

Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and Swanage Area Forum

NEWSLETTER

Community News from Swanage and the Surrounding Villages



Welcome to the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and Swanage Area Forum's December 2023 / January 2024 edition of their Newsletter. This issue covers recent news and also plans for the Christmas and New Year period from many clubs, charities, societies and organisations in our local communities. The range of activities covered is once again outstanding, illustrating the area's abundance and variety of community life throughout our beautiful Purbeck.

Though we may inhabit different towns, villages or hamlets, we all depend one way or another on each other by often sharing facilities, services, activities and even problems. We hope that this modest newsletter helps link the various communities across Purbeck and assists the many clubs, charities and public services in communicating with as many folk as possible. We ask you once again to please pass this newsletter onto your colleagues, friends and neighbours.

The target date for sending in copy, photos or completed artwork for the February 2024 issue is Monday 15 January

Mel Norris

Trustee Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and Chair of The Swanage Area Forum

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find the newsletter at www.sandpdt.org.uk

DEADLINE

for contributions to the February 2024
issue of the Newsletter

MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024



Swanage & Purbeck
Development Trust
Charity Reg. No. 1162662

A Celebration of Purbeck

A film starring Purbeck's children has gone "on tour" after a host of schools clamoured to see it.

The film, "Let's Go Wild," was premiered at the recent Planet Purbeck Festival in front of a sell-out audience of 350 at Swanage's Mowlem Theatre. It was made by BBC and Netflix filmmaker, Sue Western.

Along with a talk by Springwatch TV presenter Nadeem Perera, the film was the centrepiece of the festival's main event, called 'A Celebration of Purbeck.'

Dates were arranged with all eight primary schools in the area such as Wareham St Mary and Swanage's St Mark's, and further showings are anticipated at the Purbeck and Swanage schools for older children.

"I've found myself sitting in school halls with tea and cake alongside parents, staff and children of all ages who are seeing themselves, their siblings and friends on a big screen. The children's expressions when they recognise themselves or places they know are priceless."

The celebration event capped a record-breaking festival – Planet Purbeck's third – which was attended over ten days by more than 3,400 people. More than 50 events were hosted by 90 local businesses, organisations or community groups, with funding support from the Talbot Village Trust.

A survey conducted by Planet Purbeck volunteers in the aftermath found that nearly 80 per cent of those who attended agreed with the statement: "I learned something new about protecting our local environment." More than half said they now felt more connected to the area's nature and wildlife, and nearly 60 per cent said they felt inspired to take action.

Festival organiser Luke M Luke said he was thrilled by the reaction.

"Our festival clearly helps to ignite the magic and wonder of nature, creating enduring experiences and the chance to discover something new."

Buoyed by the success, Luke said Planet Purbeck's next mission is to join a project in which a host of local organisations are planning events and experiences aimed at encouraging children and young people to enjoy and get involved with nature.





HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

How can it already be December? By the time you read this, we will probably have the HXVH tree decorated and standing tall at the crossroads, bringing some festive cheer to those heading along Valley Road. And for those of you who want to turn off down Haycrafts Lane and come to visit the Hall, there's still plenty going on in the run-up to Christmas.

Movie Nights Doors open at 7.00pm, as does the bar with the film commencing at 7.30pm. Tickets are £5.00



Movie Night Tuesday 12 December – The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry

Harold Fry (Jim Broadbent) is recently retired. He lives in a small English village with his wife, Maureen, (Penelope Wilton) who seems irritated by almost everything he does, even down to how he butters his toast. Little differentiates one day from the next. Then one morning the mail arrives with a letter addressed to Harold in a shaky scrawl from a woman he hasn't seen or heard from in twenty years. Queenie Hennessy is in a hospice and is writing to say goodbye. Harold pens a reply to his old friend and former work colleague – just a few stunted lines on headed notepaper - and takes a stroll to the postbox. But for some reason he just can't bring himself to post the letter.

Then a chance encounter in a petrol station gives Harold a new purpose ...

Live Music – Friday 15 December – The Churchfitters Christmas Show

The amazing and prodigiously talented Churchfitters – together with their array of extraordinary instruments – are back at HXVH. But tickets are already selling fast so please go to the special events section of our website at <https://www.harmancrosshall.co.uk/Special-Events/>

Christmas Carol Service – Sunday 17 December at 6pm

Everyone is welcome to join us for a traditional Christmas Carol service followed by mince pies, mulled wine and probably some other goodies as well.



Movie Night - Tuesday 9 January 2024 - A Man Called Otto

The picture stars an uncharacteristically abrasive Tom Hanks as Otto, a short-fused widower who crankily micromanages everything in his street, and also his own multiple suicide attempts. The arrival of new neighbours – heavily pregnant Marisol, her useless husband and their kids – interrupts Otto's plans to rejoin his recently departed wife.

If there's one thing even more attractive than the sweet embrace of death, it's the opportunity to demonstrate the correct way of doing stuff. Everything from parallel parking to dishwasher maintenance falls under Otto's self-appointed remit. But Otto is slowly worn down by the warmth and generosity of Marisol, so all but the most dogged of sceptics amongst us will be charmed by the message of the redemptive power of small acts of kindness.

Thank you for reading and we look forward to seeing you soon.

Alison and the HXVH Committee

HXVH Solar Panel Array Those of you who have visited the Hall recently or driven past will have seen our new and impressive array of solar panels. We are hugely grateful for the funding grant we have received from Low Carbon Dorset and the European Regional Development Fund which will allow us not only to save money on our electricity bills, but also save a huge 10 tonnes of CO2 from the Dorset air each year!



Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival Swanage

7th – 9th December 2023

This year do not miss the wonderful sight of over 40 Christmas Trees decorated by local organisations, charities and individuals illustrating 'Christmas Traditions'. There will be a lovely festive atmosphere with a wide range of music by choirs, ukelele groups, woodwind, drums, and other musical performances during the festival. Also, a life-size stable with storytelling, in which families can also 'Get in the Picture' and take photos dressed as people in the Nativity story.

We open each day from 10am until 6pm with seasonal refreshments available throughout the day. Admission is free with all donations going to two local charities. There will also be an opportunity to add ribbons to the outdoor Tree of Remembrance, to remember a loved one.

On Sunday 10th December, at 4pm, there will be a quiet, reflective 'Lights of Love' remembrance service at which you may light a candle, and this will also be followed by refreshments.

Please bring your friends and family along to Emmanuel Baptist Church to share in this special community event.

The Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Thu 7th Dec to Sat 9th Dec 10am–6pm

Free entry & parking. Café open.

Lights of Love Remembrance Service

Sun 10th Dec 4pm

160 Victoria Avenue, BH19 1AZ

emmanuelbc.org.uk

01929 427706



Emmanuel Baptist Church Swanage



/EmmanuelbcSwan



Supporting:
Communicare
and National
Coastwatch
Institute



Mayday Singers
Winter Celebration
Sunday
January 4th
3.30 pm

Relax for an hour on a winter afternoon in the company of this popular local group. Followed by tea and cake.

St George's Church Langton Matravers

Tickets £8 on the door

Retiring collection for Purbeck Connect Ukraine
CHARITY NO. 1162662

Purbeck Connect Ukraine



Langton Matravers Local History and Preservation Society

A Talk by Tom Cousins:

The Mortar Wreck

Found in Poole Bay in 2020 by local diver Trevor Small this is the oldest protected wreck in English waters. It's timbers date from between 1242 and 1265, during the reign of Henry III. The many artefacts found at the site include Purbeck marble mortars (for grinding grain), copper cauldrons and two marble gravestones, both in pristine condition. The marble is from Purbeck and most likely to have been quarried near Langton.

(Tom is the Diving and Maritime Archaeology Officer at Bournemouth University. Projects include investigations into the Duplex drive tanks in Studland Bay, the Swash Channel wreck and prevention of timber damage by marine organisms)

LANGTON MATRAVERS VILLAGE HALL

Thursday 30th Nov, 7:30pm

£3 Members, £4 Guests

All Welcome



THE MOWLEM

Theatre, Cinema & Function Rooms

What's On: Dec. 2023\Jan. 2024



Live on Stage:

Karen G's Christmas Show - Friday 1st December 7:30pm

Come and get into the festive mood with Karen G and guests singing all your favourite Christmas music. With a few surprises!

Snow Angel (13+) - Saturday 9th December 7:30pm

A shamelessly festive show celebrating all that is Christmassy starring Charlie Bicknell & Louise Innes

Santa's Christmas Wish - the show where every child gets a present from Santa! -

Tuesday 19th December 2pm

This is a festive, song-filled, interactive family show particularly suitable for children from 2-8 Including a special meet, greet and treat with Father Christmas himself!

Cinderella (Pantomime), Frid. 12 - Sat 20th Jan. Times, tickets etc themowlem.com

Movies:

• **Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbird and Snakes (12A)**

Years before he becomes the tyrannical president of Panem, 18-year-old Coriolanus Snow remains the last hope for his fading lineage. Uniting with Lucy Gray Baird from District 12, their instincts for showmanship and political savvy, they race against time to ultimately reveal who's a songbird and who's a snake. Starring Rachel Zwegler, Hunter Schafer and Tom Blyth, directed by Francis Lawrence

4th & 8th December 2pm

2nd, 4th - 7th, 11th - 14th December 7pm

• **Napoleon (15)**

A look at the military commander's origins and his swift, ruthless climb to emperor, viewed through the prism of his addictive and often volatile relationship with his wife and one true love, Josephine. Starring Joaquin Phoenix, Vanessa Kirby and Edouard Philpinnat, directed by Ridley Scott.

15th December 2pm

16th - 21st Dec 7pm

• **The Polar Express (U)**

A young boy boards a train and embarks on an extraordinary journey to the North Pole to meet Santa Claus. His life takes a turn after he encounters special people that make his journey memorable. Starring Tom Hanks, Josh Hutcherson and Michael Jeter. Directed by Robert Zemeckis

22nd & 24th December 7pm

24th December 10am

• **National Theatre Live (Films)**

Fri 29th Dec. 2023, Romeo and Juliet, Sat 30th Dec. The Book of Dust, Thur 25th Jan - Dear England

Events in The Showbar, upstairs at The Mowlem:

• **Friday 15th December - DJ PA & Flying G**

Our resident party starters will be bringing the music to the Showbar from 8:30pm

• **Wednesday 20th December – Oscar's Christmas Quiz Night**

£1 per person, up to 6 people per team, prizes to be won! Doors open 5.30pm, quiz starts at 8pm

Mowlem Visual Arts Exhibitions:

'**New Worlds**' - The Lewis Peake exhibition continues until 12th December whenever the theatre or Showbar are open: (The Showbar is open Monday - Saturday 5.30pm – 9.30pm and later for events.)

Please visit themowlem.com for updates and latest programmes.



SWANAGE DISABLED CLUB

Charity no: 1133375



CORFE COMMUNITY KITCHEN aka SOUP 'N PUD

November saw us still making use of donated fruit to bolster our delicious crumbles and included an autumn pumpkin soup and clementine upside down pudding on our menu. We are always very grateful for the donations.

Our December Soup 'n Pud will be a Seasonal Special, so dig out your Christmas jumpers and hats etc to help make it feel festive! It will be on Sat. Dec. 2nd at 12.30pm straight after the Coffee Morning in the Village Hall, where there will be the expected tasty food and friendly chat accompanying the choice of soups, rolls, from the Village Bakery and puds, all with a Christmassy flavour. Please come and join in the fun.

We will have our happy band of volunteers helping with serving etc, without whom we would be unable to manage, so many seasonal good wishes to them.

We always welcome any extra in-date food or tins and make use of them wherever possible, to avoid waste, so please don't discard them, pass them to us!

Remember this is a free lunch but donations of money or food are always welcome.

WHY DON'T YOU COME AND GIVE IT A TRY?

Happy Christmas from Chris, Sue and Gill

Wanted!

Swanage Disabled Club would welcome voluntary new drivers and escorts to help with the ever increasing bookings for our two buses and smaller vehicle.

Full training will be given for both drivers and escorts, the more we have spreads the load. We are a very friendly group and if you want to know more then please either contact the Transport Manager Robert Payne via scp.swanlodge@gmail.com or myself at daphne.saville@gmail.com

We also welcome new members to join our weekly Monday afternoon 2-4pm social meetings, and regular outings. Transport can be arranged for these days. Either call 01929 425241 or 07426928224 for further details.

Daphne Saville

Hon. Sec., Swanage Disabled Club

**SING CAROLS
on the
BANDSTAND
with**

**SWANAGE
TOWN BAND**

**Wednesday 13th December
6.30pm**

**IF WET WE WILL PLAY ON SATURDAY
16th DECEMBER AT 5.30PM**

**COLLECTING FOR PURBECK YOUTH MUSIC
& HERSTON VILLAGE HALL**

Song sheets provided – wear warm clothes and bring torches!





Corfe Community Kitchen
Soup 'n Pud
A choice of Soups and a Roll
Followed by Puds with Custard
12.30 – 1.45pm
'Christmas Special' 2nd December 2023
Corfe Castle Village Hall

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 and aims to increase community spirit. If you wish to make a donation, either financial or of surplus food, feel free, but it is not obligatory.



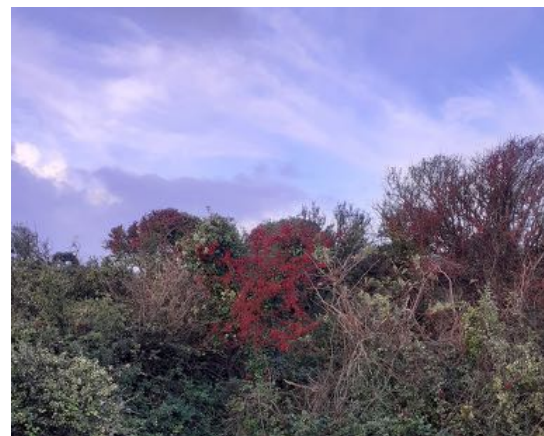



Join the Swanage Town Band for festive fun with Carols on the Bandstand on Wednesday 13th December at 6.30pm. Wrap up warm and bring torches - song sheets provided.

If the weather prevents us playing on Wednesday we will play on Saturday 16th December at 5.30pm.

We will be collecting for Purbeck Youth Music and Herston Village Hall.

As the year turns, the last few months have been exceptional for wildlife at Durlston in many ways. Take a walk around the Park and you can't miss the dense crop of crimson Hawthorn berries, which have been particularly plentiful this year and provide a fantastic winter food source for visiting Fieldfares and Redwings. It's easy to forget that not all migration is southwards – these attractive Thrushes travel south from Scandinavia to enjoy our 'balmy' winter climate! Walk around Swanage at night in December and you may well hear the goblin-like cackle of Fieldfares above you.



Fieldfare. Photograph by Phyl England

The late autumn also saw incredible numbers of Red Admirals – for a few weeks, almost every patch of flowering Ivy was covered with these striking red, white and black butterflies, with numbers nationally 400% up on the previous year.

We also recorded the highest ever numbers of Early Spider Orchids – more than 50% of the UK population of this strange and beautiful plant occurs along the South Purbeck coast and over the last 40 years grazing and scrub clearance have allowed them to thrive, with volunteers recording over 10,000 at Durlston alone!

Nationally though, the picture is very different, with many species of bird, flower and butterfly in chronic decline, making wildlife strongholds like Purbeck more important than ever.

Upcoming Exhibitions

There is plenty to enjoy in Durlston's Fine Foundation Gallery this winter! Our current exhibition – Rewilding Unwrapped asks the question "What if you just leave it?" and how rewilding can be a powerful tool to help us restore degraded landscapes. Photographer Sam Rose has captured stunning images of some of the species and landscapes being brought back from the brink as well as the people who are making it happen – the exhibition runs until the 10 December.

From the 20 December to the 14 January, "New Heights" explores the work of 'Allsort'd'. Based at Durlston's Learning Centre, they provide support for local people with disabilities to train, work, volunteer and socialise. Their exhibition will share the stories of some of their projects, including a sign-language choir, creative work and more.

Following this year's cleaning of the Great Globe, reopening and restoration of the Tilly Whim steps and the completion of the Pleasure Grounds Project, from the 17th January 'Victorian Durlston' tells the story of George Burt and his grand plans for Swanage and Durlston.

Christmas Events

There is plenty going on at Durlston to celebrate the festive season, including a festive fancy-dress parkrun on the 23 December, a Christmas Childrens Trail from the 14 December, the chance to make and launch bottle rockets on the 28 December as well as our free 'Wild Wednesdays' drop-in craft activities on Wednesdays during the school holidays. For a full list of events and exhibitions, visit our website here: [Events | Durlston Country Park](#)

Volunteering

If you want to help beat the winter blues, or start the new year with something new, why not join our ever-growing band of volunteers, who help make Durlston such a special place? From practical conservation work, to visitor services, leading walks or activities, making bird-boxes or gardening with our 'Everyone Needs a Shed!' project, wildlife surveys or planning events, there are so many ways you can get involved. Whether you can only spare an hour here and there, or want to get stuck in, whatever your age, skills or availability, we would love to hear from you! Have a look at the Volunteer page here to find out more [Volunteer | Durlston Country Park](#)



Top things to see in December and January

- Redwing • Fieldfare • Goldcrest • Firecrest • Gannets • Kittiwakes • Stoats and Weasels

For daily sightings, check out the Rangers Diary here: [Daily Diary | Durlston Country Park](#)

Could you offer a home to Ukrainian refugees in Dorset?

So far, more than 400 households in Dorset have sponsored refugees as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme, but we still need more.

As the war sadly continues, more Ukrainians need a place of safety, and we are seeking new hosts in Dorset to help more victims escape the war-torn country, as well as Ukrainians already in the area who need to move on from their initial sponsorship arrangement.

If you think you could help by offering a spare

room in your home or in an annexe or independent accommodation, we would love to hear from you.

In return, you will have a network of support and we will pay you £350 a month to provide a home for the refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine.

After six months the host payments increase to £600 per month as an extra thank you for continuing to host.

Quotes from some of our hosts:

"Hosting is a venture worth embarking on – understand the implications, have courage, and the rewards will be with you, and your guests, for life"

"When I first thought about hosting a Ukrainian refugee, I was afraid they would be too isolated and that it would be stressful for both of us if we ended up spending a lot of time together in shared accommodation. But when they came, he immediately established his own routine, found work and study and is completely independent. We've managed to share the kitchen and bathroom space without getting in each other's way. When we do see each other, he's always cheerful and polite, and eager to help in any way he can. It's a delight to have him here."

"We hosted a lovely family from Ukraine. Iryna, mother of Doree 11 yrs, and daughter of Liika lived with us for almost a year."

"They were so happy to be out of Ukraine and living in a safe/secure place. Yuri, Iryna's husband, is still in Ukraine."

"The arrangement was always that we were happy to host for up to a year so they have now gone to live in Italy."

"Dorset Council were very supportive during their stay and the 'Thank you' payments were very welcome to help pay for the additional bills."

"We are so blessed we have managed to help in a small way in this terrible crisis."

One of the refugees from Ukraine said:

"Thanks for your kindness, help and support for me and other Ukrainians in this very difficult time for us. I'm infinitely grateful to the British Government, Dorset Council, all sponsors, all British people for everything they are doing for Ukraine. You are great people, you're an amazing nation! May God bless you!"



PURBECK CONNECT UKRAINE (PCU) – A PLEA FOR HELP and MORE FUNDS

In March 2022, following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, PCU was formed as a voluntary organisation to help Ukrainian refugees settle in the local area, as part of the charity Swanage Action for Refugees. There are now about 30 Ukrainian families in the wider Purbeck area, from Lulworth to Studland, who have been welcomed by local Host families.

In the past year, PCU's work has included:

- Linking up Ukrainian refugees with hosts in Purbeck
- Assisting with applications for visas, benefits, school applications
- Referring guests to services, e.g. the Foodbank, Job Centre and CAB
- Establishing links with other Ukrainian refugee groups in Dorset
- Providing essential information to our Ukrainian guests
- Supplying clothing, bicycles, phones, laptops, bedding and household goods
- Providing transport to essential appointments and medical visits
- Arranging social activities & events
- Enabling our Ukrainian friends to prepare a Ukrainian dinner for their hosts and volunteers
- Assisting with relocation to new accommodation at the end of the hosting period
- Providing regular English lessons for adults, and a Saturday school for Ukrainian children



This autumn, as the war continues, we are still in need of more host families to help more Ukrainians moving to Purbeck. Many manage to work once settled, but they have lost so much and are still in great need. We have seen some lovely friendships develop and there is such gratitude from those who have received help from PCU.

Also we urgently require more funds to meet the ongoing needs and to be able to offer essential support as necessary.

Please consider whether you could help in some way; perhaps you could hold a Coffee Morning or organise a raffle, hold a concert, sports or social event, or may be simply make a personal donation. If you belong to a group, perhaps you could ask if they also could give a donation to PCU to ensure this vital work can continue, for as long as it takes.

For further information on hosting, fundraising, or becoming a volunteer please contact the charity by email – purbeckconnectukraine@gmail.com

Donations can be made to: Swanage Action for Refugees

Account no. 68669260, Sort Code 30-90-91, ref Purbeck Connect Ukraine

A huge thank-you to all who have contributed during the last 18 months. It has made a big difference; we could not have achieved any of this without you.



Message from the Mayor of Swanage, Cllr Tina Foster

Lots going on this month and last. The public consultation on the seafront has closed and we shall spend some interesting hours analysing the answers. It was good to see so many people at the exhibition at the Mowlem looking at the displays and talking to the councillors and the consultants from the Dorset Coastal Forum: watch this space!

My consort and I have been welcomed to open the Old Harry Rocks shop and the Poppy shop in Station Road as well as the opening of the Purbeck Film Festival at the Mowlem and to attend the display at the Co-op promoting the local Purbeck Coast Radio. We are very proud to encourage all these local enterprises.

We had the privilege of meeting lots of Ukrainian families at the Cumulus Outdoor Centre. They had come from Weymouth on a day out organised by Weymouth Churches. We attended to welcome them to Swanage but their welcome to us was amazing! (see the photo here)

We also took part in the official opening of the "Flooding Swanage with Art" trail displaying the local artists who have decorated the previously unattractive concrete flood defence blocks. Please have a walk along the front from the Mowlem to the pier to enjoy the colourful paintings. And beware of the crocodile!

I was allocated a Mayor's Air Cadet, Isobel Mellor, who has the dubious honour. Was very proud to march in the November Remembrance Day Parade.

I have been given some free tickets for the Polar Express at the Swanage Railway for The Mayors Charities, the RNLI and Lewis Manning Hospice care, for whom I hope to raise some funds.

Meetings this past month have included discussions on the traffic problems around the town from speeding to poor parking and we now have forms available for the public to complete to report any issues to the Dorset Council who are the highways authority and have responsibility for the road safety. We are also aiming to set up a Community Speed Watch to work with the DC and Dorset Police to monitor sensitive areas. Anyone who is interested in getting involved and volunteering please contact the Town Hall.

At the recent full council meeting we were delighted to welcome children from St Mary's school who gave a very informative talk on Fair Trade and shared some chocolate brownies which they had made.

It has been good to see more residents at the Council meetings and hear their concerns. All are welcome.

Hoping that we can all enjoy a safe, and Happy Christmas and New Year.

Cllr Tina Foster



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS® is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. ... Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.



This is still a very unsettling time. It is stressful for many people in many new ways. Some people turn to alcohol to help them cope and get through it. This can be more of a danger than a help to some of us. If you think you have a problem with alcohol we can help:

IF DRINK IS COSTING YOU MORE THAN MONEY then we can help you.
Please telephone our free Helpline today: 0800 917 7650

SWANAGE ROTARY GETS READY FOR CHRISTMAS!

Swanage & Purbeck Rotary is part of a global network of 1.4 million men and women who are united in their determination to act to make a difference. Our Christmas programme is a perfect example where we raise money for projects to enrich the lives of others but also generate community spirit. Here's a summary of what we are up to this year!



Christmas Market

Rotary's ever popular Christmas Market will this year be held on Saturday 2 December. We'll be in Station Road, starting at 10.00 and finishing by 4.00. There will be sacksful of Christmas gifts, festive music, food and drink, and the unmissable (and FREE!) Santa's Grotto for children.

Christmas Mail

We can deliver your Christmas cards to local friends and family for only 40p per card!

Harlees Fish Restaurant in Station Road will host our Swanage office which will be open on weekdays between **11am and 3pm (from 1st to 15th December)**. Outlying collection boxes will be in the **Studland Stores, Corfe Bakery, Trevor's Deli in Langton and The Grand Hotel.**

Christmas Shop

Fingers crossed; we're hoping to have a Christmas Shop in Station Road in the run-up to Christmas. Who could resist our home-baked puddings and cakes?

Santa's Sleigh

Rotary's legendary Santa's Sleigh will once again be delighting children and adults as it weaves its merry way around the streets of Swanage, Langton and Corfe. There will be Christmas carols (of course), sweets for smiling children, and big waves from Santa as well as from our pointy-hatted elves with their collecting buckets. (See below for details of the schedule)

Further details are on our website: <http://www.swanagerotary.org/>

Santa's Sleigh Schedule

Here's a day-by-day summary of where the Sleigh will be (weather permitting). Please check our Facebook page for updates.

SWANAGE

Saturday 25 November

Switch on Swanage – The town's Christmas lights switch on will be at 5pm

Tuesday 28 November

Victoria Av • Smiths Farm • Prospect Cr • Rabling Rd • Northbrook Rd • Walrond Rd • De Moulham Rd • Rempstone Rd • Cranborne Rd • Ilminster Rd • Gilbert Rd

Wednesday 29 November

Kings Road W • Locarno Rd • Argyle Rd • Hanbury Rd • Court Rd • High St • Princess Rd • Howard Rd • Linden Rd • Newton Manor Cl • Cecil Rd • Morrison Rd • Hendrie Cl • Findlay Pl • Ancaster Rd • Aigburth Rd

Thursday 30 November

High St • Townsend Rd • Richmond Rd • Manwell Rd + Dr • Osborne Rd • Queens Rd + Mead • Mount Scar • Gordon Rd • Priests Rd • Hoburne Rd • Foxhill Cl • Mariners Dr • Cowlease

Saturday 2 December

Christmas Market – including Free Santa's Grotto! Station Rd

Monday 4 December

Ullwell Rd • Whitecliff Rd • Moor Rd • Parsons Cl • Hill Rd • Redcliffe Rd • Ballard Wy • Bay Cr + Cl • Streche Rd • Ballard Rd • James Day Md

Tuesday 5 December

High St • Jubilee Rd • Shirley Cl • Bell Street • Marsh Way • Ash Cl • Priest's Rd • Purbeck Vw • Panorama Rd • Hillview Rd • Wills Rd

Thursday 7 December

Days Rd • Holmes Rd • Sydenham Rd/Bay Vw • Casterbridge Cl • Higher Days Rd • Shaston Cl • Shottsford Cl • Kingswood Cl • Alderbury Cl • Anvil Cl • Leeson Cl • Benlease Wy • High St

Friday 8 December

Bell St • High St • Steer Rd • Hillsea Rd • West Dr • South Rd • Newton Rise • Newton Grange Cl • Cow Lane

Saturday 9 December

Swanage Co-op, 10 am-4 pm

Monday 11 December

Dolphin Ct • Cauldron Barn Rd • Cauldron Meadows • Cauldron Barn Pk • D'Urberville Dr • Anglebury Ave • Northbrook Rd • Greensands Wy • Brickyard Cl • Old Grammar School Rd • Wessex Wy

Tuesday 12 December

Burlington Rd • Victoria Rd • Ullwell Rd • Seaward Rd • De Moulham Rd • Bonfields Ave • Northbrook Rd • Cauldron Barn Rd • Cauldron Cr • Battlemead • Cauldon Ave • Beach Gardens • Gannetts Pk • Vivian Pk

LANGTON MATRAVERS

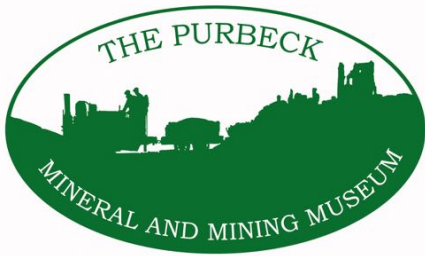
Wednesday 6 December

Capston Fld • High St • Tom's Fld Rd • Old Malthouse Ln • Durnford Dr • Gypshayes • The Hyde • Steppes • Lower Steppes • Nine Barrow Vw • Steppes Hill • Serrells Md • Three Acre Ln

CORFE CASTLE

Saturday 16 December





Volunteers take mining to new heights!

With visitor numbers up by 150% and donations up by a staggering 250%, it has been quite a year for the Purbeck Mining Museum at Norden. According to the museum's Chairman, Peter Sills, such success is a credit to the growing number of volunteers who commit so much time and energy to keep Purbeck's clay heritage very much alive. He said:

"All of the hard work is paying off and has enabled us to increase our opening times and the frequency of engine and wagon demonstrations throughout 2023. As well as volunteer training and familiarisation days we've also hosted more group visits and community events than ever before. Visitor feedback has been really positive but there is still much to do. Many of our exciting plans for further development of the museum and facilities around the surrounding woodland will come to fruition next year when we will also be organising a number of special events to mark our tenth anniversary. We are really looking forward to building on this year's success when we reopen next Easter."

The museum's volunteers will continue to work throughout the winter - protecting and storing the Museum's displays, developing the Museum's records database, cleaning track beds, maintaining buildings, servicing engines and rolling stock and preparing for the installation of a new welfare cabin.

Work is also continuing with construction of paths and viewpoints in the 25 acres of previously inaccessible woodland around the museum. This is aligned with the museum's broader diversification plans and collaborative initiatives to extend the appeal of Norden and Purbeck Park as an attractive destination for a wide range of visitors. In the words of Dorset Council:

"This project will provide people and their dogs with a fantastic walk, and breath-taking views of Corfe Castle. It will provide an opportunity to learn about the natural environment and historic mining operations in the area through the fantastic work of the onsite museum. The site also acts as a gateway to longer walks along the Corfe Ridges or a trip on the steam train to explore Swanage."

The Purbeck Mining Museum is hoping to further extend its opening times for next year and is always looking for new volunteers who have an interest in local history and the local ecology and who enjoy meeting people.

For further information please take a look at the Museum's website at www.purbeckminingmuseum.org or email purbeckminingmuseum@swanagerailway.co.uk.

There is also a regular working day each week, so why not call in and meet the team on one of the Museum's 'Volunteer Fridays' or give Peter Sills a call on 07976 437467.



Although the Purbeck Mining Museum is now closed for the winter after a record-breaking year, volunteers are still clearing undergrowth and cleaning trackbeds in advance of the 2024 season.



News from Corfe Castle Parish Council

20mph: Have your say. It is important that no matter your views, you register your opinion with the Parish Council. Dorset Council criteria states community engagement and show of desire for or against a 20mph scheme, must be proven for any application to be considered. You will find a survey and how to respond in the current issue of the CVN.

Become a Parish Councillor. It can be very rewarding being a councillor – having the chance to make a real contribution to your community. You do not have to hold certain qualifications to be experienced in a specific role, you just need to be passionate about representing the community you live or work in. If you think you may be interested pop along to the next Parish Council meeting and listen in, or call, the clerk for more details. *(See below)*

National Trust: In October Corfe Castle Parish Council welcomed back James Gould, plus were joined by Mark Singleton the Countryside Manager (Purbeck) for the National Trust. Mark gave a verbal update on Swift boxes within the Castle, the Common's Committee & entanglement of deer within the new fencing on the Purbeck Heaths National Nature Reserve. Full details can be found in the draft November minutes published early December on the Corfe Castle Parish Council website.

Dorset Council: Corfe Castle Parish Council received an email regarding Purbeck Park footpath to Corfe Castle stating: *“We will shortly be engaging our consultants to carry out an options appraisal to make sure that we have considered all other viable options so we can be certain of the best route to be taken forward.”* With this in mind Corfe Castle Parish Council will write and formally ask two Parish Councillors to be invited to meet with the Consultants to offer local knowledge of the area.

Corfe Castle Parish Council received an email regarding car park full signage stating: *“In principle, electronic signs for parking sound sensible, but we couldn't sign people to the Park & Ride until there's an accessible walking route established between the Purbeck Park and the village. The messages and sign would also have to meet highway regulations, the location on the highway will need to be agreed, as will the predetermined messages on the sign. The Traffic Signals team will work with you on this.”* With this in mind Corfe Castle Parish Council will contact Cllr Brooks & a representative of the Traffic Signal Team to start engagement regarding electronic signage.

Planning: The following applications have been received by Corfe Castle Parish Council, for full details including proposed works please see the Dorset Council website:

Application No: P/HOU/2023/04658, **Location:** Pennys Cottages West Street BH20 5HB, **Recommendation:** No objection.

Application No: P/PABA/2023/05895, **Location:** A E S Fry and Son Kingston Barn Farm Langton Road BH20 5LR

Recommendation: No objection.

Application No: P/HOU/2023/05836, **Location:** The Old School House Corfe Road BH20 5DT **Recommendation:** No objection.

Application No: P/HOU/2023/06192, **Location:** Langton Wallis New Lane BH20 5DX **Recommendation:** No objection.

Full details for all planning applications can be found on the Dorset Council website, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning>

Budget and Council Tax 24-25: The Council had its first review of the proposed estimates prepared by the Clerk. A recommendation on the budget and its implications for Council tax will be made at the next meeting

Next Council Meeting: Monday 12th December 2023, 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: *(Please remember to give permission for your details to be shared with Councillors)*

Clerk: Michelle Harrington, **Telephone:** 01202 670105,

Email: clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk, **Write:** 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ, **Facebook:**

www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC,

Website: www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk

Swanage Food Bank



Will 2023 be known as 'cut back Christmas' as we have to consider priorities in our spending? Certainly at Swanage Food Bank we intend to spend less on festive luxuries for our clients and focus on essential foods. We will, of course, give families with children whatever Christmas fare is donated to us, and we are donating a generous sum to Swanage Salvation Army towards their family support over the Christmas period. In recent years, with the cooperation of Budgen's, we have given a number of vouchers to be spent on food in store, but this has created a lot of extra work at a busy time for our volunteers and has elicited some abuse from a small number of clients who have not received a voucher. So no vouchers or hampers this year but a selection of Christmas goodies from donations with our normal food aid.

So, if you would like to give Christmas food, the following (shop-bought) would be gratefully received, ready to be passed to clients throughout December and January:

tins ham, salmon

Christmas puddings and alternative sponge pudd

yule logs and Christmas cake

custard; tinned fruit salad

selection box of sweet biscuits

savoury biscuits for cheese

savoury potato snacks (Pringles/crisps e.g.)

salted nuts; Twiglets, Doritos, and cheese snacks

chocolates and sweets for adults and children

bottles of sparkling grape/apple drink.

As always, toiletries and household cleaners are required, and toilet rolls -but not baby product or female sanitary protection, of which we have a surfeit!

SFB appreciates that everyone is affected by the higher cost of living, and there are many calls upon our finances at this time of year especially but Swanage's heart for the very poor in our community has always been evident and doubtlessly will be this Christmas – so thank you in advance.

Another request is for plastic '**bags for life**' which we use a lot of and have to spend an inordinate amount on. We will be asking clients to give them straight back on receiving them with their supplies, but we'll need extra still, so just pop them into any of our bins. Thank you.

And may SFB Team of volunteers wish all readers a peaceful Christmas with an overflow of love for each other and for everyone else.

Pauline Werba



Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership

Keep the heart of Swanage beating



In recent weeks we have heard of TWO local successful recoveries from a cardiac arrest following the a of immediate CPR and the use of a Defibrillator. Both gentlemen are recovering well and are grateful for the emergency care they received .

Defibrillators do make a difference

We are so fortunate to have a local team of people who are committed to the work of the Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership and who provide essential monitoring and maintenance of the defibrillators to ensure that they are always ready in an emergency situation.

This is teamwork at its best and SCDP was delighted to have this approach recognised at the recent Dorset Volunteer event when the team was awarded a 'Volunteer Team of the Year ' certificate as a thank you for the outstanding volunteering contribution of the whole team including Steering group and Defib Guardians.



We were also very grateful to the Swanage Carnival Team for recognising our work with a £2000 donation following this year's successful Carnival. This will help our work tremendously as after eight years of the project some equipment is due for renewal.



SCDP is so grateful for all the support we receive - Thank you
Maggie Hardy, SCDP



Swanage & Purbeck
Development Trust
Charity Reg. No. 1162662



We are coming to the end of our year as the days get shorter and colder!

New volunteers, however, continue to join us as we get ready for our Christmas activities.

Rob is busy making our renowned reindeer herd! (See photo).

It's been a busy and successful time at Greengage and thank you for all your support.

Our Christmas Fayre, December 8th 11am - 2pm

You will see the world's only reindeer raffle!! We have also prepared pots of hyacinths, narcissus and crocuses along with herbs and more!

Tea and cakes and our usual warm welcome awaits! Please put the date and time in your diary.

More News:

- We have been making wreaths and Christmas decorations and we are preparing a tree for the Langton Matravers Festival in December.
- We break for Winter from 15th of December; have our AGM and volunteers lunch in January and our team quiz night in February!
Details and times to be confirmed shortly. (See our website below)
- * Plans for our new building are moving forward and we hope to have that ready in the first half of 2024. See our website for more information and details of what we do and how you can get involved.

[Greengage Community Garden](#)



Swanage & Purbeck
Development Trust
Charity Reg. No. 1162662



Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans



We are part of Sustainable Swanage and look to do our part in helping reduce the amount of food waste that would otherwise end up in landfill.

The pantry is open to all and runs regularly on Mondays (10 to 12) and Wednesdays (9 to 9:30) at Herston Village Hall. We also have irregular pop-ups where we have collected food outside these days.

The majority of food we distribute is perfectly fit to eat but has passed its best-before date, and great care is taken that we only distribute safe food, so nothing past use-by dates is distributed.

We collect donations from shops in Swanage and other groups such as Greengage where they have collected surplus produce from the allotments.

The local Co-op and their staff are great supporters of what we do, as no one wants to see good food go to waste. Especially as this helps them reduce the amount of food that ends up in their dumpsters!

We partner closely with the other food distribution groups; Foodbank and Fareshare in Swanage, and occasionally distribute through the local primary schools .

The pantry was first opened in March 2022 and to date we have managed to redistribute over 5 tonne of food that would have gone to landfill. News of the pantry has spread and there are now queues waiting for us to open. As I have said, it is open to anyone that can make use of this surplus food, and if they can make a small donation for running costs that's great and if they can't that's fine as well.

There is very little food that the pantry has to throw away as we have volunteers that can use it for jams etc (who knew banana chutney was a thing!) or it goes to pets, or as a final resort compost.

We are a small group and are looking for anyone who can help either as regular or back-up drivers for collections.

If you interest in helping in anyway we'd be delighted please contact me - Paul on 07711 308 299 or paul.burd@outlook.com



Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG) works with the Practice Manager and the GPs at the Swanage Medical Practice to help improve and shape local health services.

The Group is made up of patients registered with the Practice who have volunteered to get involved. We meet every two months - and we are always looking for new members!

The PPG last met on 19 September 2023, when Hattie Taylor, Lead District Nurse for Purbeck, joined us to update us on the District Nursing Service in Purbeck and the Community Support Workers who support people living in Purbeck at the end of their lives.

We will next be meeting on 21 November 2023, when Ann Hadfield will be joining us to update us on the Steps2Wellbeing Service in Purbeck.

Some of you may have met one of the PPG members when you visited the Surgery for your flu jab - PPG members were at the Surgery during both Flu Clinics, on 30 September and on 7 October.

You can find more information about the PPG, including our Terms of Reference, our current Membership and

Minutes of our meetings, on the Practice website: www.swanagemedical.org.uk. The PPG was also featured in Swanage News on 5 June during PPG Awareness Week.

If you are interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, the Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at ppgswanage@gmail.com.

Patient Email Group

The PPG is supported by the Patient Email Group (Virtual PPG), which is made up of patients registered with the Practice who have agreed to receive information by email about the Practice and the PPG. Members of the Patient Email Group are also invited to attend talks organised by the PPG, to participate in other events organised by the PPG and to participate in patient surveys.

Members of the Patient Email Group have attended the last two meetings of the PPG and have also been invited our next meeting on 21 November.

All patients registered with the practice aged 16 and over are actively encouraged to join the Patient Email Group - please ask at Reception if you would like to join.

Mrs Margaret Broadhurst (Dr Margaret Guy)
Chair
Swanage Medical Practice PPG
November 2023



Photograph reproduced with permission from Swanage.News



The Friends of Wareham Hospital are pleased to report on our very successful recent fundraising events.

Our Raffle raised an amazing £1080 and we were delighted that the winner of the first prize of £100 was present when the draw was made at the Ball and Socket event held on Saturday 14th October.

All prize winners have been notified and feedback from winners has been very positive for the wonderful prizes, most of which have been kindly donated by local businesses .

The Wareham Town Hall provided the venue for the very talented duo 'Ball and Socket ' also known as David Kemp and Gerald Ward, who entertained an audience of over 90 people all greatly enjoying the evening of music and rhyme. The event raised £970 and was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all.

Our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to our events in any way which, after costs, have raised over £1800 . The money will be used to support our garden project which is progressing well thanks to a small team of volunteer gardeners who regularly weed and clear undergrowth which in places hasn't been attended to for many years .

Our efforts have been recognised by the South and South East In Bloom 'Its our Neighbourhood' competition who presented us with an 'Advancing 3 Certificate' at a recent award ceremony held at RHS Wisley. An unexpected surprise.

We would welcome more volunteer gardeners; please do contact us through the hospital if you can help 01929 557550

Kindest wishes and thanks for the support we are receiving.

Maggie Hardy, Friends Chair



Who Are We?

We are a group of local people in our local Communities who experience depression or anxiety. We are not experts, but we know how it feels. For many people, this is still a very stressful time. And for many of us, we feel we still cannot safely meet face-to-face at the moment, but that may change ...

We find that a problem shared is a problem halved.

To find out more please contact us - with confidence

To get in touch please contact Nick at nickviney@hotmail.com or phone 01929 439121, or Mary at mary.ann.bevis955@gmail.com or phone her on 01929 426896

REMEMBER: THERE'S LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

Swanage & Wareham
Depression Support Group

Our thanks to those who braved the driving rain on 4th November to join us for our Autumn Fayre, whether to have a cup of coffee with a delicious home cooked mince pie or to browse the festive stalls in search of unusual Christmas gifts, hand-made cards/decorations and of course the ever-popular Christmas cakes and Raffle.



FRIENDS OF SWANAGE HOSPITAL

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

Its success would not have been possible without the many volunteers who kindly helped transport the goods to and from the Hospital, setting up and clearing away, as well as helping at the Fayre.

The event raised an astounding £1744.11 which will be used for the benefit of patients, staff and some *local* community health services

The questions/comments from the Health Information event earlier in the Summer - attended by many of our Community - have resulted in a meeting of representatives from University Hospitals Dorset, Dorset Healthcare, Swanage Town Council, Friends of Swanage Hospital and Friends of Wareham Hospital which will take place before Christmas.

It is hoped that this meeting will enable UHD Senior Management to better understand the importance of providing clinics/ services locally at both Swanage and Wareham Hospitals.

Please do remember, especially over the Festive season, to phone 111 to be given an appointment at the most appropriate centre, being mindful that Swanage Hospital MIU has highly trained Nurses but no Doctor on site; this is to ensure that your assessment and treatment is not delayed.

We wish you a Healthy, Happy Christmas and New Year.

Deirdre Selwyn, Chair, Friends of Swanage Hospital



FSH Xmas Pud Run 2023 - Cancelled

Apologies to anyone who was getting excited about the Xmas pudding run on Sunday 3rd December, but we have decided to save face and cancel it. Any rumours that I have already eaten all the puds are not true! It's mainly due to it not appearing in the Durlston Country Park's 'What's On' Guide. Sadly we got our wires crossed. Also, there are many other events on the same weekend. However, as we had a very successful Autumn Fayre and our next planned event is in June, we're going to reschedule with a new 'theme' in the Spring. So watch out for an announcement early in 2024. Thank you.

Run Organiser
Peter Smith FSH Trustee



Citizens Advice Here To Help

A reminder that the Advice Bus is at Swanage Market every Friday, 10am-12pm. It is also calling at Corfe Castle Village Hall car park every third Friday of the month - December.

Advisers can offer advice on a number of different issues including: benefits, debt & money, employment, energy, family, housing and legal. If you're struggling to pay your Wessex Water bills and if you're on pension credit you may be entitled to additional help.

Advice is free and confidential. Visit our website for our bus stop locations www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/advice-bus

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





Photo: Beach huts, Cathy Lewis

Aftermath of the 'perfect storm'

As many of you will know, the strong winds of Storm Ciaran, combined with unusually high tides, caused significant damage at Studland Bay. We're estimating that, over two tides, it created the amount of coastal erosion that we would normally expect to occur over four to five years. The impact shocked our staff, as well as local people who know the area well.

Two beach huts were lost to the sea, as well as fencing, access routes and other infrastructure. Several metres of sand dunes collapsed, making other beach huts vulnerable. Six huts were moved out of danger, and others now need to be made safe for the winter. We're contacting owners of the huts most at risk to discuss options.

Weston Farm goes Wild!

We ran two guided walks in September at Weston Farm, Worth Matravers, as part of the Planet Purbeck Festival. Both were fully booked, with almost 60 people attending. Our ranger, Ben Cooke, led the groups from the farm, along Bonvils Road, then straight on up the valley to a spectacular coastal viewpoint. Previously closed to the public, we are currently working to make this route a permissive footpath. Ben outlined our plans to let nature recover on the farm, including avoiding the use of chemicals and introducing a variety of grazing animals to create a mosaic of grassland, scrub and wood pasture.

If you're a member of a group that would be interested in having a similar guided walk, please contact us on purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Shake, rattle and roll

As the next phase of nature recovery at Weston Farm, we have sown some of the fields with yellow rattle. Also, known as 'the meadow maker' or 'nature's lawnmower', yellow rattle is considered to be the most important plant for creating wildflower meadows.

A semi-parasitic plant, its roots draw water and nutrients from coarse grasses. This weakens the grass and allows wildflowers to grow through. The flowers then attract a diversity of butterflies and other insects.

Look out for the yellow rattle coming into flower next May. The work was funded by the Countryside Stewardship Scheme.



Photo: Weston Farm, Mike Wenham

Fingers crossed for Purbeck nature funding bid

Nature Reserve and a continuous coastal stretch from Durlston Country Park to forty landowners, farmers and organisations have come together in a bid for Government funding to help nature across Purbeck. The consortium, led by the Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, is looking for Landscape Recovery funding for an area of over 8,000ha. This includes the Purbeck Heath's National Kimmeridge.



Photo: South Purbeck, Will Wilkinson

Landscape Recovery offers farmers and land managers the opportunity to work together across large areas for the benefit of nature. The Government will fund 25 projects across the country – the successful projects being announced in December.

David Brown of the National Trust, one of the partners in the bid, said: *"Purbeck really is leading the way in partnership working for nature – so much positive action is already taking place, and much more is being planned. This is no longer just something we do in nature reserves; by working hand in hand with farmers who manage in nature-friendly ways we can restore nature across the whole landscape and put it at the heart of a sustainable local economy. Over my career as an ecologist the wider backdrop for nature has become increasingly bleak - but here in Purbeck I feel genuinely optimistic for our future."*

Swanage Skatepark Community Project (SSCP) was founded by a group of volunteers in Spring 2023 to give our community a say in the evolution and improvement of Swanage Skatepark, raise funds for new equipment and build an inclusive and welcoming culture around the skatepark by hosting events that will inspire and attract more users.

Agreement has been reached that SSCP will form a separate charity and project under the umbrella of Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust. This follows decades of fundraising carried out by Lorna Haines who continues as chairperson of SSCP.



Over the summer, SSCP invited people to have their say about the future of Swanage Skatepark by carrying out a user consultation survey which closed with 170 responses. The results of the survey will be released in November 2023, a design brief has been shared with park builders in order to obtain quotes for fundraising goals and fundraising will begin in Jan 24.

Keep up with the latest progress here: <https://www.swanageskateparkcommunityproject.com/>







Photos: Milly Haines



 **Pop-In** 

Every Monday at Emmanuel
10.30am until 1.00pm
Especially for people who
live on their own
including
hot drinks, games, jigsaws, crafty
colouring, chat, donations only
and finishing with a light lunch

Singing for Pleasure
Every Thursday 2pm
at Emmanuel
Baptist Church



Supported by
Dementia Friendly Purbeck



All Welcome

Christmas 2023 – Church Services in Swanage and Surrounding Villages

CHURCHES TOGETHER

Sat 2 December

Carols at the Christmas Market, Station Road • 3pm

SWANAGE METHODIST CHURCH, 105 High Street

Wednesday 20 December

Carols around the Tree • 10.30am, followed by refreshments

Sunday 24 December

Carol Service • 10.30am to noon

Monday 25 December

Christmas Morning Service • 10am

LANGTON MATRAVERS, CORFE, WORTH MATRAVERS, KINGSTON & STEEPLE ANGLICAN CHURCHES

Thursday 30 November

St George's Church and village hall • 6pm • **Light Up Langton**

Saturday 2 - 4 December

St George's Langton Matravers • 10am-5pm • **St Aldhelm Christmas Tree Festival** free entry, refreshments

Sunday 3 December

St James', Kingston • 6pm • **Advent Service: From Darkness to Light**

Thursday 7 December

St George's CE VA Primary School Langton Matravers • 3.30pm-5pm • **Christmas Fair** free admission, stalls, food etc.

Sunday 10 December

St James', Kingston • 11.15am • **Informal worship with Christmas Carols**

Saturday 16 December

St James', Kingston • 2pm-3pm • **Harmony Rocks Choir Christmas concert** free entry, retiring collection

Sunday 17 December

Worth Matravers Village Hall • 10am • **Advent Carol service**
St Edward's, Corfe Castle • 10.30am • **Lessons and Carols**

Friday 22 December

St George's Langton Matravers • 6pm • **Service of Carols and Readings for Christmas** with Purbeck Festival Choir

Sunday 24 December

St James', Kingston • 10.30am • **Benefice Communion**
Worth Matravers village hall • 3pm • **Christingle/Crib Service**
St Edward's, Corfe Castle • 4pm • **Christingle**
St George's, Langton Matravers • 4.30pm • **Christingle**
St Edward's Corfe Castle • 11.30pm • **Midnight Communion**

Monday 25 December

St Michael & All Angels' Church, Steeple • 9.30am • **Christmas Worship**
St George's Langton Matravers • 10am • **Family Christmas Worship**

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, 160 Victoria Avenue

Thursday 7 to Saturday 9 December

Purbeck Christmas Tree Festival • 10am until 6pm

Sunday 10th December

'Lights of Love' Service of Remembrance • 4pm

There will be a Christmas Tree in the grounds as a Tree of Remembrance where people are invited to name and then tie a ribbon

Thursday 21st December

Carols by Candlelight • 6.30pm, followed by refreshments

Monday 25 December

Christmas Day All-Age Service • 10 am

SWANAGE & STUDLAND ANGLICAN TEAM MINISTRY

Sun 3 December

St Mary's • 6:30pm • **Advent Carol Service**, candlelit procession

Tue 12 December

St Nicholas' Studland • 6:30pm • **Traditional Carol Service** with refreshments after

Sun 17 December

Manor Farm Tea Rooms, Studland • 3pm • **Carols in the Barn:** short nativity outside for all the family
St Mary's • 6:30pm • **Candlelit Carol Service:** traditional nine lessons and carols

Wed 20 December

All Saints • 6pm • **Community Carols:** an informal evening of carols, readings, drama, with mulled wine & mince pies

Sun 24 December Christmas Eve

St Mary's • 4pm • **Crib Service:** come as a nativity character and join in the story (costumes available)
St Mary's • 6:30pm • **Carols by Candlelight**
St Mary's • 11:30pm • **Midnight Eucharist**
St Mark's • 4:30pm • **Carols by Candlelight** at St Mark's
All Saints • 11:15pm • **Candlelit Communion**
St Nicholas' • 11:30pm • **Midnight Communion**

Mon 25 December Christmas Day

St Mary's • 8am • **Christmas Communion**
St Mary's • 10.30am • **Christmas Choral Eucharist**
St Mark's • 10am • **Christmas Family Communion**
St Nicholas' • 10am • **Christmas Family Communion**
All Saints • 10:30am • **Christmas All Age Celebration**

Sun 7 January 2024

St Mark's • 6:30pm • **Team Epiphany Carol Service**



EMMANUEL *God with us*

Christmas at Swanage Pier

Lighting up Lives

Our Christmas 'Lighting Up Lives' is back, over the last two years this magical event, lighting up the iconic Swanage Pier, has made it possible for hundreds of people to fondly remember loved ones and celebrate those around them.

You can dedicate a light to celebrate, commemorate, show thanks, remember loved ones or to wish someone a special Christmas. Your light will shine brightly as part of a beautiful display up Swanage Pier and your dedication will feature on our online 'shine a light' page.

All proceeds raised go towards the ongoing maintenance of Swanage Pier.

Light Up Lives – 'The Switch On'

Friday 8th December

Join us on Friday 8th December from 5.30pm for the first night of the Pier illuminations. Enjoy music from local groups Kelp! and the Allsort'd Choir, be entertained by Christmas characters and watch the lights being switched on at 6.00pm by our special guest. Complete your visit with something festive from the 1859 café and bistro and a browse around the shop for that perfect gift. Bring your family and friends along for a very special evening here on Swanage Pier.

Normal Pier admission applies.

A beautiful way to pay tribute to those who mean so much to us.



Ho, Ho, Ho, Father Christmas is returning to Swanage Pier!

When you arrive, you'll be greeted by one of Father Christmas Merry Elves who will entertain you in the winter wonderland grotto. You can write your letter and post it in our magical post box, before meeting the man himself!

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th December, Saturday 16th through to Saturday 23rd December

From 11am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Tickets £8.00 per child (Children under 2 are free ++). All children will receive a gift.

Along with visiting Father Christmas, on Saturday 16th December we also have Christmas donkeys, Music with Karen Grant, Local Vocals and Kelp! along with Christmas entertainment.

Normal Pier admission applies.

[Find more information and dedication forms at www.swanagepiertrust.com/news-article/christmas-on-swanage-pier-2023](http://www.swanagepiertrust.com/news-article/christmas-on-swanage-pier-2023)



DEADLINE

for contributions to the February 2024 issue
of the Newsletter

MONDAY 15 JANUARY 2024

Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans