sunday evening from 6 – 8pm in October. Advance bookings only.

Winter Warming Wine Tasting - Wednesday 4th November, 7pm

Join us by the fire to try some winter wines, accompanied by a selection of local cheese and biscuits. Dan our sommelier will be joining us for the evening to talk us through the 6 different samples. £35 a head, which includes 6 small glasses of wine and a cheeseboard.

Apres Ski Night - Friday 11th December, 7pm

Back by popular demand – join us for some Alpine fun, drinks and food!



Corfe Castle Club

Club Facilities

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

Opening Times

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

Weekly Events

Poker Night:	Wed 8.30pm
One Card Bingo:	Fri 8.30pm
Meat Draw:	Sat evening
Chase the Ace:	Sat 8pm-9.30pm
One Card Bingo:	Sun 1.00pm

Forthcoming Events

Sat 14th Nov - 8.30pm
Music - The Prestige

Sat 12th Dec – 7.30pm
Members Christmas Draw

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

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CORFE CASTLE
COMMUNITY LIBRARY

News from the Library
November 2026

November is going to be a very busy month in the library. There is not just one talk being held this month but TWO! You may have seen posters or read about the **Friendly Food Club**. They will be talking at the library on

TUESDAY November 10th 2026 at 2pm

and will be giving us tips and hints on food swaps, food labels and how to make sure you get your '5 a day'.

Exactly one week later, on

TUESDAY 17TH November 2026 at 2pm

Nigel Hayward CVO will be presenting his talk entitled **'The Falklands, Resolute Islands in Turbulent Seas'** which is bound to give us more food for thought but in a different way!

A warm welcome awaits you so please come along to our talks in the Community Library and if you feel you would like to join in as a volunteer any time, for a few hours per month, please drop in and speak to one of the volunteers on duty. No experience necessary as training is given.

On the subject of training, all the volunteers have currently been renewing their GDPR (Data Protection) training which is provided by Dorset Council. By this means, the public can rest assured that their personal details are kept secure by the library system. Please ask if you have any questions.

Opening hours: Monday 3-5pm; Wednesday 10-12 noon and 3-5pm; Friday 3-5pm; Saturday 10-12 noon

GS

Corfe Castle Village Hall

general news:

The September coffee morning raised £170.50 for VH funds. Many thanks to all our volunteers who work tirelessly to set the room up. Those attending value the chance to chat with fellow villlagers - but we could do with a few more regulars…. "use it or lose it"!

The September 100 club draw took place at the coffee morning. The first prize of £20 was won by member *80,* with member *8* getting second prize £10 and member *45* winning the third prize £5. If you would like to join the many villagers who support their local village hall in this way contact Penny Barker on 01929 481477.

We offer a large amount of secure storage space, currently all occupied. For news on future availablitity please contact Judith Jenkins on 01929 480216.

regular weekly events:

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

regular monthly events:

1st Saturday morning	VH Coffee Morning
1st Saturday lunchtime	Soup 'n Pud
1st Sunday all day	Cameo Antiques Fair
1st Tuesday afternoon	Aquarius
1st Thursday evening	Gardening Club
2nd Monday evening	Parish Council
4th Wednesday afternoon	U3A Scrabble

Soup 'n Pud

The VH Trustees wish to recognise the great support for our community shown by the Soup 'n Pud team. In addition to the splendid sum of £825 raised at the recent Eastern Promise fund-raiser evening, Soup 'n Pud have also spent nearly £500 on frying pans, knives, chopping boards, trays and storage boxes.

If you do not usually come to the VH coffee morning and / or the Soup 'n Pud lunch on the first Saturday morning each month, why not give it a try? It is a good way to maintain links with friends and neighbours, and to celebrate our strength as a commmunity.

Date for your Diary

On Saturday 28th November we have another of Baz's amazing VH Quiz Nights. Watch out for an advert in the November CVN and think about putting a team together!

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

CHRISTMAS BINGO BONANZA!

SUPPORTING ST EDWARD'S CHURCH

CORFE CASTLE

FRIDAY 4TH DECEMBER 6.30 FOR 7PM at

The Bill Carter Room, **Corfe Castle Village Hall**

£10 includes Bingo Books, **Christmas Prizes!**

and a free glass of Mulled Wine & Mince Pie

There will be a Raffle!

Funds raised will go towards the upkeep of St Edward's Church

Tickets: Elizabeth 07703 387189

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VAUGHAN WILLIAMS
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CHILCOTT
On Christmas Night

SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER AT 6.30PM
ST MARY'S CHURCH, SWANAGE

Soprano: GRACE LOVELASS Organ: SIMON LOLE

with David Fawcett and The Choristers of St Mary's Church

Conductor: JOHN WATKINS

Tickets: £12 in advance from Corbens or
enquiries purbeckchoir@gmail.com
retiring collection for Purbeck Youth Music
www.purbeckartschoir.org.uk

The Porches of Corfe Castle

There are a couple of porches with columns in the village. They provided cover from the weather when stepping out of a horsedrawn stagecoach and drew attention to the entrance. Heavy baggage could be off-loaded from the roof of the coach directly onto the top of the porch and distributed to the guests' rooms more easily so having a porch was quite useful. There are two examples of this that can be still seen today – The Greyhound and the Village Stores.

The Greyhound's porch is the earliest one dated to 1733 and shown with the initials I C (the I was the old way of writing J) standing for John Cockram of Bucknowle.



It had a room over the top. John paid 6d. annually to the mayor and barons to use the 2 goads of ground it stood on. The Inn was called the 'Black Dog' then.

Next-door to the 'Black Dog' stood another house which also had a porch (see drawing below). This was erected in 1757 by one Henry Brown. It was eventually infilled becoming a shop. The land had been rented out by Nicholas Cobb, a blacksmith in 1696 for 6d. annually. The house is now part of 'The Greyhound'.



One pillar was removed and a door created but another can still be seen along with the bases of the other two facing East Street. Were these pillars used for The Bankes Arms?



The Village Shop's porch was made in 1756 also for the annual rent of 6d. It too has a room over the columns and was part of an old building which became called 'The Royal Oak Inn'.



The Bankes Arms originally had iron railings at the front of the property for a rent of 1s. 6d. From this ….



To this in 1921 …



To the current frontage rebuilt with two slightly tapered, Purbeck stone columns (maybe from Cobb's property?) dated Christmas 1935.



Louise Haywood



We are pleased to announce the date for this year's switch on of the Christmas lights:
Saturday 5th December 2026

The lights will be switched on at 5pm with refreshments available from around 4pm. This will be followed by…
…THE ARRIVAL OF FATHER CHRISTMAS

The arrival of Father Christmas through the square will be followed by the distribution of gifts at a magical event inside the National Trust Tea Room BY TICKET ONLY.

This event will only be advertised in the CVN to avoid crowd problems and we respectfully request that you do not share details on social media

Please note!

As a local organisation we focus on local schoolchildren (up to end of year 6, i.e. up to 12 years of age), their younger siblings, plus children, grandchildren, etc., who are visiting our local residents.

- If you have a child at Corfe Castle School or Pre-school, tickets for your family will be made available by the school… NO NEED TO CONTACT US.
- If you require tickets, for local child(ren) who attend school elsewhere or if you live in the village and have child visitors, please email ccfestivities@gmail.com with your name, address, number of tickets and age of children. *Only if you do not have email, and cannot ask someone to email on your behalf, as a last resort send a text to 07584 079401*.

A small number of leftover tickets may be available on the night

WE ALWAYS WELCOME OFFERS OF HELP WITH MARSHALLING AND OTHER DUTIES. If you would like to help, please email ccfestivities@gmail.com

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NACE

The Castle Inn



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News from The Castle

We're coming to the end of Autumn, but that only means we have room for one for more theme night before the festive celebrations commence. Let's see what we have in store.

Saturday 14th of November is Western Night!

We're getting ready for a rootin', tootin' evening here at The Castle Inn. Get your cowboy boots on and ready for a fun filled evening of hearty food, good times & entertaining staff. Taking bookings now!

Thursday night is Steak Night!

Don't forget to come and see us on Thursdays for our infamous steak nights! Beautiful, tender cuts of beef cooked just how you like it and served with all the trimmings! We get especially booked up on this night, so please be ensure to call us to reserve your table.

Christmas Menu from the 1st of December

We know it's a little early, but we are now taking bookings for your Christmas parties. Our menu is ready with delicious, festive courses and we are looking forward to hosting you. Pop in or give us a call for more information.

From the Team at The Castle Inn, we wish you a wonderful November.



Mortons Manor Festive Dinner Menu

Available for Lunch £42 (2 courses) or £52 (3 courses)
Dinner £62.50

HOMEMADE BREAD
Flavoured butter

JERUSALEM ARTICHOKE & WILD MUSHROOM SOUP
Cheese Beignet

MISO GLAZED PRAWNS
Celeriac, wasabi & apple remoulade

BLACK FIG CARPACCIO
Feta, orange, pomegranate & candied walnut salad, maple & aged balsamic dressing

CHICKEN, HAZELNUT & TARRAGON BALLONTINE
Bacon jam & sourdough crisps

BLOOD ORANGE & PROSECCO MIMOSA GRANITÉ
served only with Dinner

ROAST BREAST OF TURKEY
Pistachio & apricot stuffing, duck fat roasted potatoes, smoked bacon chipolatas, maple glazed parsnips, braised red cabbage, carrot & swede purée, Brussels sprouts, turkey & sage jus, cranberry & orange sauce

CONFIT OF DUCK LEG
Puy coriander & tomato lentils, ginger & sesame bok choi & crispy rice noodles

BLACK GARLIC CRUMB SEABASS
Confit of roasted root vegetables, winter greens & beetroot dressing

ROAST BUTTERNUT SQUASH
Sage, chestnut & wild mushroom risotto

CHESTNUT CAKE
Pumpkin spiced ice cream

TANZANIAN DARK CHOCOLATE & ORANGE DELICE
Sesame crisp, coffee sorbet

ROASTED SPICED PEAR
Almond, orange curd, crystallised ginger & croissant ice cream

STEAMED CHRISTMAS PUDDING
Cranberry & nut granola, brandy sauce

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DRAW PURBECK

Draw Purbeck Places — CVN Local Drawing Competition

We're inviting local artists of all ages and abilities to pick up their pencil, charcoal, or pen and capture the spirit of Purbeck in black and white.

The CVN is a long-standing admirer of P R Gross, whose drawings frequently appear on the cover and would like to find more talent amongst its readership.



THE BRIEF

Black and white drawings only!
Places — landscapes, coastline, countryside, or buildings (nature, built, or both)

WHY ENTER

Shortlisted entries will be published in the Corfe Valley News, with the very best in the running to feature as a future cover image.
Depending on interest, we may host a small exhibition for up-and-coming local artists. Is it you?

HOW TO ENTER

- Deadline: 15. December 2026
- Submit by email to corfevalleynews@gmail.com
- Subject"DRAW PURBECK PLACES"
- Format: Jpg or pdf - original available upon request
- Include your name, a short bio, inspiration and what the drawing is showing
- Eligibility: Open to all artists living in or connected to Purbeck
- A selection will be published in the January edition

We are looking forward to your submissions!
Stephen and Maria

SHARP SKILLS AND CREATIVITY DISPLAYED IN SECOND YEAR OF BSO MUSIC-MAKING COMPETITION

Sharp instrumental skills and infectious creativity have been displayed by non-professional musicians across the UK, as the BSO Music-Making Competition awards its trio of winners, from Dorset, London and York.

A student, an account manager and a part-time midwife, student and carer have been announced as winners of the BSO Music-Making Competition 2026. The Competition, sponsored by Lark Music, part of Howden, offered non-professional instrumentalists the chance to win part of a £3,000 cash prize pot.

Over 100 people answered a call for 'your music, your way' from UK residents for whom music-making isn't the day job. From thirty finalists, three winners won a £1,000 cash prize to support their musicianship. The judges, presenter Helen Arney; sound engineer Chris Caton; violinist Tania Davis; conductor Enyi Okpara; broadcaster Tom Service; BSO Principal Cello Jesper Svedberg; and guitarist Dagan Wilkin, assessed recordings on control, creativity, musicality and communication.

The musical journey of flautist Jen Townsend, winner of the 40+ category, paused for more than 20 years, while she focused on life as a midwife and carer. In 2024, inspired by her new partner, and having navigated a series of personal challenges, she purchased a flute and resumed a deep and lifelong passion to perform. Now 48 and a student at the Royal Northern College of Music (RNCM), Jen hopes her story will "*inspire other people to return to making music*".

Jen's love of playing saw her progress through examinations, local ensembles and county groups to undergraduate study, before other work took centre stage. She returned to study last year at the University of Leeds, before taking her place at the RNCM. Her performance of Edwin Roxburgh's *Stardrift* was described by judges as "*extraordinary*" and "*virtuosic*". Jen was introduced to the work by her teacher, Dr Carla Rees, who herself studied with Roxburgh. Jen plans to spend her winnings on her postgraduate fees.

During his time as a postgraduate student at Cardiff University, pianist Brandon Roku Ali, winner of the 25-39 category, would spend the twilight hours practising piano in a hospital chapel, where he found peace and solace and repeatedly connected to a vision of being under water, from which *Walking on Water* was composed.

Roku Ali's performance was described by judges as "*compelling*" and "*seamless*". Brandon explained: "*The work unites two experiences: the intimate, bodily sensation of floating and finding relief in water; and, inspired by the biblical story of Moses and the parting of the Red Sea, the collective, almost mythological experience of crossing through water towards freedom.*"

Brandon's love of music was nurtured at Poole High School, Dorset, where he heard performances by the BSO. His earliest influences, in Equatorial Guinea, included Western artists, Bollywood and rap; he later found a lasting love of Beethoven and Mozart. Having reignited his musical purpose during Covid, he plans to use his winnings to host a concert in 2027 inspired by Beethoven.

Saxophonist Charlie Ashworth-Jerem, winner of the 18-24 category, enjoys performing Eugène Bozza's *Pulcinella*, which he described as "*a mythical and cheeky gremlin-like creature. It's a fun piece to play.*" Raised in an arts-loving household, his musical journey began as a pianist and boy chorister at Lincoln Cathedral, before the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff.

Judges described his winning performance as "*confident*" with "*a real sense of fun and joy*". A current postgraduate student at London's Royal College of Music, he studies with Kyle Horch and Martin Robertson. Having also recently won the College's prestigious Concerto Competition, he is set to perform Henri Tomasi's Saxophone Concerto next January.

Now in its second year, the BSO Music-Making Competition is sponsored by Lark Music, part of Howden, specialist insurers dedicated to protecting musicians and their instruments. Find out more at larkmusic.com/bso.

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's Chief Executive, Dougie Scarfe OBE DL, said: "*The BSO Music-Making Competition exists to inspire, encourage and initiate music-making, so to see such an outpouring of musicality from people across the UK is deeply moving. The range of talent and breadth of instrumentation on display confirms what we know to be true, that creativity is all around us if we take the time to listen. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who submitted a recording, and congratulations to the winning entrants, Charlie, Brandon and Jen.*"

Lark Music Insurance's Partnership Account Executive, Brian Hillstead, said: "*We're delighted to sponsor an initiative that celebrates the creativity, dedication and passion behind musicians and their instruments. The standard of entries was exceptional, and we were inspired by the variety of instruments and styles on display. We send our congratulations to Charlie, Brandon and Jen. Bravo!*"

A registered charity, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra exists to bring music into people's lives. The Orchestra also supports people of all ages and backgrounds across creative health and wellbeing, music education and community music-making. Last year, it delivered almost 48,000 participations in outreach activities, in 122 venues across the South West.

4. November	Wednesday	7pm	The Fox Inn	Winter Warming Wine Tasting
5. November	Thursday	7.45 pm	Village Hall, Corfe Castle	Gardening Club Meeting with Simon Goldsack
6. - 29. November			Bankes Arms	Autumn Rugby Internationals from 6th to 29th
7. November	Saturday	12.30 - 1.45pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Soup ‘n’ Pud
9. November	Monday	7pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Corfe Castle Parish Council
10. November	Tuesday	2pm	Corfe Castle Community Library	Friendly Food Club.
10. November	Tuesday	6.30pm	Church Knoll Village Hall	Church Knoll Parish Council
14. November	Saturday	2.30pm & 7pm	St Aldhelm’s Church	The Sound of Musicals
14. November	Saturday	8.30pm	Corfe Castle Club	Music - The Prestige
17. November	Tuesday	2pm	Corfe Castle Community Library	‘The Falklands, Resolute Islands in Turbulent Seas’
18. - 20. November		7.30 pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Double Act – The Cat and the Canary
18. November			Corfe Castle	Castle Lit
21. November	Saturday	5 pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Double Act – The Cat and the Canary
27. November	Friday	8.45am 10am	Corfe Castle	Mindfulness Walk
27. November	Friday	7.30pm	Kimmeridge Village Hall	Kimmeridge Keilidh
28. November	Saturday	12pm 4pm	Kingston Country Courtyard	Dorset Food & Drink Christmas Market
28. November	Saturday	6.30pm	St Peters Church, Church Knowle	Folke & Verse
28. November	Saturday	7pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Grand Fun Quiz Night

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

3. - 5. December			Emmanuel Baptist Church	Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival
4. December	Friday	6.30pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Christmas Bingo Bonanza!
4. December	Friday		Kingston Country Courtyard	80s & 90s Christmas Party,
5. December	Saturday	2pm	All Saints Church, Swanage	Singing for Christmas with Harmony Rocks Choir
5. December	Saturday	6.30pm	St Mary’s Church, Swanage	Purbeck Arts Choir
5. December	Saturday		Kingston Country Courtyard	80s & 90s Christmas Party,
7. December		7pm	Kimmeridge Village Hall	Kimmeridge Bingo Night
11. December	Friday	7pm	The Fox Inn	Apres Ski Night
11. December	Friday	7pm	Kingston Country Courtyard	Comedy Evening
12. December	Saturday	7.30pm	Corfe Castle Club	Members Christmas Draw
12. December	Saturday	7.30pm	Corfe Castle Village Hall	Budapest Café Orchestra
15. December	Tuesday	7pm	Bankes Arms	Christmas movie & music quiz

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**
revlouisewhite@outlook.com
01929 208578

Associate Priest Nick Webb 07866 546162
fulloflifegardens@googlemail.com

Pioneer Associate Priest – Lindy Cameron 01929 208469
revlindyjane@gmail.com

Enquiries for Baptisms / Weddings / Funerals / Banns

For Kingston contact the Parish Administrator

admin@staldhelm-purback.org **01929 427822**

For Corfe and the Valley Churches please contact Lynette McCallum

lynetterees21@yahoo.co.uk

www.staldhelmpurbeck.wordpress.com

Church Wardens in the Valley Churches

Corfe Castle: Penelope Smith 480109 Jeremy McCallum 480389

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

Revd Richard writes,

"Whose earth?" I shouted. **"God's earth!"** they all shouted back.

It was a couple of weeks ago, at the Key Stage 2 Harvest Service for Corfe Primary School. We had practised a three part response, and the children were calling out their lines enthusiastically.

Whose earth? **God's earth!**

Whose earth? **Our earth!**

Whose earth? **My earth!**

The idea was to see the world in three ways.

Firstly, before anything else, that Christians believe this precious, beautiful world is *God's* earth. Entrusted to us to care for with wonder and reverence. God's earth.

Secondly that it is *our* earth. To be shared. A reminder that *our* includes our local community and also our global community. Includes those who have very little and those in places where creation is most fragile or exploited. It is our earth.

And thirdly that it is *my* earth in the sense that each one of us gets to play a part in caring for creation. In the face of global issues that can seem so overwhelming that we all too easily feel our bit makes no difference, it is *my* earth. A reminder of the importance of looking after my bit however small.

Services in November 2026

Sunday 1st November

Corfe Castle – 10.30am	Holy Communion

Sunday 8th November Remembrance Sunday

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am	Remembrance Service
Kingston – 10.50 am	Remembrance Service
Tyneham – 3 pm	Remembrance Service

Sunday 15th November

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

Sunday 22nd November

Corfe Castle – 10.30 am,	Morning Worship
Kingston – 11.30 am	Holy Communion

Sunday 29th November

Church Knowle – 10.30 am	Benefice Service
Kingston – 6pm	Darkness to light

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

Bible Readings – November 2026

Sunday 1st November	Twenty third Sunday after Pentecost
	1Thessalonians2:9 - 13
	Matthew 23:1 - 12
Sunday 8th November	Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
	1Thessalonians4:13-18
	Matthew 25:1-13
Sunday 15th November	Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
	1Thessalonians5:1-11
	Matthew 25:14-30
Sunday 22nd November	Last Sunday after Pentecost
	Ephesians 1:15-23
	Matthew 25:31-46
Sunday 29th November	First Sunday of Advent
	1 Corinthians 1:3-9
	Mark 13:24-37



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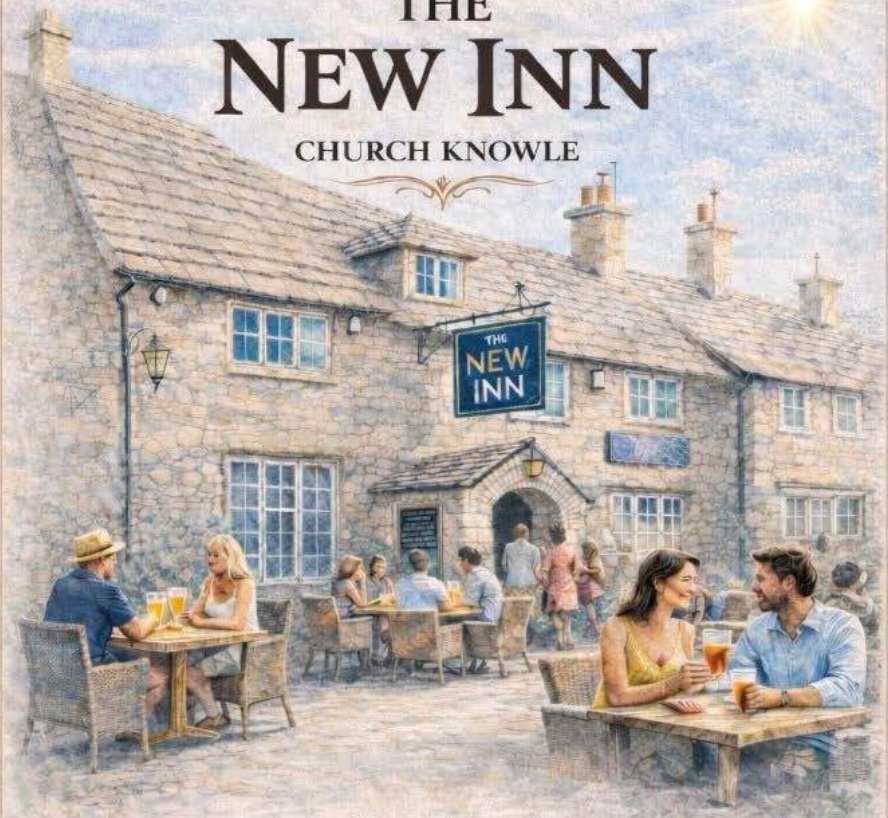
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KINGSTON COUNTRY
COURTYARD

Dorset Food & Drink Christmas Market

Join us on Saturday 28th November for our christmas market between 12 & 4. Full of local produce, festive flavours and crafts. The event is free to attend & doggies are of course welcome!



Festive Parties

Celebrate with our 80s & 90s Christmas Party, three-course dinner & DJ on Friday 4th December, or kick up your heels at Boots & Baubles line dancing on Saturday 5th December. Limited spaces available, book now!

Comedy Evening

A little wit, a lot of laughter and a brilliant night out! Join us on the 11th December where three talented comedians take to the stage for an evening of feel-good entertainment.





New Year's Eve

Welcome 2027 in style with an elegant evening featuring a seven-course gourmet dinner, live DJ, music and dancing, finishing with a midnight countdown in the beautiful surroundings of Kingston Country Courtyard.

Sawmill Restaurant

Come and join us to dine in the Sawmill restaurant for our local's lunch (Monday-Thursday). Enjoy 2 Course's for £15 or 3 for £20 .

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Notices and Thanks

Corfe Castle Gardening Club

Autumn has certainly arrived and no doubt bulbs are still going in and plans are being made for the rest of the year and next spring and summer. I love sitting round a warm fire with catalogues and i-pad making plans and a small wildlife pond is certainly on my list.

On 1st October Joy Michaud gave us a fantastic talk about growing all types of vegetables in containers. Joy won a gold medal at Chelsea this year. She and her husband only use containers for vegetable growing. They feel growing this way it is easier to control the needs of the plant and to control any pests that might attack them. However, plants will need their moisture levels monitored and she recommended using a moisture gauge inserted into the soil to do this regularly. She encouraged us to experiment planting in different types of containers, but reminded us to think carefully about their depth as they needed to match the growth needs of the plant.
Joy also talked at length about the viability of composts now on sale, she advised us to only buy compost when we needed it as it doesn't have a very long shelf life.

Sea Spring Seeds is a local Dorset seed company that Joy and her husband Michael run. The company specialises in growing all sorts of vegetables and harvests their seeds which they sell. They are particularly known for the huge number of unique chilli peppers that they cultivate. Including the Naga chilli, one of the hottest in the world!

Her talk was full of good practical advice and much enjoyed by all who attended the meeting.

5th. November we have our old friend Simon Goldsack from Holme for Gardens who will be talking to us about Garden Design. Not to be missed!

We are looking forward to seeing you.

If you are interested in Gardens and Gardening and would like to join a friendly local group, please get in touch with Chris on 01929 805210 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, from 7.45 pm

for coffee and starting the programme at 8pm. Subscriptions for the year are £15 per person. Non-members are welcome to join us for £3 if they are interested in a particular talk.

Chris Clarke For the Committee

REMEMBRANCE 2026



On Remembrance Sunday, 8th November 2026, there will be two services:
At 1030 in St Edward, King and Martyr, in Corfe Castle and afterwards at the Old Church Cemetery.
At 1500 in St Mary's Church, Tyneham.

On Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 1100 there will be a 2-minute silence in The Square, Corfe Castle.

Free digital advice sessions in Swanage

Do you know someone who needs help with their digital device? Do you or a friend have a technical issue you'd like solved? Want to learn more about online services such as booking GP appointments or applying for benefits online? Then Dorset Council's volunteer digital champions are ready to help you in Swanage Library.

They hold bookable face-to-face sessions at Swanage Library on Mondays from 2:00pm – 5:00pm. To book an appointment go into the library or call the Digital Hotline on 01305 221048.



Corfe Crafters

Wednesday 9.00am to 12 midday

Contact Cheryl - 07745242511

The Churchfitters

Folk trio, The Churchfitters, are set to return to Harmans Cross Village Hall by popular demand.
The Churchfitters are a folk band like no other, with a double bass made out of a saucepan and heart-wrenching vocals accompanied by a musical saw or a glass harp. They play infectious funk-rock rhythms and traditional tunes reinvigorated with mesmerising jazz sax.
The band is made up of Rosie and Chris Short and Boris Lebret who comes from Lannion in France. Boris hates to play a regular instrument when he can cobble together a better one out of scrap metal!
Their previous concerts at the Harmans Cross Village Hall have been sell outs and they will be returning again on Friday November 6, starting at 7.30pm.
There is a special 'early bird' ticket offer of £16 per ticket available from when they go on sale at 9am on Tuesday September 1, with the price from October 1 then being £17.50. Tickets can only be booked via the hall's website at https://www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk/Special-Events/Seating is unreserved and there is a licenced bar and car parking available. Proceeds from the concert go to the hall's funds.
Bob Bunyar. Concert Organiser 01929 289209

Dorset Button Morris Dancers





Dorset Button Morris dancers are in great need of new dancers in order for us to continue beyond 2027. It would be a shame for this tradition to disappear from our local area after over 30 years of dancing and collecting over £50000 for local charities.
Our ladies side dance NW Morris and they practice every Wednesday during autumn and winter and our men's side practice most Sundays during autumn and winter.
Please contact jacky.noyce@sky.com for our ladies and geoffmetcalf960@yahoo.co.uk for our men's side.
Dorset Button Morris dancers have now finished their summer dancing and during the Wednesday dancing we collected £850 for Will does charity. We thank all that came to watch us and help us to collect this. Please come and watch us next year or better than that, come and join us.

Margaret Green

I recently attended the October Church Knowle Parish Council meeting to give an update on our consultations. I was able to let them know that our Board of Trustees has decided to pause the proposal for new kennels for rescue dogs at Church Knowle. They are taking the opportunity to fully consider and reflect on the views that have been expressed to us. No decision has been made, and we will keep in touch with local residents and everyone who cares about our work as our thinking develops. In the meantime, we will continue with our planning application to reopen the area at the southernmost end of our Church Knowle site for horses and farm animals, known as The Chase.

I plan to attend future Parish Council meetings over the coming months, but if anyone would like to get in touch with feedback or questions then please do contact me at ceo@mgar.org.uk

Claire Sime Head of Marketing & Fundraising
01929 794424 claire.sime@mgar.org.uk
www.margaretgreenanimalrescue.org.uk
Church Knowle Rehoming & Visitor Centre, Wareham, BH20 5NQ
Registered Charity Number: 1167990

HARMONY ROCKS CHOIR

A New Venue for our Singing for Christmas concert this year - All Saints Church, Ulwell Road, Swanage. There will be a warm Christmasy atmosphere awaiting you on 5 December for our concert starting at 2pm. We have a very seasonal programme of traditional and festive songs for you to enjoy and yes, your favourite part is still included!
In support of our chosen charity PurbeckParkys, a Christmas themed raffle gives you the chance of a prize to enhance your festive celebrations. And to follow the concert - those light refreshments that get more delicious each year.
Tickets are £5.00 on sale from 4 November from Swanage News, Station Road, Swanage or Sue Smith 01929 477148 or Anne Elford 01929 288325.
For your diary - 5 December 2026 at 2pm All Saints Church, Swanage, Singing for Christmas with Harmony Rocks Choir.

Church Knowle Live

Join us at St Peter's Church, Church Knowle, for the final CK LIVE event of 2026: a celebration of Folk and Verse with award winning Poetry from Sophie Dumont, and music from Folk Duo, The Fieldcaps and Bouzouki player and Folk Artist, Alex Horsley. Tickets are available from **ticketsource.com/cklive** or call **07879 473693** for more information.

The Trustees of the Friends of St Peter's charity would like to thank all those who have supported our CK LIVE events in 2026, raising vital funds for the maintenance of St Peter's Church. We look forward to introducing an exciting new programme for 2027.

The Sound of Musicals Saturday 14th November 2026

St Aldhelm's Church, St Aldhelm's Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset, BH13 6BT
Performances at 2:30pm and 7pm
The concert features some of the biggest and best-loved songs from musical theatre, including music from Mamma Mia!, The Greatest Showman, The Phantom of the Opera, Wicked, Hamilton, The Lion King, Les Misérables and more, all performed live by a string quartet in an immersive theatrical setting.

+44 7710 799 304 - local@candelabraconcerts.com candelabraconcerts.com

Purbeck Village Carol Party 2026

Come and join us in the weeks before Christmas to informally join in singing The Worth and other local Carols and Songs

No experience necessary, just come along to enjoy singing great songs – words/accompaniment/music provided

We're planning two 'initial get together's' the first at **Langton Matravers Village Hall at 2.30 pm on Saturday afternoon 7th November,** followed by another session at the **URC Church Hall in Swanage 2.30pm on Sunday 22nd November.**

We want these events to be informal, social and convivial occasions. We don't wish to **'perform'** these old Carols, but enjoy singing and hearing them in the Communities where they belong.

Words & Music plus Recordings (CDs) are available for those who are not

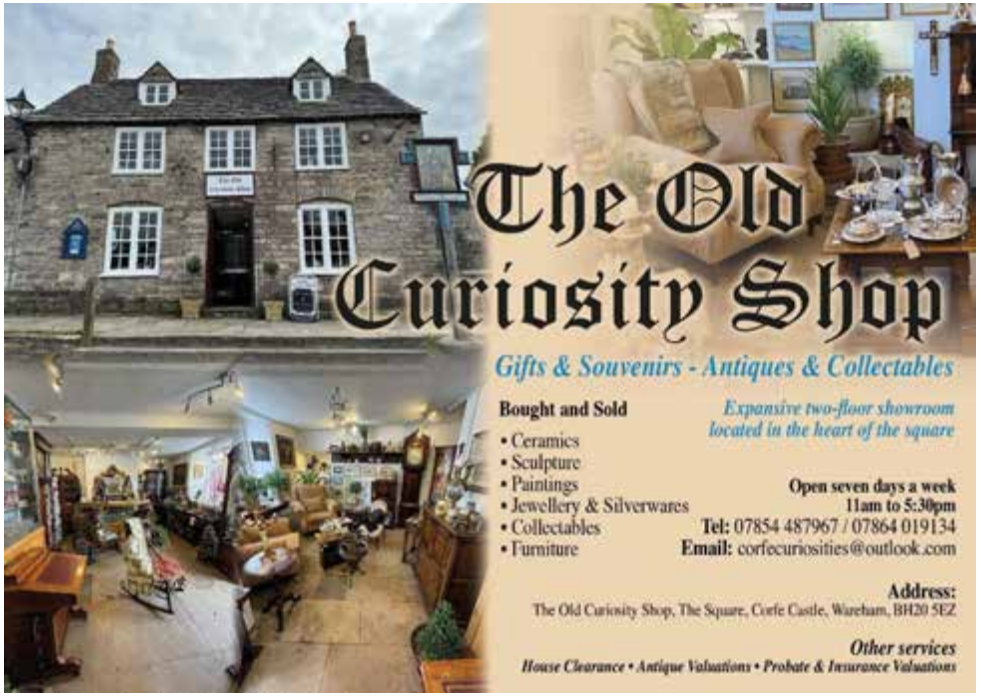
familiar with the material. Just ask Robin

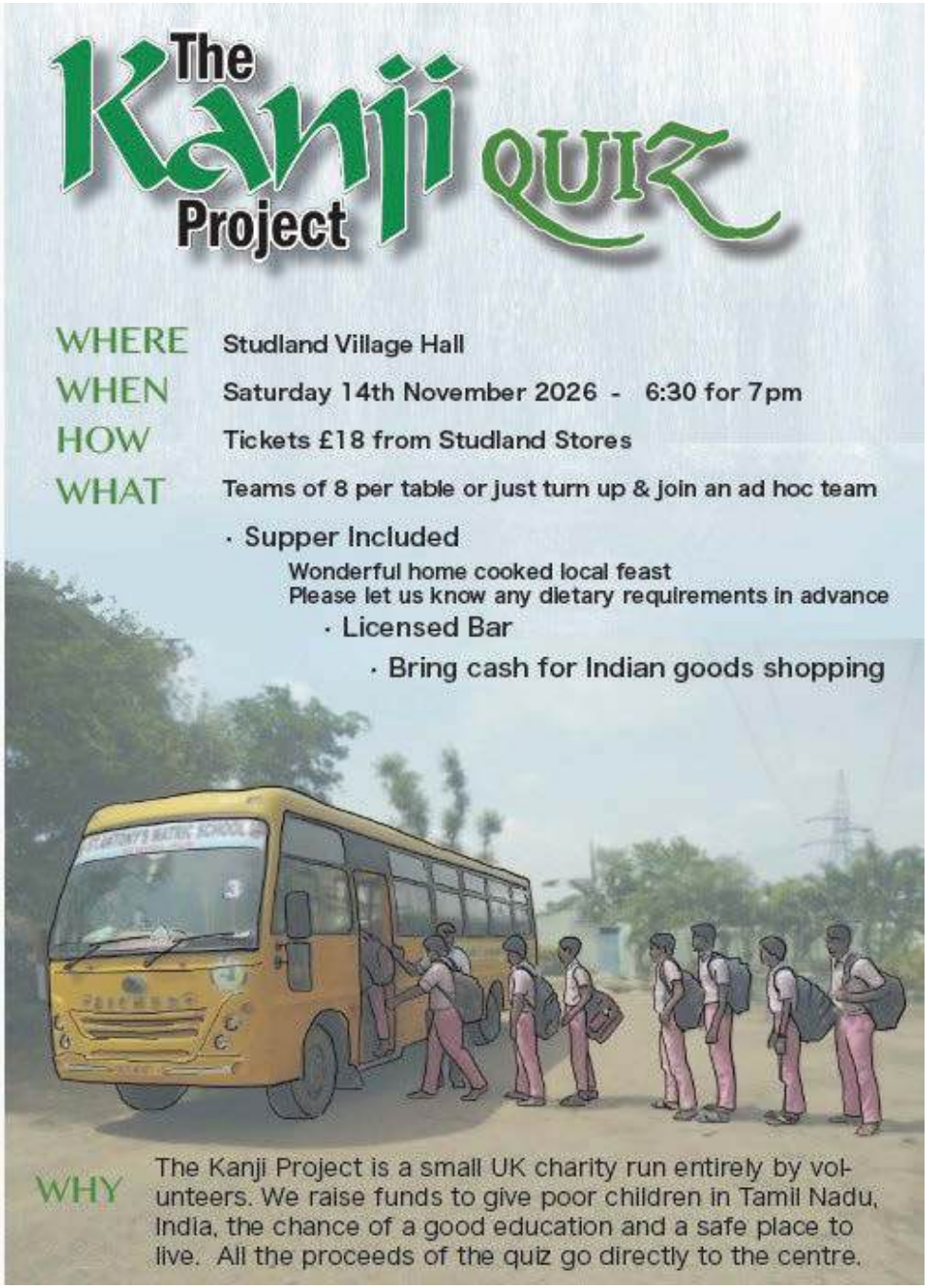
All abilities are welcome, especially those who say (think) they can't sing but are just interested. Feel free to drop into any of our Sessions and give it a go, there's plenty of repeat lines that are easy to pick up.

To register an interest or more information

Contact **Robin 01929 427037** plowmanswanage@gmail.com

There are 117 + Carols that were sung in various Purbeck Villages and many more if you include rest of Dorset.





CHAPEL ON THE GREEN

Finding Quiet And Community- Join Our Village Prayer Day

27 million Adults in the UK pray. 10 million pray regularly. Half of those who pray believe God hears their prayers. Of people who say they are not religious, 1 in 5 pray.

Most people have prayed in moments of desperation. The morning of a job interview. The night when a family member was sick. The 5 minutes before an exam.

Prayer is conversation with God. You don't need to use special words. You can pray out loud or silently. God knows what you think and is aware of all you do. You can talk to Him about anything. Its easier than you think. In the rush of everyday life, perhaps we all need a little time to be still, to reflect and to consider the hope and peace that God offers.

That is why the Chapel on the Green is opening its doors for a Village Prayer Day, and everyone, regardless of background or beliefs, is warmly invited. This is not just an event for regular Church goers, but is for the whole Community to gather and focus positive intentions, hope and prayer for our shared neighbourhood.

The day is designed to be completely flexible – low pressure and accessible. You can drop in for five minutes on your way past, or sit quietly for an hour or more. The Space will be set up with several interactive, gentle focus areas to guide your thoughts. The Chapel also has a dedicated Space with just a couple of rows of chairs at the front to reflect; write a private prayer for loved ones who are sick, grieving or going through rough times.

There is no requirement to pray out loud or read aloud unless you wish to. The prayer focus areas are designed for private and silent reflection. If you simply want to sit in a peaceful, beautiful environment away from your phone and screens, you are more than welcome to do so.

The Chapel on the Green will provide a warm and peaceful sanctuary where our Village can unite in hope for the future. There will also be times of led prayer on the hour for five minutes. Come as you are, bring your neighbour and take time out from the rush to be part of something quiet but incredibly powerful.

Let's unite to pray for our families, schools, and local businesses. We are gathering to bring our community before JESUS and ask for His guidance and blessing over our village. Jesus promised that when we gather together, He is right there with us.

The Bible says: 'Be still and know that I am God...' (Psalm 46:10)

DATE - SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER – 10am – 12noon and 2pm – 4pm (drop in anytime)

Refreshments – Free Tea, Coffee and Cakes will be served throughout the day in the Welcome Area.

Hope to see you there!

NOVEMBER SERVICES
Sunday 8th /15th / 22nd & 29th

PRAYER MEETING
Every Thursday at 10.30am

COFFEE MORNING
Every Wednesday 10.30am – 12.30pm

VILLAGE PRAYER DAY SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER 10am – 12 noon & 2pm – 4pm

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The Rambling Gardener

We used to think of November as cold, wet and windy, but with the wonderful Indian summer that we are experiencing as I write, I wonder what we will get this year. Cold or warm, windy or still? There is just no reason to expect anything so let's see what happens, enjoy the good weather, and be happy to spend the poor days inside the house relaxing. You could be reading and watching amazing programmes like the David Attenborough Blue Planet. Did you know that 90% of fish are rarely seen as they live in the "twilight" zone; there is so much more to learn about our world.

One book I've been reading lately is Knitson book club choice of Rav Patel's "Stuffed and Starved" about the terrible management of food production and distribution in the world. Two big messages are that we should eat local food, and that we should spend more time to really enjoy cooking and eating it. People wanting to eat ready prepared quick meals is a big part of the problems of supply and demand. So our gardening is important.

In the vegetable patch (especially after this Indian summer that has kept the warmth in the soil through early autumn), or in grow bags on the window sill if you have no garden, there are still plants to sow. For winter greens you can grow perpetual spinach, hardy lettuces, land cress, pak Choi and mustards. And for early spring meals you can still put in hardy onion and garlic, spring onions, some hardy peas, carrots and broad beans. If you already have your autumn broad beans growing, and improving the soil for another crop next spring, they may need to be transplanted to 9 inches apart and staked for support.

In the flower garden do check that you have staked the tall autumn flowering plants and prune the spring flowering plants; but leave the autumn flowering plant pruning to next spring. Keep dead-heading, and I hope that you are able to still enjoy some beautiful flowers like dahlias, if we've not had frost, and some roses in any garden that you see.

Other garden jobs? Have you collected, dried and stored seeds from annuals like the Calendula? Perennials, like Crocosmia, hardy geraniums, and phlox, if they survived the drought, could be divided or propagated to get lots of plants for next year and some of them, like Pelargoniums and Arum Lilies may need to be stored somewhere fairly frost free. The soil, and plants in it, will benefit from the protection of wool, leaf mould or pebbles.
We need to get more water into the subsoil to prepare for another possible drought next year, and it is bad for the sea to have soil put in it from runoff, so do take a garden fork and make holes to get the water deeper into the soil. Furthermore, more rain water butts for storage, and a big pile of leaf mould collected now can be used next year to keep our gardens growing. Have a lovely month, perhaps thinking about family and Christmas plans. If you would like to visit, or would like any advice, please do contact me rjehelfer@gmail.com, or telephone 01929 421681

Kimmeridge News

Kimmeridge Bingo Night 7th December

Eyes down for the Purbeck wide famous Kimmeridge Christmas Prize Bingo - no expense spared here - you get reusable cards to play on, house and line prizes, two raffles and not forgetting the pièce de résistance - our very own Patrick Ward calling in his finest designer gear!
You don't need to be a bingo fan, just a fan of having a great evening of laughter with the possibility of going home with something you never knew you needed.
Free Teas/Coffees/Squash available in the break, if you want anything stronger then BYO - Bring your own refreshments for whilst playing.
The proceeds from this event fund the Children's Christmas party in Kimmeridge for Children from Kimmeridge, Bradle and Blackmanston along with maintaining our superb village playground.
What better way to spend a cold December Monday evening ???????.
In order to make this event the huge success it always is we rely on prize and raffle donations. (There will be a prize raffle and a hamper raffle)
Doors open at 6.30pm, eyes down at 7.00pm!

Kimmeridge Keilidh – Friday 27th November

Our next Kimmeridge Keilidh (Barn Dance!) is on 23rd October at 7:30pm in the Village Hall at The Etches Collection. Music from Arish Mel & caller Malcolm Churchill. Tickets on the door £7.50 adults, £2.50 under 16s. No Bar – bring your own drinks & nibbles! All profits from these dances are shared between the Etches Collection and the Village.

Steve & Helen Earwicker

Thank You To The People Of Purbeck, From The Village Of Kingston

The villagers of Kingston would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who came along and supported the inaugural Kingston Food Festival.
Not only for your financial support, but for the many kind words and messages of encouragement we received throughout the day.

Quite simply, it was successful beyond our wildest dreams.

We are still counting the final numbers, but we believe getting on for 1,000 people joined us during the afternoon, together with a considerable number of dogs and, of course, a few well-coiffured sheep!



What began as an idea for a village event grew into a wonderful showcase for just how much food, produce, talent and enthusiasm we have here in Purbeck. The stalls brought together some well-known local names alongside smaller producers and individuals who surprised many visitors with what is being grown, made and marketed on our doorstep. Outside was the fire pit, where venison and lamb were slowly cooked over the flames and served alongside salads. The demonstrations proved popular. The Salt Pig generously gave a great deal of their time, first demonstrating how to prepare and cook local venison and later preparing and cooking fish. Sacha Dorey, The Truffle Huntress, and her dogs gave a live demonstration of truffle hunting, while The Aloe Bar followed their demonstration by promptly selling all of their stock…orders still being taken!

At the end of the day, some of the rather exhausted volunteers collapsed around a few tables at The Scott Arms, raised a glass and started talking about Kingston Food Festival 2027. If you are a Purbeck food producer, grower or maker and would like to register interest in Kingston Food Festival 2027, please contact us at kingstonfoodfest2027@btinternet.com

Thank you to everyone who came, whether by bus, car or on foot. You turned up in numbers we could never have imagined, and enjoyed live music, food, drink and, most importantly, a village full of people.

Now we have to do it all again! For press enquiries:John Beauchamp
John.beauchamp@domvs.co.uk

BREAKFASTS
2 For £20
MONDAY TO SUNDAY
Valid from 28th Septembr until 18th December 2026, *terms and conditions apply



LUNCH MENU
MONDAY TO SATURDAY
2 course 20.00
3 course 25.00
Valid from 18th November until 18th December
*terms and conditions apply



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* must include a purchased drink per person



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CLAVELLS FESTIVE MENU

18th November until 31st December

STARTERS

Smoked Salmon - Lemon & dill mayonnaise, beetroot salad & rustic bread *GF by request*

Spiced Parsnip Soup - Rustic bread *V GF & VG by request*

Prawn & Crab Cocktail - Marie Rose sauce, rustic bread & butter (£3 Supplement) *GF by request*

Duck & Orange Parfait - rustic bread, cornichons, dressed leaves & fig chutney *GF by request*

Wild Mushroom Risotto - Truffle oil & Italian Pecorino shavings *V GF & VG by request*

MAIN COURSES

Traditional Turkey - Cranberry stuffing, pigs in blankets, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, cranberry sauce & roast jus *GF by request*

Honey Glazed Gammon - Pigs in blankets, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, apple sauce & roast jus *GF by request*

Sea Bass Fillets - Crushed new potatoes, seasonal greens & champagne cream sauce (£3 Supplement) *GF by request*

Dorset Pork Fillet - Dauphinoise potatoes with a creamy apple & calvados sauce *GF*

Butternut Squash, Lentil & Almond Wellington - Roast potatoes & gravy *VG GF substitute by request*

Served with carrots, brussels sprouts, mashed swede, braised red cabbage, & garden greens

DESSERTS

Traditional Christmas Pudding - Brandy custard *V VG & GF by request*

Apple Tarte Tatin - Vanilla bean ice cream *V*

Chocolate & Orange Steamed Pudding - Vanilla bean ice cream *V VG by request*

Panettone Bread & Butter Pudding - Custard *V*

Mango & Passionfruit Cheesecake - Vanilla bean ice cream *V GF*

2 Courses £29.50 | 3 Courses £32.50

Available 18th November until 31st December Lunch times. Not available Christmas Day
(Please ask for other evenings for parties of 15 people or more)
Pre orders & a £5 deposit per head required

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FESTIVE BRUNCH

Available 18th November until 3rd January - 10am until 11.30
A Festive Cocktail Or Non Alcoholic Cocktail |
Breakfast | Tea or Coffee

20 per person

COCKTAILS

Bloody Mary | Bucks Fizz

NON ALCOHOLIC

Buckless Fizz (Ginger Beer & Orange Juice)

English Breakfast Tea | Earl Grey Tea | Specialty Teas | Cappuccino | Latte | Americano | Flat White

BREAKFAST

Full English - Two rashers of bacon, pork sausage, fried egg, grilled tomato, hash browns, baked beans & mushrooms. Served with malted grain or white toast & butter

Vegan Full English - Two Quorn™ sausages, grilled tomato, hash browns, baked beans, wilted spinach & mushrooms. Served with malted grain or white toast & butter *VE*
Add two fried eggs *V*

Avocado & Poached Eggs - Malted grain toast, avocado, two poached eggs, cherry tomatoes, balsamic glaze *V*

Eggs Royale - Toasted English muffin, smoked salmon, two poached eggs & hollandaise sauce

Crab Benedict - Toasted English muffin, white crab meat, two poached eggs, hollandaise sauce (2 supplement)

Pancakes with Bacon & Maple Syrup - 5 American-style pancakes, grilled bacon & maple syrup (*V available by request*)

CHILDREN'S FESTIVE BRUNCH

10 per person (Under 12s)

Apple Juice Or Orange Juice

Little Full English - Sausage, fried egg, bacon, hash brown, beans, toast & butter

Pancakes with Bacon & Maple Syrup - 3 American-style pancakes, grilled bacon & maple syrup

(V) Suitable for Vegetarians (VG) Suitable for Vegans (GF) Gluten Free. All meals may contain nuts or nut derivatives. All our food is prepared in a kitchen where nuts, gluten and other allergens are present and our menu descriptions do not include all ingredients. If you have a food allergy, please let us know before ordering. Full allergen information is available on request. A discretionary 12.5% service charge is added when dining in our restaurant. All gratuities are gratefully received and shared between our staff.

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AFTERNOON TEA

Available 18th November until 31st December
14.00 - 17.00

GLASS OF PROSECCO

ASSORTED SANDWICHES

Brie & cranberry
Smoked salmon & dill mayonnaise
Coronation chicken
Ham & mustard mayonnaise
Egg mayonnaise

CANAPÉS

House pâté
Avocado & tomato bruschetta
Miniature pork pie with house chutney

SWEET TREATS

Scone, clotted cream & strawberry preserve
Iced Christmas fruit cake
Miniature mince pie
Selection of miniature cakes, pastries and tartlets

SELECTION OF DORSET TEAS & COFFEE

| 32.50 per person

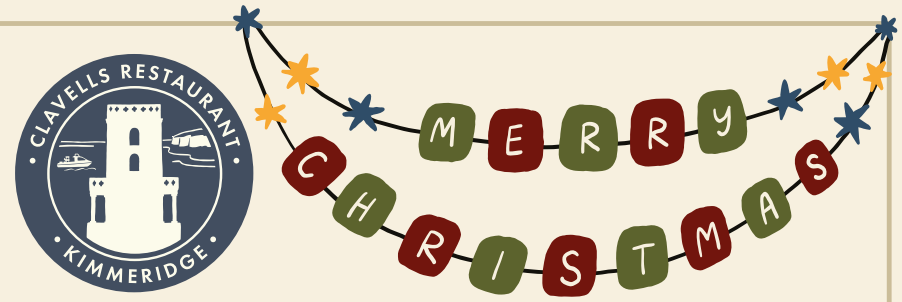
BOOKING ESSENTIAL

| 5 deposit per person

Gluten free options available on special request

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Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival - Save the Date - December 3rd - 5th 2026

Trees are set up and beautifully decorated between 9am and 4pm on Wednesday 2nd December and we are then open to the public from Thursday 3rd Dec at 10am. Several pre-school groups will come and visit and have opportunity to hear the Christmas Story and visit a life size stable and families can dress up for photos.



Each day there will be various music Would you like to participate in this year's Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival, being held at Emmanuel Baptist Church at the beginning of December? Spaces are very limited so you need to **book before Monday 9th November**. We invite you to sponsor a tree and decorate it to highlight your community group, your church, local charity or business. We source the trees locally for you to sponsor at £25 for a 4'6" or £29 for a 6' Norway Spruce. This year's theme is **Favourite Christmas Songs,** to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas**,** remembering Jesus' birth over 2000 years ago**,** bringing light and hope to the world.

The festival at Emmanuel Baptist Church, in Herston, runs for three days from Thursday 3rd December to Saturday 5th December between 10am and 6pm each day. On Sunday 6th Dec there is a special remembrance service at 4pm called 'Lights of Love', at which people are invited to light a candle for loved ones who are no longer with us.

performances to add to the festive atmosphere and our welcoming café will also provide a range of home baked cakes and light lunches. There may also be an opportunity to vote for your favourite trees.
This is a non-profit making event, and any donations received will go to two nominated charities which this year are Allsort'd and the Swanage Lifeboats.

This whole event is designed to help prepare our hearts and encourage us all to discover more about the real meaning of Christmas and how we can find peace through Jesus in these troubled times. Do bring your friends, family and neighbours along to this very special event.

To sponsor a tree, please request a booking form by contacting Janet Norley at Emmanuel Baptist Church by emailing - administrator@emmanuelbc.org.uk or you can ring 01929 427706 and leave a message.
Early booking is essential for this popular event and just a reminder, the deadline for tree bookings is **Monday 9th November.**

Judy, Janet and team

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Full details and prices at
www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk



PurbeckParkys

A HUGE "Thank You" to all the people on the Isle of Purbeck who have helped, supported and encouraged us over the nearly three years of our existence.
We started life as a Parkinson Café, an informal 'drop in' at the Village Inn, in Ulwell. Two of the ladies attending the specialist Exercise Class run by a Neurophysiotherapist, which I joined soon after I was diagnosed with Parkinson's, had begun the process of getting a Café group going through Parkinson's UK, (P.UK.)the national Charity which offers support to all affected by this condition. I had also already decided that it was too far to travel into Poole or Christchurch every month (where our nearest Parkinson's Branches met) so I joined them in planning for a Café group which was going to serve the people living with Parkinson's (PlwP) in this area.

We had some help and guidance from a P.UK Staff member and prepared to launch early in 2024. Unfortunately both of the ladies involved had to step back from working on the launch due to family commitments and looking after their own health. I'm glad to say they have both been able to return and serve on our committee.

Contact had been made with the manager of the Village Inn at the Ulwell Holiday Park and he and the trustees came up with the first big act of kindness for us, he allowed us to meet at the pub for one afternoon a month, free of charge.

So we then had to find a way to get the word out to local folk who might benefit from coming to the group
We wrote to all the GP practices in the Isle of Purbeck and asked them to pass on a letter from us to all those people on their patient list who are known to have Parkinson's. That way we maintained the patient's confidentiality and the patients realised that this was a genuine Group endorsed by the doctors.

We invited people with a diagnosis of Parkinson's, their immediate family members, carers and professionals involved in working with PlwP.

More than 20 people turned up. I had been told that "Beryl" would be coming. The assumption was that I knew Beryl, because anyone in this area (and beyond) who works for a charity or good cause meets her sooner or later. Beryl duly arrived and after the introductions her first question was "What do want me to do?" Within 5 minutes of arriving she was seated near the door listing the names of all who attended. (Many of whom knew her and she them.) Beryl is a lovely, friendly lady, the epitome of a "good person" who works tirelessly for the benefit of others. And she does it quietly and without fuss and fanfare.

I mention Beryl at length because I have met a few other "Beryls" since, some working with us, others giving their all to other needful Charities or causes. There are never enough, but we are very grateful to all who step up to help.

[People like Nigel and Joan Dragon who never let us pay for the 100 cupcakes with a special blue icing to celebrate World Parkinson's Day (celebrated on 11th April each year) in our first year, or subsequent confections supplied by The Village Bakery.]

So in January **PurbeckParkys** was launched! [I know the name is not grammatically correct, but it's easy to remember and it says very clearly who we are.]

Six months on we realised that, as the holiday park was coming out of hibernation, the Inn was getting busier and it was no longer suitable for our needs and we were becoming a nuisance to the staff. We were invited to go to the Swanage Cricket Club and they became our next benefactors, They, like Brian and his staff at the Inn, were warm in their welcome, helpful and friendly, and they let us use their magnificent "new" Pavilion, rent free, on the afternoon of the third Wednesday of every month.
After a year we were told by our new local P.UK staff member that we were doing more than was expected of a Café. We had a "membership" larger than some of the Branches and we ran a programme whereby we tried to have a speaker on a topic of interest to Parkys and their families and maybe educational as to our care and self-help, in one month and a social the next, where we could exchange tips and experiences. She suggested that we should become a Support Group. Which meant that we could carry on doing what we were, have a formal membership and run our own Bank account.
This last comment hides a door that opened wide to bring us into the view of generous organisations that work for the benefit of local people.

What a year we have had! We have received generous donations from the Swanage Carnival 2025, the Eat and Meet group in Swanage, Wareham Wednesdays, Harmony Rocks Choir's Songs and Scones event, (with the promise of more to come from their concert of Christmas music at All Saints Church on 5th December), Langton Matravers Sewing Group, the Stoborough Village Pantomime, Harmans Cross Fete Raffle, and full circle to the Swanage Carnival 2026.

All these organisations, and some individuals, have given us generous donations because we are locally based and seeking to help local people.

We are, of course, very conscious of the need to support P.UK.
They are spending £millions each year on research into things that will help PlwP and primarily find a cure. Until that glorious day they are looking for

treatments that slow the progression of the condition. Research, followed by drug trials is not a cheap pursuit!! But for the 166,000 already living with it – and for the person who has been diagnosed in the time that it has taken you to read this – and the other 3 who will be diagnosed in the next 20 /40 /60 minutes (Yes – really, one person is diagnosed every 20 minutes.) such research is our only hope.

P.UK. Also campaigns on our behalf to Govt and others to make sure that people are aware of the existence of PlwP and that the NHS is funded adequately to afford to employ Neurologists and Parkinson's Specialist Nurses. The UK is very near the bottom of the table of the nations employing these essential specialists, and Dorset is in a similar position in a list of the English counties.

So please look out or future fundraising activities when we shall be seeking to raise some funds for research or other specific challenges, like the current one to fund Parkinson Nurses. (P.UK approaches a Trust that is short on Parkinson Nurses with an offer to fund one, paying salary plus on costs etc, for a period of two years if the Trust agrees to keep them in post and take over the costs after the seed funding period). We are very grateful to Barry and Linda Stocks for organising the Family Beetle Drive in Corfe Castle Village Hall which raised £1350.00 by the time Barclays Bank had matched the sum raised, as Linda was employed by them in the past. This all went directly to P.UK for the Nurses Appeal.

If you would like to come to a meeting, donate time or money to our group, have someone come to your meeting or learn more about the condition please speak to me or email me on david.gynes@parkinsons-uk.goassemble.com.
You can also find lots of information about Parkinson's and the contact names etc of groups and their leaders around the country on the website: https://www.parkinsons.org.uk

Thank you again for anything you have done already to help and support our group or any other PlwP.

David
Parkinson's UK Volunteer. Co-ordinator of PurbeckParkys Support Group.



MIND THE GAP(S) – AND HELP SWIFTS.

Last summer was the fifth successive one when I and fellow enthusiasts have surveyed nesting swifts in Corfe Castle. This year, like last, the top 3 spots in the league table are taken by The Town House, the Model Village Courtyard and the Town Hall with 9, 6 and 5 nests respectively. The village total was 30 nests this year compared to 21, 30, 29 and 28 in 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025. A visit to St Peter's church in Church Knowle yielded 14 nests – down from 22 last summer, but one visit is not really enough to record all the nest sites in use. So, on the whole - numbers seem to be holding up.

Property	Nests
The Town House	9
Model Village courtyard	6
The Town Hall	5
The Sweet Shop	2
21-25 West Street	2
Tom's Mead	2
15 West Street	1
Corfe Castle Club	1
Lark Rise, West Street	1
The Old Bakery, West Street	1
Total	30

Nonetheless, after several years of just watching swifts, it's time to try to make a difference. In last month's CVN I made a plea on behalf of the insects that call our gardens home. This month its a plea on behalf of swifts that can call our houses home if only we let them come in.

Last autumn I noticed that one of the houses on West Street where swifts nest was being given a makeover. The decorators had inserted a short length of wood to repair a hole under the eaves. This blocked the hole where the swifts nest. I contacted the National Trust to alert them to this and very kindly they agreed to instruct the contractors to remove the offending piece of wood. As a result the swifts nested again in this house in 2026. One nest saved!

Aware that the National Trust own a large number of properties in the village, some of which are earmarked for repair/renovation, and some of which are home to nesting swifts, I sent the results of all our surveys to the National Trust. To their credit they contacted me to discuss when and how best to carry

out the necessary building works so as to avoid any disturbance to nesting swifts or the loss of their nest holes. They are keen to do the right thing!



Also keen to do the right thing are the Corfe Castle Parish Council Environment Group and the good folks of St Edward's church. With their help, our local swift group built and installed a set of 4 swift nest boxes behind one of the sets of louvred openings in the bell-tower. No swifts nested in those boxes this year but they were looking at the church tower with more interest this year than before – attracted by the sound of the calling devices we had playing all summer. Maybe next year? With more help from the Environment Group I am hoping we will also install 10 individual swift boxes at various houses around the village ready for next season.

The reason for all this focus on swifts is that across Britain their population has crashed by over two thirds in the last 30 years or so. One of the reasons most likely to lie behind this trend is the loss of nesting holes in buildings. Locally, most swifts nest under Purbeck stone tiled roofs. Unfortunately for swifts, a fashion seems to have developed over the last several decades of sealing every joint in a Purbeck stone tiled roof with mortar.



This is not a traditional Purbeck roofing practice. It is the end for nesting swifts and according to guidance issued by English Heritage "….. *pointing to …. Purbeck stone …. roof is unsightly and technically problematic.*" This is NOT the way to do it!

Fortunately, a few roofers, like those who re-roofed Y-jewellers recently, know this. They use more traditional methods that, while ensuring a water-tight roof with modern membranes and large overlaps between tile courses, only requires each stone to be bedded on the bare minimum amount of mortar – leaving the all-important gaps between the stones that allow the roof to breathe and the swifts to access the voids underneath the stones.



THAT'S the way to do it! Traditional, more aesthetically pleasing, better for the roof structure and ideal for nesting swifts. Win, win, win, win! So, if you are planning any work on your roof or eaves please consider swifts, mind the gaps, and do what you can do to help them to share your home.

Apologies to all CVN readers who were discombobulated by finding unexpected surveyors loitering outside their houses at dusk. Thanks to Marcello Andrade for access to the Model Village courtyard after hours, to other householders for their tolerance, and to Lindsay & Holly Carrington, Phyl England, Mike Gould, James Leaver, Ian Parsons, Nick Squirrell & Pat Ward for helping complete the surveys. Also many thanks to the good folks at Saint Edward's church, and especially to Brian Dean for helping with the installation of our boxes in the belfry.

PS Picking up my theme of last month - swifts also need lots of flying insects to breed successfully. They like eating flying ants during the swarming season in late summer so if - perish the thought - you are ever tempted to reach for your packet of ant powder – think twice. Consider the protein-rich meal that you would deny to our beloved swifts, swallows and house martins. We need to get better at joining the dots as well as minding the gaps!

Richard Caldow

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This month's highlights

- A range of pumpkins to choose from for Halloween.
- As the evenings get colder, we have a range of logs and coal to help keep you warm and cosy throughout the winter months.
- Now is the perfect time to plant spring bulbs, so you can look forward to a beautiful display of colour when spring arrives.
- It's never to early to start your Christmas shopping – we have plenty of gifts for people of all ages (and the pets too!)

Garden Barn / Mini Garden Centre

- Various plants arriving each week from our trusted suppliers
- Our well stocked Garden Barn is full of impressive garden ornaments, plant pots and more.

Shop

- As always, we have fantastic giftware, local spirits, wines & groceries galore!
- We are heavily focused on the best locally sourced produce.
- Wide range of gardening goods, new lines and sale items available.
- Our impressive range of toys & treats is proving popular amongst the little ones...and grown-ups too!
- We have stock from local small businesses such as Bella&Evie (Jewellery), Tradpots Pottery, and Burnt Blossom (Home fragrances).

Delivery

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

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REGULAR EVENTS AT THE HALL

Monday

- **Ballet – Miranda Hindson telephone 07919441836 6pm – 8pm mjballet@gmail.com**
- **Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com**
- **Shotokan Karate – www.warehamskc.co.uk**

Tuesday

- **Short Mat Bowls @ 14:00 – bowlingbarbara2023@outlook.com**
- **Wareham Walking Netball – Christine Morrison - 07854649666 or 781426 – Julia Tighe - 07729311550**
- **Pilates – Alex Moore telephone 07536103364 almoore1@live.co.uk**
- **Sandford and Wareham WI contact susiedean42@gmail.com**

Wednesday

- **Model Railway Group peter.c.hollins@gmail.com**
- **Art classes/courses 10.30am – 12.30pm -** info@earth-art.org.uk. **07720353454**

Thursday

- **Shotokan Karate www.warehamskc.co.uk**
- **Art classes/courses 10.30am – 12.30pm -** info@earth-art.org.uk. **07720353454**

Friday

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

Church Knowle Parish Council meetings take place at Furzebrook Village Hall February, April, June, August, October and December 2024 (2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6.30).
January, March, May, July, September, November 2024 meetings will be held at Church Knowle Village Hall (2nd Tuesday of the month @ 6.30)



CORFE CASTLE STATION CANOPY APPEAL

OUR STATION

Our station is situated within the Isle of Purbeck in rural Dorset; Corfe Castle village is best known for its medieval castle, a structure which dominates the village and was home to generations of the Bankes dynasty. It is home to Corfe Castle railway station one of two original stations, on what is now the Swanage Railway. It was built and opened in 1885 and opened that same year when the London and South Western Railway opened the branch line from Wareham to Swanage.

Corfe Castle station building is built of local Purbeck stone with a clay tile roof, crested ridge tiles and moulded barge boards, a typical London and South Western Railway structure which included a four bedroomed station master's house. The building is Grade 2 listed for its special architectural interest and is situated within the Corfe Castle village Conservation Area. The station forms part of the visitor attraction of the village and is considered to be the "Jewel in the Crown" of the Swanage Railway.

OUR PLAN

Our plan is to reinstate the station canopy to the frontage of the building (car park side) above the main entrance to the booking hall. Period photographs which we have obtained clearly show the canopy in place but under British Railways ownership during the 1950's it was removed. The removal of the canopy lost much of the integrity of the 1885 building and there is a need for the canopy to be reinstated. Now, new drawings have been produced by Peter Smith, our architect from "PSA Architects" to a design that closely follows the style of the original. We have engaged specialist contractors "Target Structural" to guide us with their professional advice to meet the demands of this project.

YOUR HELP

Your help is needed to support our appeal to restore the canopy at Corfe Castle station, the "Jewel in the Crown" of the Swanage Railway. If you are as excited as we are about this project to make our station complete again then please consider giving a donation towards our appeal. Your gift will be so valued and appreciated.

The project to restore the canopy at Corfe Castle station will cost in the region of £60,000.

You can also Gift Aid your donation as a UK taxpayer, so we can claim an additional 25 pence for every pound given.

Please complete the form overleaf or forward your gift today.

Thank you so much.

CORFE CASTLE CANOPY APPEAL

You can give to the railway through a number of ways:

1. Internet Banking or Bank Transfer – Use the banking details in the form below,
   Don't forget to enter the name of the appeal as reference.
2. Cheque – Complete the form below.
3. Online via Enthuse – Just scan the QR Code or visit
   https://swanagerailwaytrust.enthuse.com/corfecanopy

Cheque (Please complete the form in BLOCK CAPITALS)

I enclose a cheque payable to Swanage Railway Trust / Corfe Canopy to the value of

☐ I wish to Gift Aid my donation – add 25p to each £1.00 you donate at no extra cost

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Postcode _____ Tel _____

Email _____

Gift Aid Declaration – Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

I want to Gift Aid my donation and any future donations to the Swanage Railway. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and / or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donation, it is my responsibility to pay the difference.

Return to:
Finance Department, Station House, Swanage, Dorset BH19 1HB

Email: finance@swanagerailway.co.uk

To The Manager (bank/building society)

(name) _____

Address _____

_____

Please make a payment as indicated above from my Account

Number _____

Sort Code _____

To:
Barclays Bank PLC, Poole, Dorset
Acc: **60539112**
Sort Code **20-68-79**
Reference **"Corfe Canopy"**

This appeal is made by the Swanage Railway Company Ltd, a registered charity No. 1218440. The proceeds from this appeal are intended to be used to support the Swanage Railway Company Limited and the Corfe Castle Canopy Project, but in the event that this is not possible the Swanage Railway Company reserves the right to use any donations made for its own charitable aims.

foleys

Valley Road, Swanage BH19 3DZ

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

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

2020 (20) VAUXHALL CORSA SRi 1.2 NAV in Black Sat Nav, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Bluetooth, Cruise Control, Alloys, Air Con, Only 28650 Miles, FSH. **£11495**

2022 (22) KIA XCEED 2 ISG 1.0 5 Dr in Metallic Red Cruise Control, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, Touch Screen, Reverse Camera, Bluetooth, Alloys, 39848 Miles, FSH, Car has balance of 7 Year Manufacturers Warranty. **£12995**

2016 (16) MITSUBISHI L200 BARBARIAN 2.4 PICK UP in Met Blue Full Leather Interior, Air Cond, Cruise Control, Bluetooth, Satellite Navigation, Heated Front Seats, Alloys, Elec Windows, Reverse Camera, Only 54000 Miles with FSH. (NO VAT) **£14995**

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CORFE CASTLE CHARITY

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY EXPENSES

The Trustees of the Corfe Castle Charity will consider applications from people living within the Corfe Castle Parish (which includes Kingston) for assistance with domestic and family expenses in cases of hardship.

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

- Education and Training
- Sickness and Disability
- Grants to organisations

For further information please contact:
The Clerk to the Trustees,
Mrs. Mandy Meaker
2 Battlemead
Corfe Castle BH20 5ER Tel: 01929 480873



Church Knowle Village Hall

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

Large Car Park – Close to the Church – PRS Licence - Wifi

All enquires – 07880 780677

or email – villagehall@churchknowle.com

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

Regular and long-term hires by negotiation

Advertising and other Charges

The Corfe Valley News is a non-profit making organisation run entirely by volunteers. We therefore rely on advertisers, organisations and societies to contribute to the costs of production. Our current charging rates are shown below. We are also greatly helped by the donations made by individuals each year. We send out donation envelopes each spring. Donations can be made by BACS payment: the Sort Code and Account numbers are provided below.

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

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

Postal Address:

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

Regular events in Corfe Castle & environs

MONDAY	**TIME**	**EVENT**	**LOCATION**
Each	10am – 1pm	Pottery Class	Furzebrook Studios
1st	7pm	Double Act	C C Village Hall
2nd	7pm	CC Parish Council	C C Village Hall
TUESDAY			
Each	9.15 – 10.45am	& 11am – 12 Yoga	Langton Scout Hut
Each	9.30 - 11.30	Intermediate yoga	Swanage - 477169
Each	10.30-noon	Parent & Child Group	C C Village Hall
Each	6.15-7.45pm	Brownies (term-time)	C C Village Hall
Each	6.30 – 7.30pm	Adult Ballroom Dance	C C Village Hall Donna 01202 243803
Each	7.45 – 9.15pm	Badminton	C C Village Hall
1st	2 pm	Aquarius	C C Village Hall
2nd	7.30pm	CK parish Council	Odd months Furzebrook
WEDNESDAY			
Each	9.30am- noon	Intermediate yoga	Kimmeridge 477169
Each	9.00am - 12	Corfe crafters	CC VH
Term time,	5.30- 6.45pm s	Youth Club	C C Village Hall
THURSDAY			
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.co.uk.	Harmans Cross VH
Each	10.00 – 1.0 pm	Pottery Class	Furzebrook Studios
Alternate	7.30pm	Bingo	C C Village Hall
FRIDAY			
Each	9.30am	Pilates & Stretch	CC Village Hall £10
Each	10am – 1pm	Pottery Classes	Furzebrook Studios
Each	8.30pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club
SATURDAY			
1st	10.30am	Village Coffee Morning	C C Village Hall
SUNDAY			
Each	1.00pm	Bingo	Corfe Castle Club

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