

## Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust and Swanage Area Forum

# NEWSLETTER

Community News from Swanage and the Surrounding Villages



Welcome to the Swanage & Purbeck Development Trust's latest (April/May) Newsletter. As usual, this issue highlights many of the local seasonal activities in our wonderful community. We produce this newsletter to enable as many as possible of our vibrant community organisations to reach out and publicise their activities.

You can do your bit by passing this newsletter on to your organisation's members, your friends, neighbours and other contacts. Also, if you are a member or participant in another group which does not publicise their activities in the newsletter, then why not make a contribution in our future issues?

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find the newsletter at [www.sandpdt.org.uk](http://www.sandpdt.org.uk)

## DEADLINE

for contributions to the  
June/July 2025  
issue of the Newsletter

**MONDAY 19 MAY 2025**



Swanage & Purbeck  
Development Trust  
Charity Reg. No. 1162662

Here at the Swanage Food Bank it's been a bit quieter recently, but by the time you read this, who knows? We may be rushed off our feet! But, busy or quiet, holiday or term-time we're always here, ready to help local folks who are struggling with food supplies.

## Swanage Food Bank



Each team of three volunteers turns up to the Food Bank (at the United Reformed Church up the High Street) on the Monday, Wednesday and Friday of their duty week so we can be open between 12 and 2pm to serve clients. We have six teams that rotate and also some drivers to call on if deliveries are necessary - it really helps us if you're able to come and collect, though - at the arranged time! Someone always has the mobile phone too and checks it regularly for messages. Do phone us if you need us - 07759 230313.

Our shelves are kept topped up by the generous physical and financial donations of local people. There are collection bins in Budgens, Co-op, Costcutter and Spar plus collection crates in local churches. You can also drop donations in to the Food Bank direct when we're open (parking is a bit tricky though!). Thank you so much - your kind gifts enable us to bless many in need.

A list of our "most needed" items is to be found on the collection bin lids, but we always appreciate:

- Tea, coffee, squash & biscuits (sweet & savoury)
- Cereals, jam & marmalade
- Tinned tuna, baked beans & spaghetti hoops
- Tinned meats & veg, rice & noodles, pasta & sauce
- Puddings
- Toiletries

Please make sure all donations are in-date and unopened.

If you need help over a period of time we may ask you to get a referral. This simply means you need to ask an 'agency' that knows your situation to give us a phone call to confirm that you need our help. This referral agency might be your child's school, a social worker or housing officer, church minister, GP, midwife or health visitor, the Focus Centre or Citizen's Advice for example.

We're looking forward to a visit from our MP, Mr Lloyd Hatton, in a few weeks' time. As the Government considers its food strategy we're pleased to be able to have a conversation with him about the part we play in food provision in the Swanage locality. And we're always interested in building links with other food providers in the town.

We're currently trialling a partnership with Dog Friendly Dorset, so we often have a decent supply of dog food. You don't necessarily have to need human food to access the pet food - just phone us on 07759 230313 - you will need to come to collect, though.

## Upcoming Events on Swanage Pier

Hop along to Swanage Pier this Easter and enjoy all that spring has to offer.



Take part in our amazing **Easter Trail** from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April, where the Easter Bunny, along with his friends, is hiding on Swanage Pier. Can you find them, discover the Easter saying and answer our quiz in our egg-citing trail.

Come and join us on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April, for a fun-filled day of **Easter Activities** with crafts and games for all the family to enjoy.

No need to book, just turn up and have fun. There will be no 'eggs-cuse' not to get involved.

Other Events happening - **Children's History Tour** – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> April



For full details on all our events please visit – [www.swanagepiertrust.com/events](http://www.swanagepiertrust.com/events)

All income generated from our events goes towards the ongoing maintenance of the Pier. You can also show your support by sponsoring a plaque, making a donation, or becoming a Friend or volunteer. For full information visit - [www.swanagepiertrust.com](http://www.swanagepiertrust.com)



**Still Looking Forward!**

Our next meeting is Monday April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Village Hall, when we will have a first read-through of the November Pantomime production of 'Alice in Cuckoo Land' by Peter Nuttall. 'Quizzes' will also be available at £1 each.



At our recent AGM we were pleased to present a donation of £1,000 to Heather Penton, for Pancreatic Cancer UK, in memory of the late Maryrose Bray and Gerald Ward. In other business the committee and officers were re-elected unopposed.

May will be a busy month for us, with a playlet in the Castle for VE80 on May 8<sup>th</sup>, a stall at the Parish Meeting on May 19<sup>th</sup> at

6.30pm, a mini-panto in the Castle on May 26<sup>th</sup>, and casting for 'Alice' on May 18<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Look out for more details in the next CVN.

Preparations are progressing for the famed Double Act Murder Mystery Walks in July and August too!

If you would be interested in joining our friendly safe group or for more details, please contact the chairman, David Kemp 01929 480007, or secretary David Watson 01929 481265 - or email [doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com](mailto:doubleactdramagroup@gmail.com)  
*New members of all ages and abilities are always welcome!*



**Corfe Community Kitchen  
 Soup 'n Pud  
 A choice of Soups and a Roll  
 Followed by Puds with Custard  
 Corfe Castle Village Hall  
 Saturday April 5th 2025  
 12.30 – 1.45pm**



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

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

We now know the final amount that we raised towards the Village Hall Kitchen Improvement Fund at our Tapas Lunch last month – an amazing £920!! So it is a huge thank you to all that came to support us and helped us on the day. Also we wish to thank those that donated money, food or made a contribution towards the menu. It was brilliant. We have had so many comments from those attending, saying what a great event it was and how very tasty the Spanish food and drink was.

Our 'Tombottleola' raised £88 towards the total. So thanks must go to those that contributed wine as well as empty bottles. Our recycling bin looked super healthy the following week!! Folk also seemed to enjoy the fun table top quiz between courses and several people signed up for the Silent Auction items on display. If you haven't already done so there is still time to put in a bid!

We had our usual good turn-out for the March Soup 'n Pud and everyone enjoyed the tasty fare. Thanks are once again due to our willing volunteers and Dragon's Bakery for their bread rolls.

We are now preparing for April's Soup 'n Pud when we will be looking forward to Easter. In May we will have a VE80 themed lunch which will commemorate the 'make do and mend' and 'dig for Britain' era of very much home grown and simple fare! Feel free to dress accordingly if you want.

As from the beginning of March we are no longer supported by Dorset Council so we really value donations towards our Saturday lunches both in money and kind but most of all we look forward to welcoming lots of you at our simple but delicious meal. It is great to see the local camaraderie engendered over a good Soup and Pud!

**WHY DON'T YOU GIVE IT A TRY?**

**SKATE - SCOOT - BMX  
 WORKSHOPS & DEMOS**

**SKATE JAM**  
 IN MEMORY OF WILL PADDY #Willdoes

**12:00 - 17:00  
 SATURDAY 12TH APRIL  
 SWANAGE SKATEPARK  
 FREE ENTRY**

EVENT FUNDED BY:

Photo: Shutterstock





## Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust are seeking an Honorary Secretary



Swanage & Purbeck  
Development Trust  
Charity Reg. No. 1162662

It's been an exciting year for the Trust, with the transfer of 'The Focus Centre' on Chapel Lane and its ongoing refurbishment, an expansion of our staff team, new member groups joining the Trust and the forthcoming opening of our Welcome Lounge and the development of new wellbeing services in Swanage.

The Trust is led by a committed and experienced Board of Trustees, drawn from our community, and to help us achieve our ambitious goals, we are looking for someone to join our board as an Honorary Secretary.

The Hon. Sec. would work closely with the Chair of Trustees and CEO to ensure the effective governance of the Trust, for around ½ a day per week. We are looking for someone with excellent IT, communication, organisational and administrative skills, who is passionate about our community.

If this might be you, please contact Ali Tuckey (Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust CEO) to find out more.

[Ali.tuckey@sandpdt.org.uk](mailto:Ali.tuckey@sandpdt.org.uk)

01929 208376

[Swanage and Purbeck Development Trust | \(sandpdt.org.uk\)](http://sandpdt.org.uk)



## "What a lovely garden this is"

These are the words we frequently here from patients and staff when Chris North and I do the gardening at Wareham Hospital - a unit that provides over 40 out-patient clinics to all residents of Purbeck and is such a valuable asset but sadly does not receive the support of other community hospitals across Dorset. Please do visit the garden if you are attending the hospital - the primroses, daffs and violets are flourishing at the moment and look so pretty and we have several visiting robins!



We are entered into the RHS 'it's your neighbourhood scheme' again this year and would hope to do even better than the last two years so to do so we would greatly value financial support for plants and mulch and or plants for the garden so that we can put on a good show when judging takes place in June/July. Please do contact us through the hospital in Streche Rd, Wareham.

When not gardening we are still promoting Wareham Hospital and Purbeck community services at every opportunity and I was delighted to meet with the South Dorset MP Lloyd Hatton recently to discuss services provided through the community hospitals in Purbeck; the 'lost' Chemotherapy service once provided at Wareham Hospital being the main topic of our conversation. Lloyd

is campaigning hard to get the service reinstated and is meeting with health care professionals to encourage greater use of our local Community hospitals in Wareham and Swanage which as we know are not fully utilised.

The Wareham Friends are always keen to promote Purbeck-wide services and initiated a Purbeck Action group over two years ago to bring together representatives from the community hospitals, GP practices, town and parish councils and others to provide a 'stronger voice' for Purbeck health and social care. We were delighted that Lloyd Hatton attended February's meeting and we are pleased that Vicki Slade MP for Mid Dorset has agreed to come to our next meeting in June.

To ensure sustainability of the Wareham Friends Committee we are in need of new Trustee members. We meet about quarterly and would be really pleased to hear from anyone with an interest in Wareham Hospital and Purbeck services. I can be contacted through the hospital (01929 557550) for an informal chat and will be delighted to hear from you.

Kind regards

*Maggie Hardy, Friends Chair*



## What's On at Harmans Cross Village Hall



# HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

Here are some dates for your diaries for forthcoming events at HXVH.

### HXVH AGM and Wine & Cheese Evening – Friday 11 April

All Harmans Cross residents are welcome to our Annual General Meeting, which starts at 6.30pm. The meeting is then followed by a very sociable cheese and wine pairing event, curated again by Alison and her committee colleagues. Please confirm attendance in advance to Kathy Furlong by email at [secretary@harmanscrosshall.co.uk](mailto:secretary@harmanscrosshall.co.uk) We are politely suggesting a donation of £7.50 per head for the cheese & wine event (or just £4 for those enjoying just soft drinks)

### MOVIE NIGHTS

We have no Movie Night in April – sorry

### Tuesday 13 May – THELMA

Thelma Post, a feisty 93-year-old grandmother who gets conned by a phone scammer pretending to be her grandson, sets out on a treacherous quest across Los Angeles, accompanied by an aging friend and his motorized scooter, to reclaim what was taken from her. June Squibb, herself 94, plays the lead role. She is not a fount of wisdom or some sort of wacky old lady, and she certainly makes some questionable choices during her action-packed journey (think Mission Impossible on a motorized scooter – seriously!!). But her refusal to give up her independence or be a victim ultimately makes her as heroic as any action movie star, and an inspiration (of a sort) to us all.

Doors and bar open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm.

### THE GREAT HXVH BARN DANCE – Saturday 24 May – 6-10pm

We have the Black Sheep Band joining us again for a fabulous, fun-filled family evening. We will be operating the bar, and our friends from Coastal Crust Pizza will also be with us. Tickets available from the Special Events page of our website at [www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk](http://www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk) Adults £10 in advance and children 4-17 just £4. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

### Coffee Junction – alternate Thursday mornings 10.30-12.30

Come along for coffee (or tea) and a chat between 10.30 and 12.30. April 3 and 17 and May 1, 15 and 29. Let's make the world a happier and less lonely place if we can. Anyone and everyone welcome.

### Church Service 20 April and 18 May starting at 6pm

*Alison and the HXVH Committee*

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## Friends of Swanage Hospital

This contribution from the Friends of Swanage Hospital is a brief salute to two outstanding Friends both of whom served on our committee for many years.

For the Friends of Swanage Hospital, **Gerry Norris** looked after publicity. With her energy, Gerry was always chasing us to promote events and was also out and about herself leafletting until the last minute; long after many of us had given up. Often seen at our events, meeting and greeting and promoting membership and subscriptions to the Friends of Swanage Hospital. Gerry did not like to miss our meetings and was always a lively contributor to the committee and gave so much of her time and energy to the cause.

**Sue Whitton** was involved with the hospital and subsequently the Friends for so many years. Sue was well known locally and had a marvellous sense of humour. At committee meetings, Sue was held in total respect because of her knowledge and experience. For the Friends, Sue was always willing to get involved and took on tasks such as the flower baskets whilst she was still working and vaccinating in Purbeck. For the winter and summer fairs, Sue Whitton would bake and bake to fill the cake and pastry tables. The cake stall was legendary and busy and was always an enormous contributor to our funds. How many hours did all this baking take?

So, a sad farewell from us to Gerry and Sue. We will miss you enormously.

With fondest love

Your friends



### FRIENDS OF SWANAGE HOSPITAL

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



# Wellbeing Swanage Timetable

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



**Monday**

<p><b>Growing Together Baby group 0-1yrs</b> At the Focus Centre Book appointment 01929 557000 purbecklocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk 10.30 - 11.30</p>	<p><b>Reach Drug and Alcohol Service</b> At the Focus Centre Drop in and referrals 9 - 5</p>	<p><b>Community Cafe and Pantry Citizens Advice Digital Advisor</b> At Herston Hall Drop in 10 - 12</p>
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**Tuesday**

**Health Visitor Newborn Hearing**  
At the Focus Centre  
Referrals and Drop in (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of month only)  
9 - 1

**Wednesday**

<p><b>Child Speech and Language Therapy</b> At the Focus Centre Book and appointment 01202 443 200 Dhc.slt.queries@nhs.net</p>	<p><b>Health Visitor Clinic and Baby weighing</b> At the Focus Centre Drop in 10 - 11.30</p>	<p><b>Community Fareshare Food distribution</b> At the Focus Centre Register 1<sup>st</sup> then drop in www.fareshare.org.uk 9.30 - 10.30</p>	<p><b>'Babigloo' Music Therapy</b> At the Focus Centre Book appointment 01929 557000 babigloomusic@gmail.com</p>	<p><b>Seahorses Toddler Group</b> At Herston Hall Drop in (£1 per family) 9.30 - 11 (Term time only)</p>
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**Thursday**

**Yoga with Semra Beginner Friendly**  
At the Focus Centre  
To Book call 07932 180327  
YogawithSemra@gmail.com  
£8 per session  
10 - 11

**Friday**

<p><b>BFN Breastfeeding Support Group</b> At the Focus Centre Facebook @ BFNSwanageBreastfeedingSupportGroup Drop in 9.45 - 11.45</p>	<p><b>Connected Minds Programme</b> At the Focus Centre Referral only, ask school or family worker more information 9-12</p>	<p><b>Swanage Youth Club</b> At Herston Hall For more information email youthclubswanage@gmail.com Facebook @ SwanageYouthClub</p>
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**Every day**

<p><b>'Explorers Childminding Wraparound Childcare (0-5 Years)</b> At the Centre www.explorerschildcare.co.uk 01929 426355</p>	<p><b>Adult Day Care</b> At the Focus Centre Referral via www.careDorset.co.uk</p>
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**The Focus Centre**  
107 High Street  
Swanage  
BH19 2NB

**Herston Hall**  
12 Jubilee Road  
Swanage  
BH19 2SF

**Phone** : 07938 465062  
**Email** : focuscentre@sandpdt.org.uk  
**Website** : www.wellbeingSwanage.org.uk  
**What3Words**: Speedy.Following.Bound





## Swanage Depression Support



invite you to an

### OPEN MEETING

to explain our plans to reopen the Group

Wednesday 2nd April 2025

7.30 pm (tea/coffee from 7)

The Focus Centre, Swanage High Street  
(next to Methodist Church)

Please come if you are affected by depression—either yourself, a family member or friend

More details from [swanagedepression@outlook.com](mailto:swanagedepression@outlook.com)

07871 799479

## New Hope for People with Depression

One in six people in the UK suffer with depression, so if you are one of us you are not unique! Neither need you be alone, because Swanage Depression Support is re-opening its doors in April. We are a group of local people who experience depression, either ourselves or in our families and friends, who aim to support each other. We shall be meeting fortnightly to share issues and engage in an activity together.

There will be an open meeting on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April to which everyone is invited to learn about what we plan. We shall meet at The Focus Centre in Swanage High Street (next to the Methodist Church) 7.30 – 9.00pm (tea/coffee from 7). Please come along. Our regular meetings will be for members only and be strictly confidential, so we can share with confidence.

If you can't come that evening, or would like to know more, please contact Alan on 07871 799479 or [swanagedepression@outlook.com](mailto:swanagedepression@outlook.com).



We have been back just two weeks but we are already very busy as you can imagine. Sweet peas and broad beans are sown and we have a cupboard full of seeds to sow in the coming weeks ... hectic but fun!

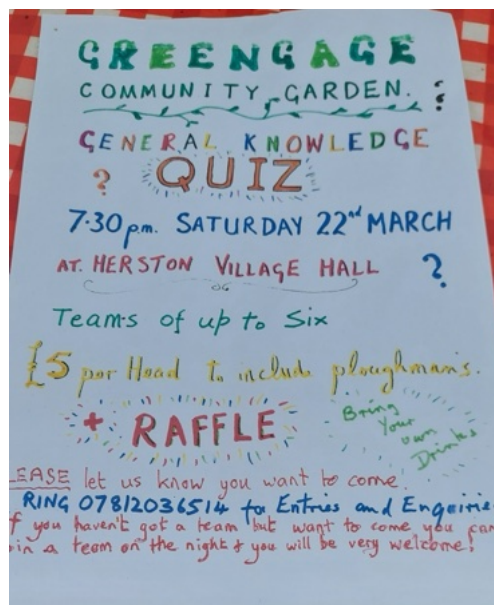
We are also getting closer to having our new building but, as with all these things, there's a good deal of consideration taking place. We need to survey the drains for starters along with plans of where everything will go inside so there's lots going on.

We have new people coming to Greengage and, like last year, we are having two sessions every week. These will be Tuesday from 12 and Friday from 10. We also have our quiz in Herston Hall on the 22nd March. Please let us know if you wish to attend.

We have given two talks this Spring, one to the WI and one to U3A, which covered the history of the garden up to the present day. We are also due to give a talk to the Rotary in May.

Community activities are very important to us and, hopefully, will become even more so. The Beavers are coming to do a gardening evening at the end of March and we will be at the May bank holiday picnic at Herston. We have also been asked to do a workshop with the WI on 'taking cuttings' later in the Spring! We will also have a full summer of Open Days and lots of other things going on so, on the whole, I think we will be kept busy!

Come and see us ... you will be very welcome!



Swanage & Purbeck  
Development Trust  
Charity Reg. No. 1162662

  
**FAURÉ**  
**REQUIEM**  
**RUTTER GLORIA**  
 with ORGAN, BRASS & PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE  
 also music by Monteverdi, Poulenc & Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré)  
**SATURDAY 12 APRIL 6.30PM**  
**ST MARY'S CHURCH, SWANAGE**  
 conductor: John Watkins  
 Tickets: £12 in advance from Corbens or tel. 01929 427272  
[www.purbeckartschoir.org.uk](http://www.purbeckartschoir.org.uk)

**SWANAGE TOWN BAND**  
**PLAYING IN THE BANDSTAND THIS SUMMER**  
 WEATHER PERMITTING

Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup> May	7.00pm*
Saturday	7 <sup>th</sup> June	2.30pm
Wednesday	18 <sup>th</sup> June	7.00pm*
Saturday	5 <sup>th</sup> July	2.30pm
Wednesday	16 <sup>th</sup> July	7.00pm*
Wednesday	30 <sup>th</sup> July	7.00pm
Wednesday	20 <sup>th</sup> August	7.00pm

\* in Swanage Methodist Church if wet

Swanage Town Band will also be playing at Swanage Railway station on 17th May at 1.15pm as part of the Swanage Railway 140th anniversary celebrations.

SOUNDCELLAR AND SWANAGE JAZZ FESTIVAL PRESENTS

# NICOLAS MEIER & ALEX HUTTON DUO




ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST TALENTED GUITARISTS  
ALONGSIDE A MAINSTAY OF THE LONDON JAZZ SCENE

12 APRIL 2025 | 7.30 PM

NICOLAS MEIER – GUITAR  
ALEX HUTTON – PIANO

TICKETS £14 + BOOKING FEE  
FROM THEMOWLEM.COM


THE STUDIO  
 @ THE MOWLEM

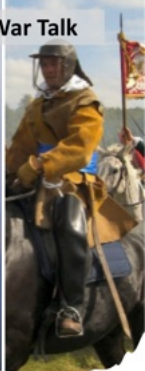



SoundCellar

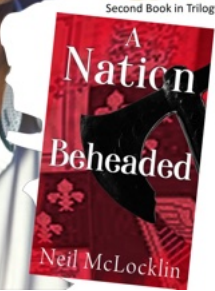
**The English Civil War Talk**

Local people and places & parallels with modern day  
By author Neil McLocklin





Second Book in Trilogy



A presentation by Neil McLocklin

The English Civil War local people and places


Catholic Church Hall

7:30pm

Friday, 30th May 2025

Light Refreshments

Price: £4 (£3 Swanage Museum members)



Building upon Neil McLocklin's previous talk, with the publication of his second book *A Nation Beheaded*, the talk will continue the story of the Bankes and other local families and places at this traumatic and transforming time in English history".



## Mining museum opens its doors to the local community

The chance to discuss the varied work of volunteers and see behind the scenes of one of the area's most popular heritage attractions was an opportunity not to be missed for many members of the local community at the end of February. The large number of visitors to the special Community Weekend organised by the Swanage Railway demonstrated the high level of interest in the railway and related attractions including The Purbeck Mining Museum at Norden.

Here, visitors had the opportunity to chat with former miner Brian Biles and to meet many of the volunteers of all ages who help to shine the light on an industry that has played such an important part in the area's economic and ecological heritage.

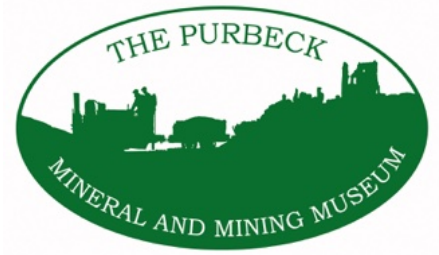


Visitors had the opportunity to see behind the scenes at the Purbeck Mining Museum during the recent Community Weekend organised by the Swanage Railway. Photo courtesy of Andrew P.M.Wright

The two-day event also gave visitors the chance to look around the engine shed and see demonstrations of historic locomotives pulling clay wagons along the narrow gauge railway adjacent to the museum. The Swanage Railway also provided a wide range of different activities for visitors, including driver experience sessions and signal box tours.

"We were delighted to welcome so many people from the local area and show them just how fulfilling it is to be part of such an enthusiastic team of volunteers", says Paola Hobson, the Purbeck Mining Museum's Group Administrator. "We will always give a warm welcome to anyone who'd like to get involved. Such support could be meeting and greeting visitors and hosting tour groups or working on a myriad of maintenance and support activities behind the scenes - from curation, industrial archaeology and landscaping to construction, engineering and electrical work. The museum is run entirely by volunteers so any help - even if it's just a few hours every now and then - is always appreciated."

The Purbeck Mining Museum will be opening to the public again at the end of March. More information about the museum and further details on the roles and opportunities for volunteers are available at [www.purbeckminingmuseum.org](http://www.purbeckminingmuseum.org).



## Swanage Bowls Club Update

The new bowling season is upon us, with the Opening Day Game on the 12<sup>th</sup> April. The Green is looking healthy and with more and more people trying out the game and joining the Club, 2025 promises to be a great year to play bowls. Ken Morgan is our new President with Lewis Manning as his chosen Charity. Phil Cockman will bring his inimitable displays of enthusiasm and 'style' to the role of Men's Captain, whilst the equally inimitable Ladies' Captain for this year is the perpetually energetic Linda Wallis. They both hope to maintain the Club's successes in competitions both at local and County level, whilst ensuring that every member has fun and feels part of a really welcoming group.

A new social committee has been formed and already has a very successful curry and games night to be proud of. There will be regular social events throughout the season, particularly on a Friday Club night, where everyone is welcome to turn and have a go. If you are interested in trying the game, want more information or would like to join please call Barrie Tatman on 01929 421162.

The Club has 4 specific free sessions arranged on May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup> for anyone to try out the game and get some advice with an enthusiastic welcome. You can find us at Beach Gardens, next to Tea on the Green. Please do come along, we would love to see you.

You can find out more about the club on our website [www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk](http://www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk) or our Facebook page: Swanage Bowls Club.



**Swanage Bowling Club**  
**FREE "Have-A-Go" SESSIONS**



**Sunday 4th and 18th May**  
**2025**  
2 sessions on each day at 10am and 2pm  
*No need to pre-book. Just turn up!*

**Come and try this wonderful outdoor game!**  
Members will be on hand to assist.  
Bowls will be provided.  
Please wear trainers/flat shoes/no heels.  
**- Fresh Air - Stay active - Challenge yourself**  
**- Make new friends - Easy to learn, tricky to Master**  
**For more information contact: Barrie Tatman, Club Secretary**  
t: 01929 421162 | w: [www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk](http://www.swanagebowlingclub.org.uk)  
f: [facebook.com/Swanagebowlsclub](https://www.facebook.com/Swanagebowlsclub)  
a: Entrances at Beach Gardens, Northbrook Road or Cauldon Ave, BH19 1PG

## NEWS FROM PURBECK SOUNDS

Hi, my name is Maggie O'Neill and I present the nearly lunchtime show from 11 - 1pm on Thursdays on Purbeck Sounds, your community radio station for Swanage and Purbeck where volunteers bring the news, chat and play lots of lovely songs to our listeners.



The Maggie show is a combination of talk, songs and local news which I enjoy talking about because I am a former newspaper journalist, turned teacher. In the past few months I've chatted to a variety of people, all with their story to tell us. I have a huge interest in writers and authors, trying to get under the surface and talk about what made them follow their ambition. I also love music of all kinds including choral music, being a member of two choirs and a ukulele band. There's something very satisfying about sharing information with the listeners - putting ourselves in the shoes of an artistic person who has worked hard for many years improving their skills.

If you would like to be a guest and tell the listeners about your particular interest, please contact our station email [contact@purbecksounds.co.uk](mailto:contact@purbecksounds.co.uk). We're looking forward to hearing from you.

We would also love it if you join us either as a presenter or as a technical enthusiast or someone who likes administration, willing to support this fantastic community radio station we call PURBECK SOUNDS.

**Swanage Community  
Defibrillator Partnership**  
*Keep the heart of Swanage beating*



Swanage & Purbeck  
Development Trust  
Charity Reg. No. 1162662

## EMPOWERING HEARTS- A DECADE OF LIFESAVING

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Swanage Community Defibrillator Partnership founded with the mission to raise funds and install four public access Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) in Swanage. We are proud to announce that our efforts have expanded and we now have 45 sites across Purbeck with more units on the way thanks to ongoing fundraising initiatives in Swanage and in Wareham where a SCDP sub-group is being formed to facilitate the siting of new defibs.

As we celebrate this 10-year milestone we recognise that some of our original devices and first generation cabinets are coming to the end of their operational lifecycle. To ensure the continued success of our project we are aiming to raise £10,000 this year - one thousand pounds for each year of service. These funds will be dedicated to replacing older devices and cabinets thereby maintaining the safety and well-being of our community by ensuring that the kit is 'rescue ready'.

We have a fundraising plan which includes a **SCDP Fun Day** on Monday May 5th at Swanage Cricket Club from 1-4 to which all are invited. Please do join us. Donations are always welcomed and can be made through Corbens in Station Rd, Swanage.

As we have mentioned on many occasions the success of our project is due in part to the support we receive from our Defib guardians who regularly monitor and maintain the devices. There are now over 25 guardians who send their monthly returns to Deirdre Mersey for coordination who in turn advises steering group members of any problems. It was a great pleasure for me to award Deirdre, in my role as Rotary President, a Paul Harris Fellowship, for her dedication and commitment to her community role within the Defib project. I was pleased that Ian Brown a fellow SCDP steering group member was able to join me for the presentation held recently at the Swanage School.

We are still offering Defibrillator familiarisation sessions to local groups and can be contacted by email: [info@swanagedefib.co.uk](mailto:info@swanagedefib.co.uk) or on our Facebook page.



As a SCDP steering group we send our sincere thanks for all the support we have received over the last 10 years and look forward to working together to maintain and sustain this essential service over the next 10 years!

Thank you all,

*Ian, Dave, Kyle, Mary, Claire, Stuart and Maggie*  
Steering Group members



**I've recently found myself living alone after the breakdown of my relationship. My council tax bill is due soon, and I'm worried I won't be able to afford to pay it on my own. I'm already struggling to cover the cost of my other bills. What can I do?**

You're not alone in worrying about struggling to pay your bills. It's a difficult time for people who are battling rising costs for food and essentials - as well as seeing their bills creep up. Fortunately, there are options available to people struggling to pay their council tax, but you'll need to find out if you're eligible first. You might be entitled to pay less, or not at all, depending on your circumstances, because councils offer discounts and other reductions.

Firstly, because you're the only adult living in your home, your council tax bill can be reduced by a quarter. For example, if your bill is £1,000 for the year, you'll only have to pay £750 now that you live on your own. You'll need to tell your council someone has moved out of your home and the date that they left. You're entitled to the discount from when they moved out - even if it was a while ago.

When the council works out how many people live in a property, there are certain people that don't count - they're called 'disregarded people'. This includes under-18s, full-time students, long-term hospital patients, people with severe mental impairments, and many more. You can check our website for more information on disregarded people. In some situations, everyone living in a home is disregarded. If this is the case, the council tax bill will be reduced by half. If everyone in a home is a student or severely mentally impaired, there'll be no council tax to pay. If you live with an adult who isn't disregarded, but who is on a low income or receives certain benefits, you might be able to get a discount called a 'second adult rebate'. You can find out more about getting a second adult rebate on our website.

If you or someone you live with is disabled, this can also affect your council tax banding. If your home has been adapted, you can ask to be placed down one band. For example, if you're living in a band C property that has been adapted for a disabled resident, you should only be charged council tax for a band B property. There's also something called Council Tax Reduction, which is designed for people on low incomes. Your council will ask for details about your income and circumstances, to check if you're eligible. If you are, they'll reduce the amount of council tax you have to pay. When it comes to Council Tax Reductions, different rules apply depending on whether you've reached State Pension age.

And lastly, if you're struggling to pay for essentials, your council can reduce your bill further, or cancel it altogether, under what's known as a 'discretionary reduction'. This usually only happens if you can provide evidence that you're suffering severe hardship and can't afford to pay council tax. If you're in this situation, ask your council for help. If you're not given a discretionary reduction, you might be able to appeal to a valuation tribunal. If the tribunal agrees with you, they can order your council to reduce or even cancel your council tax bill.

Whatever circumstances you're in, if you're struggling with your council tax payments, it's important to let your council know. Citizens Advice is also here to help you find a way forward, should you need our support.

## **Contacting your local Citizens Advice**

Citizens Advice can help with a range of different issues including energy, housing, debt, benefits and employment advice. Advice is free, confidential and impartial.

### **Energy Advice**

The Dorset Energy Team provides free energy advice to households across Dorset. They can offer energy efficiency advice, help with billing issues and meter problems. They can also help with supplier questions, prepayment meters, carbon monoxide awareness and provide free CO monitors and advise about available support. The Dorset Energy Bus visits locations around Dorset where Energy Advisers are on hand to answer questions. The bus timetable can be viewed online here [www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/energy](http://www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/energy)

To speak to an energy adviser, call the Energy Line on 01929 775500, leave a message and someone will return your call, or email: [energy@edpcitizensadvice.org.uk](mailto:energy@edpcitizensadvice.org.uk).

### **Local Drop-ins**

#### **Swanage Library Drop-in**

Citizens Advice is at Swanage Library on a Tuesday, 10am-12pm. No appointment is needed, just come along and have a chat with our friendly advisers. All of our drop-ins and outreaches can be found on our website here [www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/in-person](http://www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/in-person)

### **Advice Bus**

The Advice Bus stops weekly at Swanage Market on a Friday morning, 9.30am-12.30pm and at Corfe Castle at the Residents Car Park, West Street, the third Friday of the month. Next on the 21<sup>st</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> April and 16<sup>th</sup> May, 1pm-3pm.

Visit our website for our bus stop locations [www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk/get-advice/advice-bus](http://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](http://www.edpcitizensadvice.org.uk) or to speak to an Adviser, call the Dorset Adviceline freephone on 0800 144 8848, 10am-4pm weekdays.

# Updates from the National Trust



## Beaver fever!



In March, we released two pairs of beavers into Little Sea, Studland. Purbeck was the first place in England to be granted a government licence for a 'wild' beaver release like this – and the story attracted the attention of national TV, radio and newspapers.

The new beavers now join the family that arrived there in 2024 by unknown means – so hopefully we'll have the start of a viable population. By creating sunny glades, new water channels and deep pools, the beavers will enhance the habitat for lots of other species, especially dragonflies, wetland birds, amphibians, bats and water voles.

Beavers are a native species and were present across the country – but were hunted to extinction in the UK around 400 years ago. So we're thrilled to welcome them back! You can read more here:

[www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/studland-bay/re-introducing-beavers-to-studland](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/studland-bay/re-introducing-beavers-to-studland)

Beaver taking its first steps into Little Sea, © Beaver Trust

## Bunting bonanza

In July last year, we reported that a ciril bunting had been spotted in Purbeck, for the first time since 1968. So we were excited to hear that a flock of 20 of these rare songbirds was spotted recently at Weston Farm, Worth Matravers.

We are managing the farm for nature recovery, so this is exactly the kind of news we've been hoping for. These striking birds were feeding on seeds in the hedgerows, and insects in the rough grassland and bare patches where pigs have churned up the soil.

The ciril bunting was once common in southern England but declined dramatically from the early 50s, only surviving in a small area of Devon. It just goes to show that nature can recover if we give it space and the right conditions.



Photo: Steve Smith

## Help protect ground-nesting birds

New signs have gone up in the dunes and heathland on the Studland peninsula to help protect ground-nesting birds. People are being asked to keep their dogs on short leads in these areas to avoid disturbance to rare birds like the nightjar, stonechat, woodlark and Dartford warbler.

Ground-nesting birds are masters of camouflage, but dogs can sniff them out – once the bird leaves the nest, eggs are vulnerable to other birds like gulls and crows. The restrictions will also help prevent dogs being bitten by adders which are now coming out of hibernation.

The restrictions in the dunes and heathland are from 1st March to 31st July – similar rules apply to heathlands and open access sites across the country. The beaches are covered by different regulations – you can pick up a leaflet which explains them all at the Knoll Beach information office.

## Love Studland's beaches and dunes?

If so, Dorset Council wants to hear from you about a new Anti-social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Order for Studland. This order aims to address issues like wild camping, littering and lighting fires. Your feedback will help shape the final decisions made by the council.

Hurry – the deadline is 20 April. <https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/c-e/studland/>

## Accessibility award for Studland

We were really chuffed to be given a bronze award in the Accessible and Inclusive category at the recent Dorset Tourism Awards. The award highlights our ongoing commitment to accessibility with a number of upgrades completed last year. This includes the Changing Places toilet, wheelchair-friendly boardwalk and electric beach wheelchair.



Photo: Beach wheelchair, Sophie Bolesworth

If you have any queries, please email us on [purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Cathy Lewis, National Trust



**ACCLAIMED actor Sir Mark Rylance has become the Patron of Planet Purbeck in a major boost for the growing community group.**



The Oscar-winning star of stage and screen – best-known recently for his brilliant portrayal of scheming Thomas Cromwell in TV’s Wolf Hall – said he was “honoured” to accept the position. And Planet Purbeck said it was “beyond thrilled” to have the support of such a significant figurehead.

Sir Mark, a dedicated environmentalist who regards Purbeck as his home, is a firm believer in the “bonding” power of local communities to influence an uncertain future. He considers Planet Purbeck to be a prime example. And he shares its vision of protecting and enhancing the area’s glorious natural resources, involving residents in conservation projects and doing what it can to alleviate climate change. Sir Mark said:

“I’m honoured to become the Patron of Planet Purbeck. When I was asked to do so, I had no hesitation in accepting. I note wise advice, as the international scene becomes so volatile, that forming stronger bonds amongst ourselves in local communities is the best way to prepare for all possible futures. Working together as a community to appreciate and improve our relationship with our small portion of earth, water, air and fire and all our fellow plant and animal communities is the best insurance we can procure for the future.”

When acting commitments allow, Sir Mark hopes to actively support Planet Purbeck beyond his patronage and is currently formulating possibilities. He said:

“I have been aware for some time of the group’s determined work in conservation and ecology, which is dear to my heart. And it seems to me that in recent times they have stepped up a gear by becoming directly involved in some fantastic local projects such as the Swanage Streams Partnership to revitalise the Swan Brook and efforts to introduce Purbeck’s natural wonders to more schoolchildren via the Purbeck Goes Wild initiative. It will be a pleasure for me to see how these programmes progress.”

Planet Purbeck’s chair Doug Skinner said:

“I am beyond thrilled that Sir Mark has become our Patron. It is so important for Planet Purbeck, at this stage in its development, in terms of raising awareness and attracting additional support. An endorsement from such a renowned figure is both a big thankyou to all those who have worked tirelessly to get us where we are and massive encouragement for us to push further with our aims.

“We have a large programme of activities planned and we are hugely grateful for Sir Mark’s support.”

See [planetpurbeck.org](http://planetpurbeck.org) for upcoming events.



**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**

## Lewis-Manning Hospice Care Joins National Campaign to Highlight the Growing Need for Hospice Care



Lewis-Manning Hospice Care is proud to be part of a nationwide initiative, “This is Hospice Care” a groundbreaking campaign uniting 143 hospices across England, Scotland, and Wales. Launched by Hospice UK, this movement aims to raise awareness of the vital role Gifts in Wills play as part of hospice funding.

The campaign launched on 17<sup>th</sup> February and has immediately captured hearts and minds through a powerful TV advert based on real life hospice stories. The goal is to encourage people to consider leaving a gift in their will to support their local hospice.

Local Dorset Hospices like Lewis-Manning provide compassionate, expert care and support to patients with life-limiting illnesses and their loved ones. However, as demand for hospice services continues to rise, it is essential to secure long-term funding to ensure no one faces their journey alone.

Lewis-Manning CEO Clare Gallie said, “We are thrilled to be part of this important campaign giving us the opportunity to work in partnership and collaboration with many other hospices. As a group of hospices we’ve come together to shine a light on the essential role hospices play in our communities and protect our futures. Last year, we supported over 1200 patients and their families. One in four of these were cared for with thanks to kind gifts in wills. Legacy gifts are essential in securing the future of Your Hospice in Your Community, helping us continue to provide comfort, dignity, and expert support for generations to come. Together, we can help hospice care live on for all, for now, forever.”



Gifts in wills are already playing a crucial role in sustaining hospice care, with many hospices relying on legacy donations to fund a significant portion of their services. At Lewis-Manning Hospice Care, one in four patients are cared for with thanks to kind gifts in wills. Without this generosity, the ability to meet growing demand will be at risk.

To learn more about how you can support Lewis-Manning Hospice Care through a legacy gift, visit [www.lewis-manning.org.uk/gifts-in-wills/](http://www.lewis-manning.org.uk/gifts-in-wills/) or contact their dedicated legacy team on 01202 708470 or email [legacies@lewis-manning.org.uk](mailto:legacies@lewis-manning.org.uk)

## 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

April sees our AGM in Swanage on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>. After the formal business Gen Crisford of the National Trust will be giving us an update on the beavers at Little Sea, and the progress of the Purbeck Beaver Project. This will be very timely, given the recent government announcement and the actual releases of beavers. A small tip for other local groups – attendance at our AGM has gone up markedly since we started serving free cakes at the end of the meeting.

A week later on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> we have an afternoon tea at the Blue Pool. This has become a regular event. Members (and their guests) can choose between a Cream Tea, or a full Afternoon Tea, all served in a private room. Anyone coming to this doesn’t have to pay for entry to the Blue Pool, so it’s great value, and you can work off the effects afterwards with a walk around the lake.

In May we’re off on a coach trip to Exeter, for a cruise on the River Exe. We’re going from Exmouth to Topsham and back, with a cream tea served while we’re on the boat (there’s a theme developing here).

Further ahead, in June we’re having a coach trip to Hatchlands, a National Trust property near Guildford, and then in June we’re having a ploughman’s lunch and quiz in Stoborough Village Hall.

### Find out more

We do all these things to enjoy ourselves, whilst also raising money for the National Trust locally. 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.purbecknt.org.uk](http://www.purbecknt.org.uk), or you can email us at [info@purbecknt.org.uk](mailto:info@purbecknt.org.uk), or call 01929 552872.





## DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA?

A condition that can make you feel isolated. Dementia is a disease just like any other disease. It's a disease of the brain, nothing to be ashamed of!

Dementia Friendly Purbeck a local charity can help support you.

We have a Memory Café in the Mowlem Show Bar 10am – 12pm every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month. Why not come along and meet people who understand. There's tea, coffee and home-made cake. Most times we have entertainment.

You can still live well with dementia, come and spend a couple of hours sitting, chatting and enjoying the fantastic views of Swanage Bay. Bring family or friends you would be very welcome.

## Purbeck Ukrainian Learning Hub



Through its project

### Purbeck Connect Ukraine

### Swanage Action for Refugees

is continuing to support Ukrainian refugees in Purbeck

Regular meetings are held on  
Saturday mornings from 10:00 to 12:00 at:  
Emmanuel Baptist Church  
160 Victoria Avenue  
Swanage BH19 1AZ

**Coffee morning for Ukrainians and volunteers**  
**English lessons for adults**  
**Ukrainian lessons for children**

Through crafts, exercises and games, the children maintain their skill in their native language and learn about Ukrainian traditions and culture

For more information, see our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/PurbeckConnectUkraine>

or contact:

[purbeckconnectukraine@gmail.com](mailto:purbeckconnectukraine@gmail.com)



## OPEN WINDOW

Talk about 'Living well with Dementia'

Dorett Diekmann

Saturday 17 May at 2.30pm

Sandy Hill Arts, Sandy Hill Lane, Corfe Castle, Dorset BH20 5JF  
Room 14

There is nothing what prepares you when your husband is diagnosed with Young Onset Alzheimer's. The diagnosis of any form of Dementia is a start of a journey where windows open and close. And it is up to the person receiving the diagnosis and everyone surrounding this person to look out for and discover, explore or make the most of these windows.

The Cambridge Dictionary refers to the noun 'window' as "a period when there is an opportunity for something".

Within the journey of dementia, these opportunities for something are opening and closing. In this talk we would like to focus on how taking the opportunities of the open windows can make life rich and fulfilled, despite a life limiting diagnoses.



## TIMELESS COLOURED

The language of lines

David Perkins

Exhibition 17 - 22 May

Sandy Hill Arts, Sandy Hill Lane, Corfe Castle, Dorset BH20 5JF  
Room 14, Daily 10am - 4pm

This anniversary exhibition shows part of the remarkable journey David took after being diagnosed with Young Onset Alzheimer's.

David took up painting in November 2015 and painted with dedication and passion till June 2018, developing a style where lines and curves seem to float or dance over the paper. He fell in love with the moments when colours were mixing, creating a spectrum or single colours creating a range of shades. His joy when experimenting produced paintings that reflect the moment of surprise. David had a deep feeling for colour which weaves through his paintings.

# SWANAGE ROTARY CELEBRATES!

## Celebration evening at The Swanage School

An evening of celebration was held by Swanage and Purbeck Rotary to thank everyone who helped it raise more than £33,000 for charity in 2024, as well as recognising the contribution from community members.

The event was held at The Swanage School on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 with invited guests from Swanage and Purbeck businesses, clubs and organisations and with Swanage town mayor Tina Foster as guest of honour.



Opening the evening, Swanage and Purbeck Rotary president Maggie Hardy welcomed the guests saying that the Club "had had a successful year raising a lot of money for Rotary projects both in our local community and internationally, increasing our membership, enjoying fun and fellowship and hearing from many interesting speakers over the year. SERVICE ABOVE SELF is our Rotary motto and I would like to tell you about one of our much-loved Rotarians who sadly died a couple of weeks ago but who was actively working for Rotary right up until the end. It would seem very appropriate to 'celebrate' a Rotary life well lived this evening whilst also acknowledging the tremendous role our friend SUE WHITTON has played in this community since she came to live in Swanage in 1977. Sue was a very special hardworking lady who will be greatly missed by so many people particularly here within Swanage & Purbeck Rotary where we are very proud that she was 'one of us'"

Maggie went on to say "During the last Rotary financial year we were able to donate over £33,000 to 25 organisations and projects both locally and internationally. None of what we do could be achieved without the help of many of you in the local community either in person or through your businesses: so again a very big thank you."

Short presentations followed on Swanage Rotary's community, international and youth projects. The latter included the donation of toothbrushes and toothpaste to all children at St Marks School and the pre-school to help promote good dental health and an excellent presentation on the robotics project at The Swanage School by students Jacob and Reuben which has been supported by Swanage Rotary.

## Silver Saturday

Swanage and Purbeck Rotary were delighted to host their annual Silver Saturday event at the end of February, celebrating the older members of our lovely community. A gathering of over 100 people, including guests, Rotarians and entertainers, assembled at the Emmanuel Church in Victoria Avenue, our usual venue for this event, to enjoy a sumptuous afternoon tea, with sandwiches, cakes and other goodies a-plenty, lovingly prepared by our catering dream-team!

Entertaining those present was one of our guests' favourite local musicians, the United Reform Ukulele Band, playing some old favourites. Once again, we were delighted that Swanage Town Mayor Tina Foster was also able to join us and cut the cake celebrating the 120th birthday of the Rotary movement. Additional thanks to Jenny Huntley for the beautiful celebration cake.

We also are indebted to the Emmanuel Baptist Church for all their help and support and to the Swanage Disabled Buses for providing transport for guests in the area. Generous donations amounting to over £300 were collected from the attendees, which will go towards local good causes supported by Rotary.





# THE MOWLEM

## Theatre, Cinema & Function Rooms

### What's On in April 2025

[www.themowlem.com](http://www.themowlem.com)

#### On The Stage:

**The Ultimate Bubble Show** Monday 14th April 2pm

This show promises a whirlwind of excitement and surprises, as Ray uses various different gases to craft stunning bubble sculptures, effects, and magical displays. Prepare to be amazed as Ray creates a volcano bubble, a soap bubble carousel, a bubble ghost, and even a tornado inside a bubble! The performance is suitable for children and adults with additional needs. Join Ray and see if he can create the ultimate square bubble!

**An Audience with All Sort'd and Friends** Wednesday 16th April 7pm

An evening of music, dance and drama with a festival vibe full of laughter, fun and joy! The evening will be compered by Swanage's very own Simon Wells, with performances from Allsort'd, local groups and performers to raise money to fund a portable platform wheelchair lift for The Mowlem.

**An Evening With Kate Adie** Friday 25th April 7pm

Join us for a special evening with the renowned journalist and broadcaster, Kate Adie. Get ready to hear fascinating stories and insights from her incredible career. A portion of the profits from this event will be donated to the Dorset County Hospital Charity's Emergency and Critical Care Appeal, of which Kate is a patron.

**Tom Petty & Fleetwood Mac** Saturday 26th April 7:30pm

Europe's only tribute to Fleetwood Mac, Stevie Nicks and Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. Hear and see all of both bands classic songs.

#### On The Big Screen:

**NT Live – Dr. Strangelove (encore screening)** Thursday 3rd April- 7pm

Seven-time BAFTA Award-winner Steve Coogan plays four roles in the world premiere stage adaptation of Stanley Kubrick's comedy masterpiece Dr.Strangelove.

**Sonic The Hedgehog 3 (PG)** Friday 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th & 10th April 11:30am

Sonic, Knuckles and Tails reunite to battle Shadow, a mysterious new enemy with powers unlike anything they've faced before.

**A Real Pain (15)** Friday 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th & 10th April 7:30pm, Saturday 5th April 3pm  
Mismatched cousins David and Benji tour Poland to honour their grandmother. Starring Kieran Culkin, Jesse Eisenberg, Jennifer Grey.

**SIX The Musical (12A)** Tuesday 8th April - 7:30pm

The Original West End cast reunite at London's Vaudeville Theatre in front of a sold-out audience to strut their stuff and re-write their Tudor traumas in an unmissable cinematic recording of the show packed full of style, sass, and sensational songs.

**Dog Man (U)** Friday 11th, 12th, 13th, 15th, 17th, & 18th April 11:30am, 19th April 2:30pm  
When a police officer and his faithful police dog get injured in the line of duty, a harebrained but life-saving surgery fuses the two of them together — and Dog Man is born.

**Four Mothers (15)** Friday 11th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 17th, 19th, 21st, & 22nd April 7:30pm  
Matinee Showings Saturday 12th 3 pm & Monday 21st April 2:30pm

An author is saddled with caring for his mother after she suffers a stroke. His plans for a book tour are thrown into disarray when three more elderly women arrive on his doorstep.

**Macbeth (12A)** Wednesday 23rd 7:30 pm & Monday 28th April 2:30pm

David Tennant (Doctor Who, Broadchurch) and Cush Jumbo (The Good Wife, Criminal Record) lead a stellar cast in an 'enthralling' new production of Shakespeare's Macbeth, filmed live at the Donmar Warehouse in London, especially for the big screen.

**NT Live- The Importance of Being Earnest (Encore Screening)** Thursday 24th April 7pm

Three-time Olivier Award-winner Sharon D Clarke is joined by Ncuti Gatwa (Doctor Who; Sex Education) in this joyful reimagining of Oscar Wilde's most celebrated comedy.

**The Brutalist (18)** Monday 28th, 29th, 30th April & 1st May 6:30pm

Escaping postwar Europe, a visionary architect comes to America to rebuild his life, his career, and his marriage. On his own in a strange new country, he settles in Pennsylvania, where a wealthy and prominent industrialist recognises his talent.

Starring Adrien Brody, Felicity Jones, Guy Pearce.

#### In The Studio:

**Children's Workshops**

Aimed at children ages 7- 11, Accompanied by a parent or carer See website for full details  
Saturday 5th, 12th & 19th April 2.30pm - 5pm

**Author Talks: Lucy Brazier- The Honesty Box** Tuesday 8th April 2:30pm

Lucy Brazier, author of The Honesty Box, talks about midlife and everything it raises through the prism of food. Books will be available to buy at the event.

**The Mowlem Comedy Club** Wednesday 9th April 7:30pm

Off The Kerb Productions Present: The Mowlem Comedy Club

Your chance to catch the best comedy talent in a club environment! Off The Kerb's shows are renowned for their superb lineups, showcasing exciting up-and-coming talent along with established names on the UK comedy circuit.

**Purbeck Society AGM** Friday 11th April 2:15pm

Get your tickets on the door. free to Purbeck Society members, non-members £3.  
Tea/coffee will be available after the talk.

**Soundcellar & Swanage Jazz Festival presents Nicolas Meier & Alex Hutton Duo**

Saturday 12th April 7:30pm

An evening of world jazz with guitarist Nicolas Meier and pianist Alex Hutton

Drawing from a love of Turkish, Eastern & Middle Eastern music, Flamenco, Tango, and more—all mixed with jazz

**Author Talks: In Conversation with Rachel McLean and Millie Ravensworth**

Saturday 26th April 2pm

Join us for an afternoon of conversation with Rachel McLean, Heide Goody and Iain Grant (also known as Millie Ravensworth) about their new cosy mystery 'The Lyme Regis Women's Swimming Club', a hilarious, gripping mystery set on the Jurassic Coast and featuring characters from the bestselling Dorset Crime series.

#### In the Showbar:

**Oompah in The Showbar with The Bierfass Band!**

Saturday 5th April 8pm - 11:30pm, Doors open from 5.30pm, music from 8pm til late, beer steins, tankards and fancy dress are very welcome!

Bierfass Oompah Band is a group of Dorset musicians who play a unique mix of polkas, waltzes and drinking tunes combined with British pop and other well known songs. The result is a foot-stomping, thigh-slapping singing and dancing experience! Audience participation is encouraged, especially when playing the anvil and the alpine horn!

**Swanage Record Club (Free Event)** Thursday 10th April 6pm - 10pm

This club is like a book club but for records. Come appreciate great albums in full and enjoy a drinks and chats!

**Sundrunk- Live in The Showbar (Free Event)** Friday 18th April 8pm - 10:30pm

Doors open at 5.30 pm – join us early to enjoy the view before the music starts at 8pm! Sundrunk are joining us live in The Showbar with their own take on great songs through the decades!

**Blue Doves Live in The Showbar (Free Event)** Saturday 19th April 7:30pm

An evening of songs and improvised music with Blue Doves featuring Rob Mills, Pili Lopez, Rick Foot and Rob Howes. Four of our finest and most experienced musicians conjuring music from thin air and delighting with a selection of songs from a variety of traditions.

**Oscar's Ultimate Quiz** Wednesday 30th April

The Showbar opens at 5.30pm – arrive early to secure a table, quiz starts at 8pm!

Our monthly quiz – the biggest and best in town! Quiz-master Oscar presents a wide-ranging general knowledge quiz, lots of fun, and a chance to play music bingo at the end. Plus, the top three teams win prizes! £2 per person in teams of up to six (bring cash on the night!)

**Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter and check our website for the latest update on our programme, timings and bookings.**

## Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

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



We last met on 11 March 2025, when we welcomed two new PPG members. We were joined by David Sale, the Volunteering and Community Services Officer for Dorset at the South Western Ambulance Service, who explained the important role Community First Responders play in helping patients receive immediate life-saving care within Swanage and the surrounding area. You can find out more about Community First Responders at: [www.swast.nhs.uk/community-first-responders](http://www.swast.nhs.uk/community-first-responders). Maggie Hardy also joined us to explain how the Swanage Community Defibrillator Project interfaces with the Ambulance Service.

Natasha Ritchie, Practice Manager, also attended our meeting and explained that the Practice is now inviting some patients to book appointments via a personalised link sent by text. Please do not ignore any such texts sent to you by the Practice.

We also received updates from Purbeck Parky's and Dementia Friendly Purbeck.

Our next meeting will be held at the Surgery on **Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 6:00pm**, when we will be agreeing our priorities for the next year.

You can find more information about the PPG, including Minutes of our meetings and our current Priorities, at: [www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Patient-Participation-Group](http://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](mailto: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 and to participate in other events organised by the PPG.

**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.**

### New 10 Year Health Plan for England

Please may I also draw your attention to a new survey on the Change NHS website ([www.change.nhs.uk](http://www.change.nhs.uk)), which seeks people's views on their priorities for change in the NHS. The survey focuses on the ideas that have emerged from the engagement process, which has been taking place since the Autumn, and will help finalise the new 10 Year Health Plan for England. The Survey will close on **Friday 14 April 2025**.

*Mrs Margaret Broadhurst (Dr Margaret Guy)  
Chair, Swanage Medical Practice PPG*



## DEADLINE

for contributions to the June/July 2025 issue of  
the Newsletter

**MONDAY 19 MAY 2025**

*Photograph by Gwenda Yeomans*