Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust

NEWSLETTER

Community News from Swanage and the Surrounding Villages









Welcome to The Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust's August/September 2026 newsletter, consisting of articles from many local organisations in our communities. Please make this community newsletter a success for all those fine folk that contribute and the wonderful local organisations that they represent. You can help by circulating the attached newsletter to all your members, friends and contacts so that they can note the many options for them all to take advantage of and/or participate in Purbeck's vibrant community life.

Due to personal circumstances, I have not been able to locate a sponsor this time (YET) for the printing of 100 copies for distributing to outlets in Purbeck for those folk that do not have access to online communications or are just visitors (and potential future citizens) to Purbeck. If you can help by sponsoring the printing of this or future editions of this newsletter please contact myself at melvyn.norris@icloud.com or call me on 07446677924.

We can't believe it's already been a year since the Focus Centre opened! In that time, the Welcome Lounge has helped hundreds of people connect with the support they need, and many new services are now available at the Focus Centre. But Wellbeing Swanage is about much more than one building. Led by Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust, it's a community-wide effort to improve wellbeing across our town — from services at Herston Village Hall and other local venues, to the Wellbeing Swanage Facebook page and website, and our amazing Community Connectors who are helping people across Swanage and the surrounding villages.

Now we'd love to hear from you! What's working well? What could be improved? What else does our community need to help people feel healthier, happier, and more connected? Please take a couple of minutes to complete our short community survey using the link below:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WellbeingSwanageCommunity

Every response helps shape future services and support in Swanage — so by completing the survey, you're helping make a real difference in our community. Thank you!

Newsletter Coordinator: Mel Norris
Trustee Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
email: melvyn.norris@icloud.com mobile: 07446 677924

find the newsletter at www.sandpdt.org.uk

DEADLINE

for contributions to the October / November 2026 issue of the Newsletter

MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2026

Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
Charity Reg. No. 1162662



Thank You for Joining Us at Our Open Day

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to The Focus Centre Open Day in Swanage on 29th May. It was wonderful to see so many people there to celebrate two exciting milestones for our centre.

The preview of the Focus Cafe that will be run by Allsort'd was huge success, the cakes and coffee went down a storm. We look forward to welcoming everyone back when we are officially open!

The Open Day also marked the opening of the Bill Trite Wing in the former Youth Club building, Bill Trite was instrumental in making sure the Focus Centre buildings were kept for community use. It was a privilege to celebrate this occasion with our community, supporters, volunteers, staff, and friends who continue to make our work possible.

We are still raising money to finish the cafe and gardens, if you can give anything at all, even £5 will help with making this fantastic project come to life. You can find out more on our website www.wellbeingswanage.org

With sincere thanks,
The Focus Centre Team





Community Connectors

Community Connectors play an important role in helping raise awareness of the Focus Centre and the support and services available. We currently have 40+ individuals and a several businesses and groups that help spread the word.

There are no time commitments or expectations. The role is simply about having conversations with friends, neighbours and others you meet, helping to signpost people to a place they can find information and support.

We are keen to build our team of Community Connectors. If you would like to find out more or join our team, please contact:

focuscentre@sandpdt.org.uk

Together, we can help build a more connected and supportive community in Swanage and Purbeck.

What's on at the Focus Centre

There are a few exciting changes happening at the Focus Centre.

Citizens Advice have settled in well and are now available on Tuesday mornings. **A Band of Brothers**, a support group for men, will also be starting on Monday evenings. Alongside our regular groups we have a couple of regular pop-up services visiting the Welcome Lounge each month. Richard from the **Job Centre** is here on the first Monday of every month to support people with disabilities in relation to employment, whether that's finding work or accessing reasonable adjustments in their current workplace. In addition, the **Volunteer Bureau** visits on the first Tuesday of each month, offering information about local volunteering opportunities in and around Swanage.

Look at our most up to date timetable to see everything we currently have to offer at the Focus Centre.

Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
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Wellbeing Swanage Timetable

Part of Dorset's **Family Hub** network

Monday

Welcome Lounge
At the Focus Centre
Drop in for help to find services you need
10.00 - 16.00

'Access Wellbeing' Mental Health Support
At the Focus Centre
Drop in/Appointment
Www.DorsetAccessWellbeing.co.uk
10.00 - 16.00

Reach Drug and Alcohol Service
At the Focus Centre
Drop in and Referrals
9.00 - 17.00

Community Cafe, Pantry, Citizens Advice and Digital Advisor
At Herston Hall
Drop in
10.00 - 12.00

Growing Together Baby Group 0-1yrs
At the Focus Centre
Book appointment
01929 557000
purbecklocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
10.30 - 11.30

Young Talkers
At the Focus Centre
Book appointment
01929 557000
purbecklocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
13.30 - 15.00

Job Centre
At the Focus Centre
Drop in
1st of the month only
10.00 - 15.00

A Band of Brothers
At the Focus Centre
Drop in
2nd of the month only
19.00 - 21.00

All activities are free unless otherwise stated!

Tuesday

Welcome Lounge
At the Focus Centre
Drop in for help to find services you need
10.00 - 16.00

Health Visitor and Newborn Hearing
At the Focus Centre
Referrals and Drop in
(Alternate weeks from 25/11/25
9.00 - 14.00

Citizens Advice
At the Focus Centre
Drop in
10.00 - 12.00

Swanage Volunteer Bureau
At the Focus Centre
Drop in 1st of month
10.00 - 12.00

Alcoholics Anonymous
At the Focus Centre
Drop in
01202 296000
19.45 - 21.15

Wednesday

Welcome Lounge
At the Focus Centre
Drop in for help to find services you need
10.00 - 16.00

Health Visitor Clinic and Baby Weighing
At the Focus Centre
Drop in
10.00 - 11.30

Community Fareshare Food Distribution
At the Focus Centre
Register 1st then drop in
www.fareshare.org.uk
9.30 - 10.30

Seahorses Homestart Wessex Toddler Group
At Herston Hall
Drop in
9.30 - 11.00 (term time only)

Depression Support Group
At the Focus Centre
Book 07871 799479
SwanageDepression@outlook.com
19.00 - 21.30
(1st and 3rd of Month only)

Child Speech and Language Therapy
At the Focus Centre
Book appointment
01202 443 200
Dhc.slt.queries@nhs.net



Friday

BFN Infant Feeding Support Group
At the Focus Centre
Facebook
@BFNSwanageBreastfeedingSupportGroup
Drop in 9.45 - 11.15

Swanage Youth Club
At Herston Hall
For more information email
youthclubswanage@gmail.com
Facebook @SwanageYouthClub

Every day

'Explorers' Childminding Wraparound Childcare
(0-5 Years)
At the Centre
www.explorerschildcare.co.uk
01929 426355

AllSort'd
At the Focus Centre
www.allsortd.org
01929 557207

The Welcome Lounge

A safe private space to talk

Trained staff and volunteers are here to listen and help you find the support you need

Monday - Wednesday
10.00 - 16.00



Phone : 01929 208376
Email : focuscentre@sandpdt.org.uk
Website : www.wellbeingSwanage.org.uk
What3Words: Speedy.Following.Bound

The Focus Centre
107 High Street
Swanage
BH19 2NB

Herston Hall
12 Jubilee Road
Swanage
BH19 2SF

Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust



It's certainly hot to be gardening or to be in the greenhouse but our attempts to collect all our water run off from our buildings has been very successful and useful. The grass is looking parched but the tomatoes, chillies, peppers and much more have thrived.

We are also very pleased with the way the hospital hanging baskets have developed. We got them ready for the hospital early in the year and they are looking spectacular so have a look next time you are near the hospital.

Our Garden Room is looking brilliant, our new fridge has just arrived and the plumbing, power and hot water are all finished so we are almost there. The toilet is now being renovated with a new roof already fitted, so we are really pleased with the way things are moving along. Hopefully things will be finished soon.

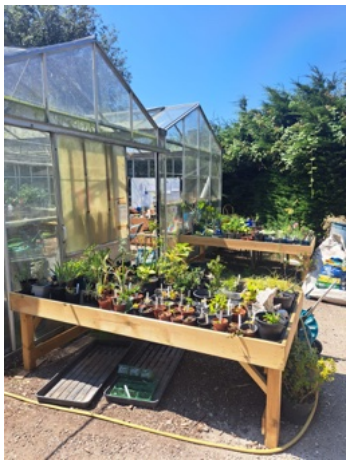
We continue to have lots of people visiting and we are a lovely community and you will always be welcome.

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Tuesdays from 12, Fridays from 10.

We will also have a stall at the Langton Allotment Open day and the Swanage Rotary Fete where plants will be available, or just stop for a chat.

You will always be welcome at Greengage or whenever we are 'out on the road'!! See you soon ...






The Community Café with drop in citizens advice, Dorset Digital Adviser and the Community Pantry continues running every Monday through the summer (except the bank holiday) from 10-12.

Join the **Friends of Herston Village Hall** to show your support and get information on fundraising progress and events. You can sign up at the Café or at our sea front stalls on 20th August and 10th September. We will also be at Costcutters on 4th September where you can find out more and become a Friend.

Follow Herston Village Hall on Facebook for events, activities etc.

Regular sessions:

Mondays 10-12 (except bank holidays) – **Community Café with Community Pantry, Citizens Advice, Digital Adviser**

Wednesdays 9.30 -11 (term times) – **Seahorses carer and preschool children/babies group**, led by Home-Start

Fridays – **Swanage Youth Club** (term times) Years 6 & 7, 6-7.30. Years 8 & above 7.45-9.15

First Saturday of the month 10-12 – **Craft Circle**

Last Saturday of the month 10.30-12.30 – **Repair Café** – reduce waste and save money.

Contact and more information via Facebook pages: Herston Village Hall, Swanage Community Pantry, Swanage Youth Club, Repair Café Swanage & Purbeck

Herston Village Hall



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Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership

Keep the heart of Swanage beating

"The heatwave sees a surge in Defibrillator use"

This is the headline in a recent South Today news bulletin which goes on to encourage people to check their defibs and ensure they are registered on the national database 'The Circuit' so that they are "rescue ready".

Within Swanage Community Defib Partnership we too have seen an increased need for defibs as the hot weather exacerbates some existing heart conditions and the area becomes busy.

AND ... thanks to our excellent team of volunteer Defib Guardians we can confidently say that the public access defibs under our management are checked regularly, with guardians reporting to a central point fortnightly linking them with 'the Circuit' ensuring that our defibs are "rescue ready" in the event of an emergency.

We now have oversight of approaching 70 defibs across Purbeck (4 was our original aim in 2015!) Maintenance and replacement of batteries and pads is now a major expense so financial support is gratefully received to help us sustain what has become a very successful community project. Any donations to help us with our work can be made through Corbens in Station Rd, Swanage or online via BACS, Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership, 30-99-12, a/c 28100368

Our congratulations to the Team at the Therapy Centre in Swanage who recently undertook a strenuous sponsored walk across Purbeck to fund a defib and cabinet for the Centre which will be attached on an outside wall for public access Our thanks to *Swanage Sparks* for once again supporting the electrical installation of this device.



Alan May and Hoburne park residents with Maggie Hardy from SCDP

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And our thanks to Alan May from Newton Manor Hall for leading the fundraising for a new defib at Hoburne Park.

Thanking our whole SCDP Volunteer Team and our many supporters - Enjoy the summer !

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citizens advice East Dorset & Purbeck

I hired a company to install concrete fencing and a gate in my back garden. The quality of the work is poor, some wooden panels are loose and the gate doesn't shut properly. I paid before I inspected the work. What can I do?

When you put your trust in a trader and they don't meet your expectations it can be really frustrating.

When there's a problem caused by a trader, you should be able to get it fixed or get some money back. Evidence is important - take photos and make notes about what happened and when, including times and dates, and keep hold of receipts or other proof of payment.

People can experience different types of problems with traders, and **there's specific advice available on our website depending on what the issue is**. In your situation, it's important to note if a trader hasn't done a good job with 'reasonable care and skill', the Consumer Rights Act 2015 entitles you to ask for the problem to be fixed or for a refund. This is something you can mention when you take the problem up with the trader and cite your evidence. They should fix the problem within a reasonable amount of time, without causing you too much inconvenience. The law doesn't say what counts as reasonable, so you'll have to agree on it with them.

If they can't or won't fix the problem, you can ask for a partial or full refund, depending on how bad the problem is. You'll have to come to an agreement about how much you should get. It's a good idea to start by suggesting a figure and explaining why you think it's reasonable, then take it from there. Once you've agreed on the amount with the trader the law says you should get your refund within 14 days.

If you can't come to an agreement, or they refuse to fix the problem or give you a refund, there are other steps you can take - including complaining to your card provider if you paid by card.

You can check if the trader is a member of a trade association or quality scheme. If they are, they might have to follow certain rules, and if they've broken them you could get help to take your complaint further. They might be part of an **alternative dispute resolution (ADR) scheme** - a way of solving disagreements with a trader without going to court - or they might agree to use one. If the trader isn't part of an ADR scheme, and you've already complained to your card provider and the complaint isn't resolved, **you may be able to complain to the Financial Ombudsman Service**.

Anyone who is experiencing a problem with building work, decorating or home improvements can **contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Service** for advice and support from a trained adviser. The helpline number is 0808 223 1133

Dementia Friendly Purbeck

SUCCESS!!

A massive THANK YOU to those of you who have helped to raise funds providing Purbeck with our second Dementia Specialist

ADMIRAL NURSE

Forget-Me-Not-Club in Swanage

Wednesday morning sessions from 10.30am to 12 noon including refreshments and activities are run by Age UK and supported by Dementia Friendly Purbeck volunteers.

This fun morning is very welcoming and suitable for anyone with a diagnosis of dementia or those who are on the first step towards getting a diagnosis. With partners and carers, it is an ideal place to meet others and find out more about dementia and at the same time meet old friends and make new ones.

Age Uk lead, Lorraine, said: "Our aim is to provide a supportive, safe and engaging space for those living with dementia, partners and carers each week with some coffee, tea and biscuits along with activities, speakers, some singing and hopefully lots of laughter"

Singing for Pleasure

Join us every Thursday at 2pm
at Emmanuel Baptist Church
160 Victoria Avenue

Bring along your favourite song titles and we'll sing them together

it's good for all of us

Finishing after light refreshments at 3.30pm

£2 per session

Supported by Dementia Friendly Purbeck

All Welcome

a band of brothers Purbeck

MEN NEED MEN

To **stand alongside** each other.
To **be there** when life gets hard.
To **challenge** each other.
To **bring out the best** in each other.

A place to speak **honestly** – and **be heard.**
No judgement. No fixing. Just truth.

A Band of Brothers Purbeck hosts a monthly men's group.

When: 2nd Monday of every month, 7–9pm
Next dates: 13th July, 10th Aug, 14th Sept
Where: The Focus Centre, Swanage High Street
Who: All men welcome — just turn up

During the evening you'll have the chance to speak openly, listen to others, be properly heard and connect with good men and be guided by those experienced in this work.

Want to know more?
Peter Neall 01929423 965 peterneall34@icloud.com
or
Rob Waitt 07874705466 robbiewaitt@gmail.com

At the end of the May, Swanage Skatepark Community Project hosted a **Skate Jam** to celebrate the completion of the phase 1 skatepark rebuild. It was a celebration of what can be achieved when ordinary citizens come together and what community looks like when we choose to transform our neighbourhood with love and unity.

The stars of the Skate Jam were the many young people who regularly use the skatepark sharing the day with their friends and families. The energy, support, good vibes reminds us why this project matters so much. Thank you to everyone who came down to the skatepark for the celebration, all the volunteers who supported us (including the Purbeck WI who ran a superb cake stall) and a huge well done to all the skate jam winners!

Together, we raised £1,391 towards the Phase 2 skatepark build!

We've now raised £53.5K towards our £80K goal.

Anyone wishing to support the project can do so by emailing swanageskatepark@gmail.com

And if you shop at Co-op don't forget to select us as your chosen cause!

Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust
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Purbeck Sounds presenters had a very busy June visiting PAW studios and running two events at The Mowlem Big weekend, Cathy, Thelma and Grace organised the History Box with Helen from the Mowlem. Showcasing some of the Mowlem's previous productions-Fiddler on the Roof, Anything Goes, June Ranger and Swanage School. Old theatre programmes were on display dating back to 1913, with photos kindly supplied by Julia Gadenne who has been appearing in plays there for over 40 years. The idea was to create an opportunity for visitors to recall some of their experiences and enjoyment of their visits to the theatre, PS will be playing some of these recordings over the next few weeks, which can also be heard online on their listen again service. These recordings will be shared with Swanage Museum to be stored in their audio archives, and this experience may lead to other events in the future.

In the Mowlem auditorium Fi ran two poetry sessions one for adults, with author Nick Jubber present, the other for children, where they visited a virtual treasure Island, became characters, finding clues and then writing a poem. Fi was also assisted by Maggie, who is always up for a bit of fun.

We are very pleased to welcome two new presenters-Joe Burns, Friday breakfast shows 8-10am and Steve Whale with Back Stage on Fridays 10-12md. Paul Thompson returns Thursday evenings with The Late Show.

The presenters have had some amazing guests - if you have a subject you want to talk about or want to promote an event, please email contact@purbecksounds.co.uk

Moving on Purbeck Sounds will be present at many events over the summer months and ask that you come and say hello.

Thursday 6th August, Thursday 20th August, Thursday 3rd September & Thursday 17th September – COFFEE JUNCTION

Everyone is welcome to come along for a relaxed and informal get-together over coffee or tea.

Whether you'd like a chat, fancy a game of cards, want to bring along your favourite board game, or simply enjoy some company, Coffee Junction is open to all. We look forward to welcoming both familiar faces and newcomers alike.

Bank Holiday Monday 31st August – HARMANS CROSS SUMMER FETE & FLOWER SHOW

Preparations are now in full swing for this year's Summer Fête and Flower Show, and we are looking forward to welcoming the community for what promises to be another fantastic day.

The Fête opens at 12 noon and entry is £3 for adults, with free admission for children aged 16 and under. There is also plenty of free parking available.

This year's event will feature:

- Live music throughout the afternoon
- Licensed bar serving Pimms and local ales
- Barista coffee
- Hog roast, refreshments and homemade cakes
- Purbeck Ice Cream
- Children's games and entertainment
- Dog agility display
- Local craft, produce and community stalls
- Books and bric-a-brac
- Flower & Produce Show
- Grand raffle and much more



We are delighted to be supporting **Purbeck Parkys** this year, with raffle proceeds being shared with the charity to support the fantastic work they do.

There is still time to book a pitch at the Fete. If you are a local crafter, producer, charity or community group and would like to take part, we would love to hear from you.

We would also be very grateful for donations for our stalls. We are particularly looking for bottles, teddies, unwanted gifts, jewellery, handbags, scarves, books, children's toys and games, bric-a-brac and good-quality outerwear. The donations box can be found through the small field gate on the left-hand side of the hall, next to the garage.

We are also looking for volunteers to help on the day. If you can spare just two or three hours, whether helping on a stall, serving refreshments or assisting with the smooth running of the event, we would love to hear from you.

Sunday 20th September – HXVH CHURCH

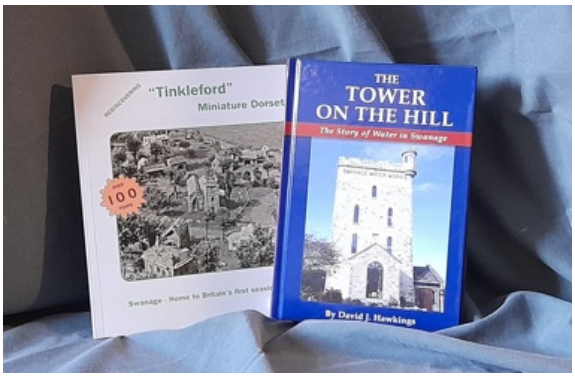
Our next village hall church service will take place on **Sunday 20th September**. There will be no church service held at the hall during August.

For information about any of the above events, pitch bookings, donations, volunteering opportunities or hall hire enquiries, please contact **Bethani Rawlings** at bethanirawlings.hxvh@gmail.com.

HXVH Committee

New Local Histories at Swanage Museum

Swanage Museum and History Centre are proud to have supported the publication of two new local histories. David Hawkings' *The Tower On The Hill* was published by respected publisher Halsgrove. The first comprehensive study of water in Swanage, it tells the fascinating story of how thwe town's supply developed from springs and wells to the construction of dramatic towers built to bring fresh water to the growing Victorian holiday resort. George Burt's obelisk on Ballard Down and his imposing tower at Durlston still command attention today.



Swanage Museum has been active in bringing a forgotten part of the town's history to light. In his new book *Rediscovering Tinkleford ,* author Brian Salter tells the story of a model village which was once a popular attraction at the Virginia Cottage Tea Rooms. It later moved to various locations in the town before being stored away and forgotten for more that twenty years. Thanks to the efforts of Museum volunteers, many of the model buildings now form a display in the Museum, which has proved very popular with visitors.

Both books are on sale in the Museum.

Why not join our team at the Museum and History Centre ?

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to help us run, grow, and share our town's incredible story. Whether you have a passion for local history, love meeting new people, or want to support your community behind the scenes, we would love to hear from you.

We have various opportunities available in both the Museum and the History Centre, and we're sure there will be something that fits your schedule and interests.

How to get involved:

Pop in: Look in at the Museum in The Square for an informal chat during our opening hours.

Call us: 01929 421427 or 01929 423850 or Email: museumswanage@gmail.com

DOUBLE ACT drama group
DoubleActCorfeCastle
www.double-act.org.uk

Multi Award winning **Double Act** drama group is creating a brand new adaptation of

THE CAT AND THE CANARY

Performances on November 18th, 19th, 20th & 21st

Director Dougal Dixon's inspired new adaptation of the original 1922 play by John Willard is taking shape and we are off and running!
A great cast that actually includes that rare ingredient of new men!
Most of the stunning sound effects have already been created.
The stage is designed and major props are well underway.
Now for the serious business of learning the action and lines!

This is the classic melodrama, with all the cliches of an estranged dysfunctional family meeting up for the reading of a will at midnight in an old dark house with a monster on the loose!
What could possibly go wrong?

Rehearsals take place on Mondays at 7pm in Corfe Castle Village Hall. If you fancy a new hobby & want to join a safe flourishing company – we can always do with more technical help back stage with costumes, make-up, props, sets, lights and sound – to make the magic happen! Just come along and join us or ask Peter for further details.

Peter (*chairman – 07551 183465*) or
email - doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com
New members of all ages and abilities, on or off stage, are always welcome!



Celebratory Supper of
Eastern Promise
For the
New Kitchen,
at
Corfe Castle Village Hall
Saturday 1st August 2026
6pm for 6.30pm
Free drink of bubbly & BYO
3 Courses with raffle
Tickets £25 pp available from
Village Stores, Gill, Sue and Chris

Soup 'n Pud Soup 'n Pud Soup 'n Pud

Classic car rally heads to Norden for huge group visit to Purbeck's "hidden gem"

The Purbeck Mining Museum hosted its largest ever adult visitor group in May as nearly 100 classic car enthusiasts were given guided tours around the popular visitor attraction at Norden. The special visit was a key feature in the itinerary of the three day Jurassic Coast Rally organised to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Traction Owners Club and included participants from all corners of the UK as well as Ireland and France. The line-up of over forty pre-1957 Citroën cars and commercial vehicles was an impressive sight in the large car park at Norden Park adjacent to the museum and feedback from the visit was extremely positive.

"Everyone really enjoyed the tours around the museum and were fascinated to see and hear all about an industry that has played such a significant role over many centuries in helping to shape the countryside, economy and communities in this area of the Purbecks," says Gavin Davey, one of the rally's organisers. "It really is a hidden gem in the Isle of Purbeck. Everyone at the museum couldn't have been more welcoming, and hearing first hand experience from a former miner provided real insight into the workings of a mine and the huge scale of mining operations in years gone by."

According to Museum Lead, Peter Sills, the continuing rise in visitor numbers to the Purbeck Mining Museum has led to more and more organisations and community groups arranging group visits. "We welcome groups of all ages and always ensure we have volunteers on hand to cater for specific requirements and areas of interest. The visit of the Traction Owners Club was our largest adult visitor group to date. We split the group into three tour groups to ensure everyone had the opportunity to ask questions and to take in the atmosphere of an authentic and restored clay mine."



Over forty classic cars lined up in the car park at Norden when the Jurassic Coast Rally of the Traction Owner's Club made a group visit to the Purbeck Mining Museum.



Nearly a hundred classic car enthusiasts from the Traction Owners Club arrive for their guided tours around the Purbeck Mining Museum near Norden.

Collaboration gives children a fascinating insight into a bygone age

The Purbecks have provided over 200 children from schools across the UK with exciting new adventures and educational insights thanks to a progressive collaboration between an outdoor activity specialist and a Dorset heritage attraction. The Purbeck Mining Museum at Norden has hosted a series of group visits for children as part of a programme of residential outdoor activities organised by Swanage-based Cumulus Outdoors. The initiative has proved hugely successful as it has shown how fun and exciting experiences in a vibrant adventure water park owe much to the spirit and graft of former clay miners. According to Sandra Hayman, Programme Administrator at Cumulus Outdoors, the opportunity for children to see an authentic clay mine from years gone by is a perfect learning experience after they've had fun in the Waterpark lakes and Mud Trail at the nearby Dorset Adventure Park.

"The lakes and surrounding landscape were all formed by clay mining activities so it's invaluable for the children to appreciate that their water park enjoyment is directly connected with an industry that was at the heart of Purbeck's economy for several centuries and which has quite literally shaped the local landscape. The feedback from the children and the teaching staff from the various schools has been really positive, so we will be looking to extend this collaboration next year and beyond. It's always a pleasure to showcase the contribution of a bygone age for curious and inquisitive young visitors," adds Museum Lead, Peter Sills. "With a strong educational focus, we're delighted the museum helps to shine a light on an industry that was the dominant employer and at the very heart of Purbeck life for so many years. Our collaborative approach with Cumulus Outdoors is helping to ensure the next generation appreciates and understands such an important heritage."

The series of recent group visits to the Purbeck Mining Museum featured schools from Uxbridge, Reading, Jersey, Birmingham and Devon. During their stay in the Purbecks, Cumulus Outdoors provided campsite accommodation and organised various activities for the children that included kayaking, stand-up paddleboarding, beach safety, climbing, tunnelling and tag archery.

The Purbeck Mining Museum is run entirely by volunteers and provides an extensive array of equipment, artefacts, displays and AV presentations with periodic demonstrations of engine and wagon movements on the restored narrow gauge railway network around the main mining building. Open most days throughout the summer until October, full details on opening times are posted on the museum's website, www.purbeckminingmuseum.org. This also provides more information on Purbeck's clay mining industry and the various roles and opportunities for volunteers who are always given a warm welcome, even if they are only available for just a few hours every now and then.

Herston 'Community' Halt

Much of our focus over recent months has been to increase the amount of stored rain water at Herston Halt. Two new water tanks were installed over the winter, and various new pipes provided to move water around this site. For the first time there are hanging baskets up at the station during the summer months and I thank Richard Walbridge for his assistance. A considerable effort is now keeping them watered every day despite the high temperatures and some persistent wind.

I continue to raise the profile of our team within the community, and I'm pleased that there has been some fruitful interest. Having managed the station for almost 30 years it is inevitable that there is a steady changeover of faces; some staying longer than others. I'm extremely grateful for all of the help that I have received over the years, but the push to find new blood continues. Nick Smith from Worth Matravers has been an excellent recent find, with Graeme Barnes too, & there are two more volunteers in the pipeline. If you are interested in supporting Herston **Community** Halt, in any capacity, please contact me at frank.robert@swanagerailway.co.uk

At the beginning of July, I welcomed 12 volunteers from Network Rail (Wales & West) who undertook a number of maintenance tasks. I'm also pleased that we've pushed on with one of our longer-term projects - to extend one of the sidings by 120 feet. The track was laid for 'Mercury Siding' about 18 months ago, and now we continue with extending the working surface, to enable our volunteers to work on railway vehicles during the summer months.

Kind regards,

Frank



Floral delight at Herston Community Halt.



Ash from steam locomotives being delivered to Mercury Siding at Herston. Photo: FER

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group



Newsletters about making the best use of local health services

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) has produced a series of six newsletters about making the best use of local health services. All six newsletters can now be found on the Practice website at:

Newsletters about making the best use of local health services - Swanage Medical Practice.

The newsletters cover the following topics:

1. Sources of information, advice and support on health issues
2. Keeping Well and Self Care
3. Services provide provided by Community Pharmacies
4. Community Health Services you can refer yourself to
5. Maternity Services and Services for Children, Young People and Families
6. Mental Health Services.

Please do take a look.

Printable versions of the six newsletters have now also been produced by the PPG. Hard copies are available at the Surgery and at The Focus Centre in Swanage.

The printable versions of the newsletters will also be made available on the Practice website, so you can print out your own copies.

PPG Meetings

The PPG will next be meeting **at the Surgery on Tuesday 14 July 2026 at 6:00pm**, when we will be discussing the results of this year's national GP Patient Survey. More information about the GP Patient Survey can be found at: www.gp-patient.co.uk.

You can find out more about the PPG, including Minutes of our meetings and our current priorities, at: www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Patient-Participation-Group.

If you are interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, the Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at ppgswanage@gmail.com. We would be particularly pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking on the role of Secretary for the PPG.

Dr Margaret Guy, Chair, Swanage Medical Practice PPG

SWANAGE & PURBECK ROTARY - SO MUCH TO CELEBRATE!

Swanage & Purbeck Rotary Charitable Incorporated Organisation

At its now annual **'Celebration Event'** held on July 1st at the Swanage School, over 80 people attended including Swanage Mayor, Chris Tomes and Deputy Mayor Sarah Vile (herself a Rotarian) to hear of the successful last year when over £35k was raised for both local and International varied projects thanks to the generosity of the local community at Rotary organised events.





Community projects have included the Skate Park, AllSort'd, Greengage Community Garden and the placement of a community bench for those waiting for a taxi adjacent to the station . Focus has also been placed on youth projects and work with young people and on **END POLIO NOW**- a project supported for many years by Rotary International and Swanage & Purbeck Rotary with hopefully the eradication of this crippling disease almost in sight.

The evening also welcomed a new President Linda Winter who was delighted to receive her chain of office from District Governor, Steve Parsons who lives in Swanage and is also a member of Swanage & Purbeck Rotary.

Amongst the highlights of the evening saw the return of the **CLEM DENNIS AWARDS** - Clem Dennis had been a former Rotarian and would have been so pleased and proud to see Florence , Albie, Mollie and Wren , from local Primary Schools receiving awards for their resilience, determination and service to others, characteristics that he himself presented throughout his life.

Included in the evening presentations were the **PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS (PHF's),** Rotary's highest award, given to members of the community and within Rotary, who have demonstrated commitment,dedication and service, some in the spotlight and others who work quietly in the background almost unnoticed.

Awards this year were given to former Mayor Mike Bonfield, Steve Etches, Linda Buckley and Val Burden, Karen Grant and Phil Samways and Judy Senior, Peter Davies, Jenny Hynan and Margaret Christie. Sue Payne received a well deserved PHF after the event for her dedication to the Swanage Disabled Club.

Since the 1st July Rotarians have continued their busy work and responded swiftly to the devastating earthquake situation in Venezuela by organising a street collection which **raised an amazing £1333.75 for ShelterBox in support of those in Venezuela** . Members were humbled to receive thanks, support and encouragement from a Venezuelan lady visiting Swanage for the day.

A further event to highlight the work of Swanage & Purbeck Rotary and its End Polio Now campaign has been held on the Swanage Sea Front, adjacent to the Rotary Wishing well which is raising money for President Linda's charity **JULIA's HOUSE** - a local hospice organisation. long supported. for its support of children with life threatening conditions

The Rotary International Theme this year is **CREATE LASTING IMPACT,** Swanage & Purbeck Rotary is doing its best to do just that!





FRIENDS OF SWANAGE HOSPITAL

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

Mobility – it's something many of us are lucky enough to be able to take for granted most of the time. What a shock then, when our mobility is reduced – or lost, through age, trauma or illness. Simply being able to stand up, walk where we want, sit a while in comfort, meet friends, pop to the shop, and have chats on the way is so important – and reduced mobility often means increased loneliness and isolation.

We're incredibly fortunate that the Ward Team at Swanage Hospital is managed by Maria Williams, a former Occupational Therapist, who is inevitably only too aware of the importance of movement, support and a degree of independence in maintaining our health and wellbeing. A major part of the team's work is centred around the rehabilitation of patients to support them in living what may be a very different kind of life, as well as they can. This means enabling patients to get out of bed, perhaps move to the day room to join other patients, and supporting them to sit and stand safely and in comfort. We were pleased therefore to receive a funding request from Maria, reminding us of the positive and lasting impact that specialist rise and recline chairs can have in rehabilitating vulnerable patients recovering from strokes, living with Parkinson's or facing mobility challenges.



Tilt and space chairs were a new concept to many of us and are invaluable for patients with jerky movements who are not always safe in a riser recliner. All the chairs requested have built in pressure relieving to prevent pressure sores. They also have wheels and an attendant push bar so that patients who are less mobile can be wheeled to join other patients in the day room or patient lounge. Another bonus is that they simulate chairs that patients may be used to at home, which builds confidence, whilst offering a greater degree of accessibility and comfort. Hospital furniture must now meet the highest fire standards, which inevitably impacts cost, so we were delighted to be able to purchase four riser recliners and one tilt in space chair at a total of just under £8000. We received this very happy photo of Ward Manager Maria, Matron Zoe, Sister Vickie and HCA Jane, expressing their thanks and showing off the chairs. They are already very much in use, and the team tell us they are bringing huge improvements to patients and, through their manoeuvrability, help staff too.

A quick, but heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported our Afternoon Tea in June. We had to switch from the hospital garden to the Catholic Hall at short notice, and the weather was atrocious on the day, but lots of you came along, and we had a lovely morning. Nearly £1600 was raised to support hospital patient services and staff, which is just amazing. Thank you so much, until next time, take care.

Pat, Chair, Friends of Swanage Hospital

SWANAGE DISABLED CLUB

Charity no: 1133375

This year, so far, we have had several speakers including Maggie Hardy on her attendance at the Women of the Year awards, Gary Suttle about his journey as a local councillor, Vanessa Neish exercising our bodies as well as our brains, and Rose telling us about all that the new Focus Centre is offering.

In addition, we have had trips to The Hub to include shopping at the new Lidl at Sandford, to Holme Nursery, RSPB Arne and the Courtyard at Lytchett Minster. We have been fortunate with the weather on all these trips, being able to sit outside in the shade to chat while enjoying our teas and cakes. We also had our usual 'after Christmas lunch' at the Seven Stars just outside Wool, when the members and all the volunteers have the chance to get together over delicious food.

On other Monday afternoons, some have continued playing Scrabble, dominoes, various card games while others pursued creative activities like jewelry making, bag painting, card making and colouring.

During August, we shall be selling our craft items at the Rotary Fete on 6th, then at our seafront stalls on 12th, 21st and 30th. We hope you come along and support our continuing efforts for the older people in town.

Just a reminder that we do have a vehicle available for wheelchair transport for appointments or social occasions which can be booked by calling 07426 928224. There is no charge for this service though donations are very welcome. We also have many items to help someone disabled, whether permanently or temporarily, including wheelchairs, rolators, frames, commodes and other aids.

We have no Monday meetings during August but would be delighted to welcome anyone interested in joining us any Monday afternoon from 7th September, 2.00pm at All Saints Church hall.

To contact us please call Sue on 07426 928224.

Enjoy all the town's summer activities!

The Friends of Wareham Hospital

Have you ever visited Wareham Hospital? Did you know there is a hospital in Wareham ? Many still don't know of this valuable community resource despite the stirling efforts of the Friends team who work hard to promote the hospital and its many out-patient services provided for the whole of Purbeck.

The Friends are **celebrating 60 years of support to the hospital** this year and would value help and support to keep up our work -new members, trustees and financial support are very much welcomed. Contact can be made through the hospital in Streche Rd. We are now planning our **AGM at 0930** and a fundraising **coffee morning from 1000hrs,** which will include a raffle, on **SATURDAY 26th SEPTEMBER** at Wareham Town Hall when the raffle will be drawn at 12noon. Raffle tickets will be on sale from the Hospital reception and from committee members at £1 each. All monies raised will be used to support the hospital and the wider community services we are fortunate to have in Purbeck.

We have recently supported the Purbeck Community Mental Health Team's move to the hospital site and we are optimistic that the much valued Chemotherapy service at Wareham Hospital may be re-established in the New Year. If this happens we will be launching a fundraising project to support this service.

In the meantime please do visit the hospital garden. Our small gardening team, made up of mainly Swanage Residents ,have done an amazing job turning the garden area into a peaceful and beautiful oasis of calm for patients, staff and visitors. We rely on fundraising and plant donations to support our work and have been grateful to Wareham Town Council who kindly provided us with some colourful plants, surplus to their requirements, prior to our RHS Judging visit as part of the 'its your neighbourhood scheme' linked with the Britain in Bloom competition. We are hopeful that the judge appreciated the significant improvements and changes made this year - we will keep you posted!



The Breast Screening unit is now visiting the Wareham hospital car park for a few weeks - providing the local opportunity to get breast screening done. Please do have a look at the garden at the same time.



Our garden team works every Tuesday morning - we would be delighted to see you and we are hoping you will support our raffle, AGM and coffee morning.

We are excited to say that both the Swanage Carnival Committee and Wareham Wednesdays committee have identified us as beneficiaries of their summer events this year - we are so very grateful and thank them for all their hard work.

Have a good summer.

Maggie Hardy, Friends Chair

Community Front Room Pop-Up Arrives in Swanage

Good news! A pop-up Community Front Room is now open in Swanage, providing free, out-of-hours drop-in mental health support for anyone aged 18 and over. Whether someone is feeling overwhelmed, experiencing emotional distress, or simply needs a safe space to talk, the Community Front Room team are on hand to offer support without an appointment or referral.

Where?

The Loft, 17A Commercial Road, Swanage, BH19 1DF

When?

Fridays, 2.15pm – 9.45pm, until 5 September 2026
(*Please note there is no service on 17 July or 21 August.*)

As part of Dorset's Access Mental Health service, Community Front Rooms provide face-to-face emotional support, practical guidance, and help people connect with other services where needed. If you know anyone who could benefit from a friendly, supportive place to talk when other services are closed, we'd really appreciate you sharing this with colleagues, clients, carers, and your wider community. To find out more, visit the Community Front Rooms page on the Dorset HealthCare website.

https://dorsetaccesswellbeing.co.uk

Updates from the National Trust



Photo: Adult puffins, Martin Shaw

Puffling in Purbeck!

For the first time in decades, there has been a confirmed sighting of a puffin fledgling in Purbeck (called a puffling). It was spotted in a rock crevice near Dancing Ledge by the volunteers who have been monitoring the puffins over the summer.

The sighting was the culmination of weeks of watching the adult birds carrying fish into their nests which are deep in the ledge. The last time volunteers observed this feeding behaviour was in 2023 – but the puffins stopped abruptly after just 25 days, suggesting the chicks (which take about 40 days to fledge) died prematurely.

Pufflings are distinguished from the adult birds by their beaks which are smaller and grey, without the iconic orange and blue colours. This puffling will now leave the ledge, and its parents, and stay alone far out at sea, before possibly returning to its birthplace in two years' time. They don't breed until they are about four years old.

Our motion sensor cameras on the ledge will be removed in August. Then volunteers will study the thousands of images to see what they reveal. Watch this space!

Parade of painted ladies

We've seen a welcome influx of butterflies this year – including huge numbers of painted ladies. These migrants travel to the UK from as far away as North Africa. They can cover up to 100 miles per day at 30mph and even fly through the night. Look out for them across the heaths and coastal grasslands. Thistles and nettles are some of their favourite food plants – why not leave a patch of them in your garden and create your own wildlife haven?

This painted lady on red valerian was snapped by Worth Matravers resident, Mike Wenham. When we put his photos on our Facebook page (National Trust Purbeck Countryside), the post received over 2,000 'likes' – making it one of our most popular stories ever!



Photo: Mike Wenham

Be tick aware

We usually spread the love for all creatures, but there are some to be cautious of. Ticks are tiny spider-like parasites that latch onto animals (including us) to feed on blood.



Photo: Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

In Purbeck, we have lots of deer – which are major carriers of ticks. To stay safe while enjoying our wonderful outdoors:

- Stay on clearly defined paths and avoid long grass
- Wear long trousers and socks
- Use insect repellent
- Check yourself (and pets) regularly for ticks

If you've been bitten by a tick, or have recently spent time outdoors and developed an unusual rash or other symptoms, contact your GP. Some tick bites can result in an infection called Lyme disease, so early awareness matters. Find out more here: https://www.lymeresourcecentre.com/about-ticks

Lighting up the hedgerows

Volunteers are reporting encouraging numbers of glow-worms this year. Twelve females were counted one evening on Bonvils Lane, Worth Matravers. On the Winspit transect, a red-light trap attracted too many males to count! (The traps don't harm the glow-worms.)

Local sightings are also increasing, with people in Worth spotting them on evening walks from the pub. We are hugely grateful to the volunteers who give up their time to monitor glow-worms and other species across Purbeck. You can help informally – and make a real contribution to science and conservation – by recording your glow-worm sightings on the iRecord database: https://irecord.org.uk/

Glow-worms have a fascinating life cycle. The larvae can live for up to three years, feeding on snails. The adult beetles only live for a few weeks and don't feed at all – all their energy is spent on mating. Although the eggs, larvae and adult males all glow, it's the adult females who shine the brightest. They crawl up vegetation on warm evenings and emit their yellow-green light to attract males.

If you have any queries, email us on purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Cathy Lewis, the National Trust



Photo: Mark Singleton

A drive to raise £200,000 has been launched by Wareham's Men's Shed as it tries to secure its future by having its own community workshop.

The Shedders have been granted planning permission by Dorset Council to erect a 20m x 10m building in the grounds of Swanage and Wareham Rugby Club off Bestwall Road, Wareham.

If they can raise enough money for the build, it will mean an end to the need to rent premises, which runs the risk of tenancy agreements being terminated. And it will ensure they can maintain the Shed's twin aims of providing a haven for lonely, disadvantaged or retired men while making a huge variety of items in wood for the wider community.

Chairman Harold Forbes said: "The cost for a charity like ours is daunting. But it will be more than worth it if we can carry on serving Wareham and district as it has come to expect while continuing to provide a meeting place for men that has been shown to improve mental health and wellbeing.

"We would love to build the workshop ourselves and have many of the skills and tools needed. But the price of materials has skyrocketed and we also have to consider things we cannot do such as footings and core plumbing, so we'll have to pay for a job lot. Given our reputation in the area, we are quietly hoping that a benefactor or sponsor will step forward. But if that doesn't happen we will be pursuing charitable grants and launching a crowdfunding appeal."



Wareham's Shedders with a children's climbing wall made for Stoborough Primary School

In 2024 the Shedders successfully fought off an eviction attempt by Care Dorset, which housed them at the Purbeck Connect centre in Sandford Lane, Wareham. They were saved by a public outcry. But fearing the writing was on the wall, they moved out a year later and are now in temporary accommodation at Lenctenbury Farm outside the town.

Mr Forbes, who was recently honoured with a Dorset High Sheriff's Award for outstanding service to the community, said: "We also need a new home – and more room – as our membership is steadily increasing, not least because we are in the process of forming a new women's section. Let's hope we can make it all happen."

The Shed's scheme has the support of Wareham Town Council. And Dorset's planning officer, referring to the overwhelming public backing for the application, stated: "The comments confirm that the proposals would result in community benefits and support for members attending the facility."

The Shedders have recorded their own song, Here For You, to showcase the group. You can find it at youtu.be/TPhdPDAlQRE If you can help, contact warehamshed@gmail.com.

Swanage Food Bank

Even in this hot weather our dedicated volunteers are working hard at the Food Bank to ensure local folk who need emergency food aid are supplied.

Our Food Bank AGM took place in June and reported that during the past year we have supplied emergency food to 530 local households. We are really grateful for donations of food into the supermarket blue bins and also donations of money which enable us to operate effectively. The Food Bank currently spends over £1000 each month supplementing the food donations we receive with additional food purchases to ensure all recipients get a balanced food parcel.

If one-off help is needed from the food bank, clients can self-refer by phoning us on 07759 230313. If ongoing help is needed, clients will be asked to get a referral from an agency that is aware of their circumstances and is able to provide additional support and advice - like Citizens Advice, Social Worker, Mental Health Worker, the Focus Centre, or a church minister. We remain committed to ensuring we help those in need, whether with food parcels or by directing them to other supportive agencies.

The Food Bank is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays between 12-2pm at the United Reformed Church, High Street, BH19 2NY. If our help is needed, please call us in the morning on those days.

If you are able to help with a contribution to our stocks this month, the following items would be much appreciated:

Cereals • Tins of ham/corned beef • Tins of spaghetti bolognese/macaroni cheese • Tins of fruit • Sweet/savoury biscuits • Toilet rolls

We have good stocks of baked beans in our store and don't need any more at present.

Our Blue Food Bins for donated items can be found in Budgen's, the Co-op, Costcutters and SPAR. Collection points can also be found in local churches. We welcome gifts of tinned and dried food and drinks. Items must be within their Best-by date.

Thank you to everyone who has been able to support the work of the Food Bank!

Swanage Pier News

Waverley Paddle Steamer

We are delighted to welcome the *Waverley* paddle steamer back to Swanage. During her South Coast cruise from 3 to 22 September, she will berth in Swanage on several occasions.

For more information, visit: https://waverleyexcursions.co.uk/



New Shop on the Pier

If you have not already visited, we have a brand-new angling shop on the Pier. Run by Tom and Charlotte Greasty of Swanage Sea Fishing, they have brought a fresh new look to the Pier shop, providing anglers with everything they need, from bait and tackle to essential equipment and helpful advice.

But don't worry, all your favourite Swanage Pier branded items remain very much part of the shop. From souvenirs to gifts, you'll still find the items that celebrate and support the Pier.

Shop online: www.swanage-pier-gift-shop.myshopify.com

Something Magical is Coming to Swanage Pier – Christmas 2026

Step into the magic of Christmas at Swanage Pier and make unforgettable festive memories with family and friends. Marine Villas and the Christmas Marquee will be transformed into a charming winter wonderland, filled with seasonal cheer, twinkling decorations and a warm festive atmosphere.

Visitors can look forward to sparkling Christmas lights illuminating the Pier, creating a magical setting against the backdrop of Swanage Bay. With festive entertainment, seasonal delights and plenty of Christmas spirit, there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

More details will be announced soon – watch this space and stay tuned for updates!

Purbeck Association of the National Trust (PANT)

Who we are

We are a local social group supporting the work of the National Trust, by organising talks, outings, social events and holidays. You don't have to be a member of the National Trust to join us.

What we're doing

We generally don't do much in August, as we know that our members have lots of competing calls on their time, but we'll spring back into action in September with the first of our 'winter' season of talks, and an outing to Southampton.

Our Talks run monthly from September to March, with the venue alternating between All Saints Church in Ulwell and Carey Hall in Wareham. This year we start in Swanage at 2.30pm on Tuesday 15th when **David Beardsley** will speak on *The Heir who Didn't Succeed.* This is about the unfortunate John Ralph Bankes who should have inherited the fabulous estate of Kingston Lacy and Corfe Castle but failed because of a series of sad and surprising events. Today, few know how and why his life was derailed from one of privilege to pauper. His story is an extraordinary and fascinating tale. Talks are open to everyone. Entry is £4 (PANT members £3), which includes refreshments.

We run outings for members throughout the year, and in September we're going to Southampton where we'll have a cruise visiting the three main rivers, namely the Itchen, Test and Hamble. An added attraction will be the fish & chip lunch on board. Nearer Christmas we'll be visiting Exeter to go to its well-known Christmas market.

Any profit from our events goes to the National Trust's Purbeck Estate (Corfe Castle, Studland Beach, and the local countryside). Recently we've donated £2,000 towards the project reintroducing beavers in Little Sea, and another £2,000 towards the purchase of a heavy-duty mobility scooter for visitors to Corfe Castle.

Find out more

Membership is £5/year for an individual, or £7.50 for two people. You can find out more about us, including details of our forthcoming activities, and of how to join us, by going to our website www.pubecknt.org.uk, or you can email us at info@purbecknt.org.uk, or call 01929 552872.







PARK YOGA

Join **free** weekly Park Yoga sessions at Forres Field, Victoria Avenue every Sunday morning from 9:30 - 10:30 until the 13th September 2026.

All abilities are welcome and no experience is necessary. There's no need to book; all you need to do is turn up with a mat, blanket of towel and enjoy the session in nature.

These sessions have been funded by Dorset Council. Park Yoga is a national charity delivering free community yoga in



Corfe Castle Surgery

As we continue to deal with the hot weather, we just wanted to remind all patients that if on the day of your appointment the heat is too much for travelling to the practice, we can change certain appointments to telephone calls.

Please look out for family, friends and neighbours who may be more vulnerable in the heat and follow NHS guidance regarding how to stay cool, avoiding sun exposure in the hottest part of the day and staying in the shade where possible.

Although I have just talked about the heat, we are fast approaching flu season! We will start vaccinating from 1st October so please await your invitation to the practice for your appointment. The vaccines are ordered and we look forward to vaccinating you soon.

Finally, and on a less positive note, we have started to display figures on missed appointments for the previous month. We have noticed that the amount of wasted clinic hours has recently increased and we would like to remind patients to cancel appointments in good time if it is not needed so that we have the opportunity to offer the appointment to another patient.

May -71 'Did not attend' appointments = 14 and a half hours wasted clinic time

June - 72 'Did not attend' appointments = 15 and a half hours wasted clinic time

We appreciate your support of the whole practice team. Please contact us with any queries.

Kerry Norman, Practice Manager

Wareham Whalers

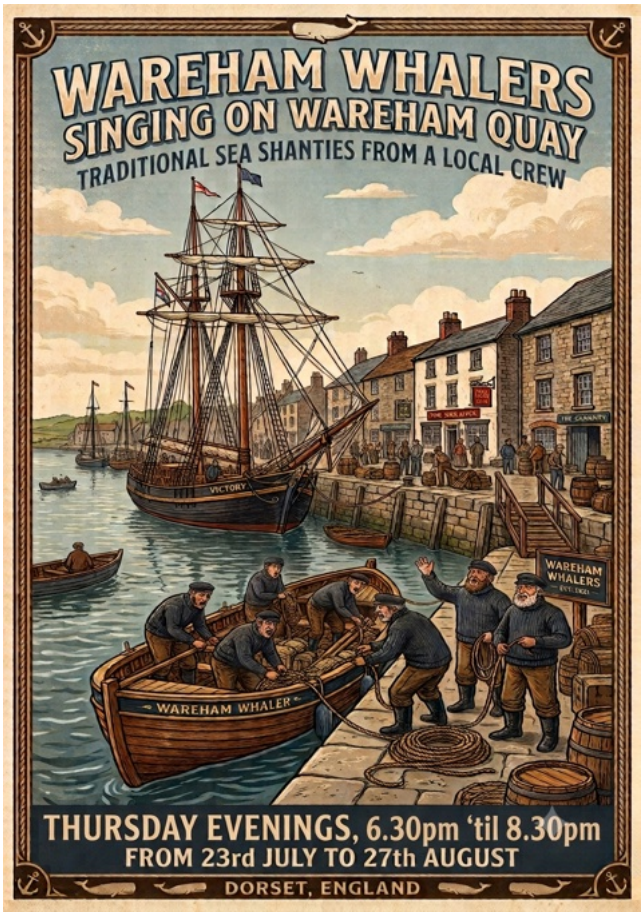
There is a natural, historic poeticism to Wareham Whalers raising money for the RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution). Sea shanties were born out of the brutal, dangerous labour of historical merchant sailors—the very same environments where lifeboats are called out to save lives today.

Pairing that maritime support with PLANETS Cancer Charity (which funds vital research and patient care for pancreatic, liver, colorectal, abdominal, and neuroendocrine cancers across the South) gives their music an incredibly meaningful community impact.

This summer they will be singing their wide repertoire of shanties and sea songs every week on Wareham Quay. Do come along and join them on Thursdays, 23rd July through to 27th August, from 6.30pm until 8.30pm. These events are entirely free, so just turn up and join the fun.

Also, throughout the Summer, Whalers will be singing at a range of events including Purbeck Valley Folk Festival and Swanage Folk Festival. A further date to put in your diary and one not to be missed is Sunday 4th October when they will be performing their concert "Shanties and Strange Stories" in the parish hall on Wareham Quay.





What's On at The Mowlem
August & September 2026
www.themowlem.com

August 2026

Music

This is Floyd
8 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Heard it Through the Grapevine
10 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Tom Petty & Fleetwood Mac Legacy Show
12 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Good Times - A Tribute to Nile Rodgers and Chic
15 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Sounds of the 60's with The Zoots
17 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Alter Eagles
19 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Oasiz
22 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Take A Chance on Us
24 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

The Upbeat Beatles
26 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Elvis - From Memphis to Vegas
29 Aug 2026 7:30 PM

Swing Easy Too
1 Aug 2026 2-5 PM

SoundCellar presents: Thokozile Collective
7 Aug 7:00pm

Cinema

Minions & Monsters (U)
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 21, 25, 27 August 2:30 PM
Parent & Toddler Screening - 23rd August 10 AM

Disclosure Day (12A)
2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Aug 7:00pm

Toy Story 5 (PG)
7, 9, 11 & 13 August 2:30 PM

Masters of the Universe (12A)
7, 9, 11 & 13 Aug 7:00pm

Moana (PG)
14, 16, 18 & 20 Aug 2:30pm

Devil Wears Prada 2 (12A)
16, 18 & 20 Aug 7:00pm

Spider-Man - Brand New Day (12A)
28 & 30 Aug 2026 7:00pm
1, 2 & 3 Sep 2026 7:00pm

Community

Artsreach presents: African Drumming Workshop (5yrs+)
7 Aug 2:00 pm & 3:30 pm

September 2026

Music

Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra - West End to Hollywood
11 Sep 7:30pm

Made in Tennessee
19 Sep 2026

Last Night at The Proms
26 Sep 2026

Live Music in The Showbar (FREE entry)

Pent Up House Trio - 1 Sep 2026 7:30pm

Folk Festival Fringe - 12–13 Sep 2026 7:30pm

Coralie Haigh - 17 Sep 2026 7:30pm

Not Just Sax - 18 Sep 7:30pm

Swing Easy Too - 26 Sep 2026 2pm - 5pm

Theatre

The City of Incurable Women
20 Sep 2026 7:30 PM

Comedy

Rhys James - Chop Logic
24 Sep 8:00pm

About The Mowlem

The Mowlem is a thriving arts hub for Swanage and a charitable organisation offering creative events throughout the year. We are an independent cinema with a 380-seat auditorium, studio space, gallery, and Showbar. Each year, we host over 300 events and welcome more than 25,000 visitors through our doors. Community and culture are at the heart of what we do, and we regularly partner with local festivals, schools, and amateur societies, as well as professional artists, companies, and productions.

More information: https://www.themowlem.com / Facebook / Instagram / Website

Mowlem Institute Charity: Reg. No. 243486



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans

DEADLINE

for contributions to the October / November 2026 issue of the Newsletter

MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2026