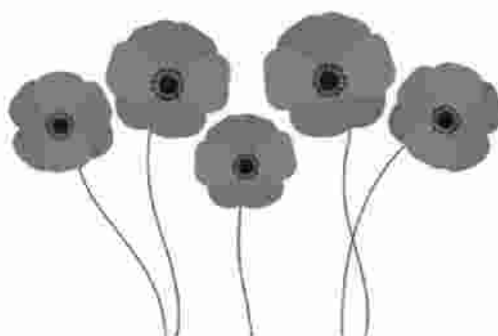




# THE GURNARD NEWS

NOVEMBER 2022



"NOTHING IS REALLY LOST AS LONG AS YOU REMEMBER IT"

## November 2022

*We will Remember*

Your free monthly magazine collated for you by Gurnard church, bringing you news and events from the churches and organisations in and around the Parish of Gurnard.

Copy for December/January Edition  
by November 16th

## A LETTER FROM ALL SAINTS'

**HELLO THERE!**

I hope you are all well despite the dark evenings and the wintery weather! Walking through Northwood's churchyard a month or so ago I met a lovely lady who had come from the mainland to locate a relative's gravestone. 'I want to remember my relative' she said as we moved to the area where the memorial was located. 'I completely understand' I said as I showed her the stone she had been searching for and told her that I would be in the church should she need anything further and left her to her reflections.

The thing is she wouldn't actually REMEMBER her relative as he died probably 150 years before she was born and yet '**remember**' is the word she and indeed we all use when we want to pay respects to someone who has died. We say in our Remembrance Services, it is said at the Albert Hall and up and down our Country – **We will remember them**. And yet the personal memories of those who died in the first and now even the second world wars are getting few and fewer as the years roll on.

As well as Remembrance Day and Remembrance Sunday, we also have All Souls Day on 2<sup>nd</sup> November when the Church of England remembers and give thanks for all the departed.... we actually have our thanksgiving services nearer Christmas in Northwood and Gurnard as I feel losing someone is felt so much more in the Christmas season. However, it is not just the Church of England that

commemorates those who have died on 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov - the people of Mexico also do!

As you may have seen advertised around the island or on the ferries Robin Hill had a Festival of the Dead, last month over the Half term break. Known in Spanish as '**El Día de los Muertos**', this unofficial but widely observed holiday is celebrated on November 2nd each year and focuses on remembering family members and friends who have passed away. While it's strange for most of us to accept the fact that "death" and "festivities" can go hand-in-hand, for most Mexicans, the two are intricately entwined. This all stems from the ancient indigenous peoples of Mexico who believed that the souls of the dead return each year to visit with their living relatives - to eat, drink and be merry. Just like they did when they were living.

And in a way I think remembering their loved ones like this is a healthy thing – after all, as the famous saying goes death is one of only two things that are certain.... along with taxes!

But remembering this year will still be different. Some of our focus may be turned to remembering the heroes of our Special Forces unit, the SAS, as the new drama began last Sunday. Based on true events and the bestselling book of the same name, the show 'SAS Rogue Heroes' is a dramatised account of how the SAS was formed under extraordinary circumstances in the darkest days of World War Two. This is the exhilarating story of renegade men

taking monumental risks in extraordinary circumstances and how one of the most feared and respected fighting units of the world began in Cairo in 1941. More rebels than soldiers, David Stirling's team are every bit as complicated, flawed and reckless as they are astonishingly brave and heroic.... I am certainly looking forward to watching it!

For others, particularly those of you who have welcomed our Ukraine friends into their homes in recent months, Remembrance this year will include the everyday citizens of Ukraine who left their normal jobs and have donned military clothing and picked up weapons to fight Russian soldiers on their land and continue to this day.

And then, of course, we will remember the death of our dear Queen and how she was present at virtually every Cenotaph parade during her 70 years. It will certainly be very poignant when we see King Charles leading the Remembrance Day parade this month.

Time continues, so many things change and yet the concept of Remembrance remains a constant. And so it should. Whether it is a family Remembrance of a dear one on the anniversary of their death, our town remembering the Blitz of Cowes on that fateful night in May 1942 or the country remembering the fallen on 11 November: We must remember, otherwise their deaths would have been in vain. They died loving us or loving their country and we must never forget. As the Chinese writer Ba Jin wrote, 'Only by not forgetting the past can we be the masters of the future.'

Let us do their memories justice and go out into our towns and churches this month, remembering them with thankful hearts

*Wishing you a blessed month of Remembrance!*

*Rev Amanda*



For Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals please contact  
Rev'd Amanda Collinson 294913

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH  
GURNARD**  
Coffee and Chat  
in Church will be on  
**Thursday, November 24th**  
from **10am till 11.30am.**  
All welcome (and bring a friend?)

#### DATES FOR THE DIARY

##### Concerts in All Saints' Church in December:

Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup> – Simon Langton School, Canterbury.  
Annual tour- Concert at 7pm

Monday December 5<sup>th</sup> – Cowes Concert Band Christmas Concert at  
7.45pm

Friday December 16<sup>th</sup> – Cowes Rotary - Carol Concert – 7.30pm.  
Full details in next Month's Gurnard News

**CHURCH SERVICES FOR ALL SAINTS'****November 2022**

**2<sup>nd</sup>** *Midweek service*

*10.30am Holy Communion (said)*

**6<sup>th</sup>** **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday before Advent**

*9.30am Café Church*

**13<sup>th</sup>** **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY**

*9.30am Holy Communion*

*3.00pm REMEMBRANCE SERVICE*

**16<sup>th</sup>** *Midweek service*

*10.30am Holy Communion (said)*

**20<sup>th</sup>** **CHRIST THE KING**

*9.30am Celtic Morning Prayer*

**27<sup>th</sup>** **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

*9.30am Celtic Communion*

**30<sup>th</sup>** *Midweek service*

*10.30am Holy Communion (said)*

**Junior Church meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month! Newcomers are very welcome.**

We continue to live stream our services via our YouTube channel - **Northwood, Gurnard and Cowes St Faiths parishes**. Once the services are over, they are all uploaded for you to watch whenever you are available. The link is as follows: [www.youtube.com/channel/UCpp6tQjtlusmJ10XEetGQgg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCpp6tQjtlusmJ10XEetGQgg)

We have found an awesome Islander (Lovely Nigel!) who is going to Ukraine before Christmas and have persuaded him to deliver some Shoeboxes to the Ukraine Soldiers, reminding them that we have not forgotten them (a perfect link to my lead article!)

Following the well-trodden path of the Rotary Shoeboxes I would be very grateful if you could join us in this great idea by covering a shoebox in festive paper, (most shoe shops are happy to help) and filling it with items from the list below, or you can just donate items from the list. As always please do not wrap the items, put an elastic band around the box and Sellotape a £2 coin on the outside of the box to help Nigel cover his transport costs.

If you could drop your boxes into All Saints Church, Gurnard, open 10.30am to 4pm or we can come and collect – please give Joan a call on 298643.

**Boxes have to be with us by 25 Nov.**

Many thanks in advance for helping with this great initiative,

**ALL CLOTHING ITEMS TO BE DARK COLOURS PLEASE, BLACK NAVY, BOTTLE GREEN**

T-shirts	Paracetamol	Chewing gum
Under pants	Throat sweets ,	Sweets/ Chocolate
Scarves	Plasters//bandage+safety pin	Biscuits
Warm pull on hats	toothbrush/paste	Small Cakes
Balaclavas	shaving foam	Nuts
	Razors	Dried apricots
	Deodorant	tropical mix
		nibbles
Playing cards	games	Pot Noodles
	Christmas Card	Savoury Biscuits

THIS LIST IS FOR CUSTOMS PURPOSE, SO IF THEY CHOOSE TO OPEN ANY BOX, ONLY THESE ITEMS WILL BE INSIDE, PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE ANYTHING ELSE AND NO TINS!



# ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, GURNARD

## The TROY PLAYERS

### CONCERT

in memory of their late conductor, Chris Ely.

**Tuesday, November 1st at 7.30pm.**

Refreshments (teas, coffees and cake)  
at end of concert.

Retiring collection in aid of Church and Charity.



#### GURNARD BAY WI MEETING



Our speaker this month was local councillor and amateur history enthusiast John Nicholson. He gave us a fascinating talk about the history walks he helped to organise around the Island with CAMRA. He also told us about the fact that the Isle of Wight had a particularly important 'role' in the battle between the English and the Spanish in 1588 when the Spanish Armada met the English ships led by Sir Francis Drake just off the southern coast of the island.

Our Book Club is now up and running. Our first book was 'The Casual Vacancy' by J K Rowling. We all met at The Woodvale for lunch and, after discussing the novel decided we'd had a mixed reaction to it - some loving it and others not so keen but all agreed it was very well written. We decided we would recommend it with the proviso that the language was a bit 'strong!'

All new members welcomed



## THE ELEPHANT CLUB



Next meetings are on:

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2022  
Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022

2:00 – 4:00pm

in

The Garden Room, All Saints' Church, Gurnard

The Elephant Club is a free monthly meeting providing a gentle, friendly group activity that helps you exercise your memory muscles

Tea and Refreshments are included

Just come along and have some fun!

For information call Mandy on

07812 131359

## CIRCLE DANCING



All Saints Monthly Circle Dancing Sessions

The next two meetings will be on:

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and  
Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2022

2.15 – 3.45 pm

**(there will be no Circle Dancing in September)**

Gurnard Village Hall, Worsley Road

These sessions are gentle, supported, exercises in simple dance format, currently seated.

As part of our ELEPHANT CLUB programme, the Circle Dancing sessions offer the same warm welcome and friendly encouragement to all our memory-challenged guests, and their carers.

No special clothing, equipment or ability is required.

Free tea and refreshments are provided

For information, please contact Mandy on

07812 131359

## GURNARD VILLAGE HALL

Oct22

For enquiries about individual activities, contact the relevant leader.  
For hall bookings or enquiries contact [gvhabookings@outlook.com](mailto:gvhabookings@outlook.com)

<b>MONDAY</b>		
09.30 - 11.00	<b>YOGA</b>	Judith Didham 716144 or 07748 977634
13.30 - 15.30	<b>ART GROUP</b>	Tony Westmore 295550
17.00 - 18.00	<b>TAE KWAN-DO</b>	Pete Scotcher 07791 068079
19.00 - 21.00	<b>COWES ART GROUP</b>	Ian Dawkins <i>fully subscribed</i>
<b>TUESDAY</b>		
10.00 - 12.00	<b>SPINNEY QUILTERS</b>	Val Cleary <i>Currently fully subscribed</i>
17.45 - 19.15	<b>YOGA</b>	Elizabeth Bolwell 07817 050893
19.30 - 21.30	<b>INTERNATIONAL DANCE</b>	Mavis Bowmas 291134
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>		
10.00 - 12.00	<b>ART GROUP</b>	Tony Westmore 295550
14.00 - 16.00	<b>CYBER CAFE 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; 4<sup>th</sup> Wed</b>	Paul Clark 07961 030068
18.15 - 22.00	<b>GURNARD PARISH COUNCIL 2<sup>nd</sup> &amp; last Wed.</b>	Katie Riley 07305 013718
18.30 - 21.30	<b>GURNARD BAY W.I. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed</b>	Judith Westbrook 295690
12.00 - 15.00	<b>3 X yearly W.I. VILLAGE LUNCH 4<sup>th</sup> Wed</b>	June Butchers 294366
<b>THURSDAY</b>		
09.30 - 11.00	<b>YOGA</b>	Judith Didham 716144 or 07748 977634
12.00 - 13.00	<b>KEEP ACTIVE Exercise Group</b>	Andrew Savage 810932 or 07779 616189
17.45 - 18.45	<b>PILATES</b>	Nicola 07834 178154
14.15 - 15.45	<b>CIRCLE DANCING The Elephant Club 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday</b>	Mandy Miller 07812 131359
14.00 - 16.00	<b>CREATIVE WRITING 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday</b>	Chris Lund 07480 521200
<b>FRIDAY</b>		
09.30 - 11.00	<b>PARENT &amp; TODDLER GROUP</b>	Polly Segar Sally France Gurnard Parent and Toddler Group
12.00 - 13.30	<b>YOGA</b>	Elizabeth Bolwell 07817 050893
14.00 - 16.00	<b>SOLENT SINGERS Ladies Choir</b>	Suzanne Longstone 290225
19.30	<b>GURNARD FILM SOCIETY 1<sup>st</sup> Friday</b>	Janet White 240615

## GURNARD PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Cllr Paul Fuller ( Chair)**

45 Oxford Street, Northwood,  
PO31 8PT  
01983 289595  
[paul.fuller@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:paul.fuller@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Mark Franklin (vice-chair)**

46, Hilton Road, Gurnard  
PO31 8JB  
07932 019717  
[mark.franklin@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:mark.franklin@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Marie Bugden**

Glen View, Cockleton Lane, Gurnard,  
PO31 8JE  
01983 296721  
[marie.bugden@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:marie.bugden@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Alan Jacobs**

01983 292496  
[alan.jacobs@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:alan.jacobs@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Nikki Wood**

5 Moorgreen Road, Cowes  
PO31 7LJ  
07748327077  
[nikki.wood@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:nikki.wood@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Terry Nolan**

2 Shore Road, Gurnard,  
PO31 8LB  
01983 298331  
[terry.nolan@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:terry.nolan@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Jan Williams**

07837 204208  
[jan.williams@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:jan.williams@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Christine Bustin**

14 Lower Church Road, Gurnard  
PO31 8JG  
01983 508933  
[christine.bustin@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:christine.bustin@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Cllr Penny Acton**

35 Hilton Road, Gurnard  
PO31 8JB  
01983 280565  
[penny.acton@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:penny.acton@gurnardpc.co.uk)

**Clerk– Mrs Katie Riley**

11, Bay View Road, Gurnard,  
PO31 8JF  
07305 013718  
[clerk@gurnardpc.co.uk](mailto:clerk@gurnardpc.co.uk)

### **COWES HERITAGE AND COMMUNITY GROUP BECKFORD CENTRE**

Monday 10-12. Our Island History

Thursday 10-12 Current Affairs

Thursday 1.30-3.30 Art for All

More groups being planned.

\* £2 per session

\* £10 annual subscription (due from your third visit please)

Call 244180 or email [Beckford.centre@chcg.com](mailto:Beckford.centre@chcg.com)

## USEFUL NAMES & TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Age Concern	525282	Health Centre (appointments)	294902
Ambulance (Transport)	825111	Health Centre (general)	295251
Citizens Advice Bureau	0845 1202959	Hospital (St Mary's)	524081
Electricity (Emergencies)	0800 072 7282	Library	293341
Gas (Emergencies)	0800 111999	Police	999
Water (Emergencies)	0845 2720845	Out of Hours GP & Dentist	0840508345
Flood-line (Mon -Fri 8am - 8pm W/ends 10am - 4pm)	0845 9881188		
Local Neighbourhood Watch	Nicki Wood		292690
All Saints' Vicar	Rev'd Amanda Collinson		294913
	Email amandacollinson01@gmail.com		
All Saints' Church, Curate	Rev'd Diana Netherway		298505
All Saints' Churchwarden	Mrs Sandie Munt		295258
All Saints' Church, Secretary	Mrs Rosemary Butler		200980
All Saints' Church, Treasurer	Mrs Wendy Peskett		292145
All Saints' Church, Organist	Mrs Yvonne Mills		292256
Junior Church (Sunday School)	Rev'd Amanda Collinson		294913
Gurnard Primary School (website)	www.gurnardprimaryschool.co.uk		295713
Gurnard Bay Evening W. I.	Mrs Judith Westbrook		295690
Gurnard Village Cottage Garden Society	Mrs Emma Glasbey		293130
Gurnard in Bloom	Jennie Lewis		643323
Gurnard Sailing Club Membership Secretary, Claire Bradley			07771 546146
	membership@gurnardsc.org.uk		
IOW Councillor	Mr. Paul Fuller		289595
Island Member of Parliament	Mr. Bob Seely.		01983 220220
Gurnard Parish Council	Mrs Katie Riley		07305 013718
Email gurnardparishcouncil@gmail.com	Parish Council website	www.gurnardpc.co.uk	
The Elephant Club	Mandy Miller		291185
1st Gurnard Brownies	Mrs Jessica Smith		506254
Gurnard Scouts	Mrs Belinda Savill		293481
1st Gurnard Guides	Mrs Helen Coleman		506254
Gurnard News Editor	Mrs Alyson Jacobs		292496
	Email adj2011@hotmail.co.uk		
Gurnard News Advertising	Graham Lloyd		299051

**THE GARDEN ROOM AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH.**  
**HIRE FOR YOUR MEETING OR ACTIVITY**  
 SEATS 30, CENTRALLY HEATED  
 KITCHENETTE AND DISABILITY TOILET FACILITY  
 £6 / HOUR OR CHARITIES £5 / HOUR  
 TEL. 292145



## **Report from Paul Fuller, Independent Isle of Wight Councillor for Cowes West & Gurnard.**

### **Please contact me:**

**By Post to: 45 Oxford Street, Northwood, Cowes, Isle of Wight. PO31 8PT.**

**Telephone: 01983 289595 (24 hours)/ 07 935 090 835 (Mobile & Text); Email:**

**paulfulleriw@gmail.com**

**Please visit my website: paulfullercc.blogspot.com**

### **Surgeries:**

5:30-6pm; Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, Isle of Wight Community Club, Park Road, Cowes.

10:30-11am; Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, Gurnard Press, Worsley Road, Gurnard.

4:30-5pm; Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Cowes Library, Beckford Road, Cowes.

5:30-6pm; Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, The Portland, Worsley Road, Gurnard.

11-11:30am, Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November, The Woodvale, Princes Esplanade, Gurnard.

10:30-11am, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, Coffee & Chat at All Saints Church, Tuttons Hill, Gurnard.

11:30-12pm, Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November, Eegon's Café, 85 High Street, Cowes.

5:30-6pm; Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November, The Portland, Worsley Road, Gurnard.

### **Beryl E-Scooters.**

With the E-Scooter formally trial set to end in November, Beryl has announced that bays will cease to exist in at: **Egypt Hill, Reynolds Close, the Portland Inn and Church Road**. Beryl has requested to extend the E-Scooter trial to March 2024 to include the E-Bike roll-out. This scheme is supported as part of the Solent Future Transport Zones initiative.

### **Covid and Flu vaccinations: News from Cowes Medical Centre (dated 5<sup>th</sup> October 2022)**

We are now offering the autumn Covid vaccination and annual flu vaccination to our eligible patients. In line with Government guidelines we are working through the age groups and currently taking vaccination bookings for those aged 65 and over. Please look out for text messages which enable easy direct appointment booking. If you do not have a smartphone call the Practice and select option 4 to make a booking. For up to date information, please visit:  
<https://www.cowesmedicalcentre.co.uk/>

### **Energy Price Increases.**

Visit: <https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/> and <http://www.uswitch.com/>

Tel: 0800 688 8557. Alternatively, talk to the Footprint Trust on **01983 822282** or email: [info@footprint-trust.co.uk](mailto:info@footprint-trust.co.uk). The local Footprint Trust charity are recruiting

volunteers to help it cope with unprecedented levels of enquiries, as Islanders struggle with energy price hikes.

#### **Register for Priority Services.**

If you, or somebody that you know is classed as vulnerable you can apply to SSEN/ Southern Water to be supported during water and energy outages.

This applies to those over 60, those living with children under 5, those with a disability, sight or hearing loss, chronic illness, reliant upon electrical aids and water, those with dementia or mental health needs.

For details call SSEN on 0800 294 3294, <https://www.ssen.co.uk/priorityservices>; Southern Water on 0800 027 0800 <https://www.southernwater.co.uk/priority-services>. Alternatively, I've left application forms in Cowes Library.

#### **Street Clutter.**

A few years ago, Island Roads were seeking to reduce and remove unnecessary signage and other street clutter. Several years on, I know there remains signage still in place that is no longer in use. If you know of any signs, please let me know.

#### **Fireworks**

If you're having your own firework display, please drop a note in to your neighbours- As you won't believe the amount of correspondence I receive about petrified pets at this time of the year.

#### **Old School Meadow.**

Following calls of anti-social behaviour, I met some youngsters at Old School Meadow. When I visited them in fairness, I saw no evidence of anything of concern. To note this open space is available to all and it is important that all residents respects this area which is set aside for the community!

#### **Island Planning Strategy**

The new Planning Bible for the Island was not accepted by Councillors at Full Council in October. The reason for this being that many IW Councillors are unhappy with outdated data which Planning Authorities are obliged by Government to use when assessing annual housing figures.

In light of this vote, I continue to work with Councillors to find solutions. I am taking advantage of the time to see whether more can be done to focus more on prioritising social housing, which is of real concern to some members.

#### **Trees and Hedgerows.**

- Concerns were raised to the extent landowners cut overgrowth on the paths adjoining Gurnard Heights

- Tree works took place at Gurnard Pines. Although permits were not required the arboriculturalist was in dialogue with the IW Council's Tree Team.
- I received a complaint concerning garden waste being deposited in roadside bins. If you, or somebody you know have issues getting rid of waste let me know or call 823777. If you receive payment for undertaking this work the punishment can be more extreme!

#### **Anti-Social Parking, Gurnard School.**

Please don't block accesses and driveways when collecting children from Gurnard School. Sadly, this has resulted in altercations with residents unable to leave and access properties in **Baring Road, Battery Road, Woodvale Road and The Dottens**. Please note obstructing accesses can result in police action and was the reason that parking restrictions became more onerous for motorists last year.

#### **Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (SIFCA)**

One of the organisations that as an IW Councillor I am a member of is SIFCA. SIFCA is funded by Government and Councils to police, monitor fishing and its impact upon the marine environment. The organisation also has a responsibility to introduce bye-laws to support conservation and fisheries.

At its meeting the fishing community raised concerns over commercial fishing's impact. In addition divers, expressed concern over discarded nets and their impact.

#### **Also this month:**

- A big thank you to residents for upturning over lifted planters in Worsley Road. You are a star!
- If you see small hedgehogs in peril (common during Autumn) call: the BHPS hotline: 01584 890 801.
- With an increasing need for support and advice the Citizens Advice Bureau are recruiting volunteers at the moment. For details please visit: <https://www.citizensadviceiw.org.uk/advicefirstaider>
- This month the IW Foodbank, based at Love Lane, Cowes are requesting 500g/ 1KG bags of Rice, Sponge Puddings, Long Life Milk, Coffee, Custard, Rice Puddings, deodorant and biscuits.
- I met with Natural England and was given an update on the Isle of Wight Coastal Path. From my conversation, I feel positive on the route intended through Spencers Copse following feedback.

#### **RECYCLING EMPTY PILL PACKETS**

##### **Great News**

You can now pop into the church and drop off any of those packets with the silver foil



## **FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES & EVENTS AT COWES LIBRARY**

### **Mondays**

Weekly Rhyme Time for babies & toddlers 11.00am - 11.30am. A fun session of songs and rhymes! It's free and there is no need to book.

Cowes Library Games Club for Adults every first and third Monday of the month 10.00am - 12.00pm. Play an assortment of games or cards with a friendly group. It's free so just pop along.

Volunteer with Mountbatten monthly pop-in 2.30 - 4.00pm held on the first Monday of the month.

### **Wednesdays**

Philo Cafe 5th October. Philosophical discussion group held on the 1st Wednesday of the month 7.00 - 9.00pm. No need to book just come along.

### **Fridays**

Cowes Library Drop-in Café every 2nd Friday of the month 10.30am - 12.00pm. Enjoy some tea/coffee and cake and a friendly chat, or even whilst browsing books. Board games and colouring materials will be available to those who wish to use them. It's free and all are welcome.

Friday fortnightly Adult Community Learning Drop-ins at Cowes Library 11th, 25th November. The Isle of Wight Council has been allocated funding over the next three years for **Multiply**, a government initiative to improve adult math skills. Multiply will help adults who do not have maths GCSE at grade C, understand and use maths in daily life, at home and in work. Providing free courses that are flexibly delivered around people's lives, whether at their workplace, in the evening, online, intensive or through personalised support. You can find out more about courses available at [www.iow.gov.uk/ACLcourses](http://www.iow.gov.uk/ACLcourses) or contact Adult Community Learning on 01983 817280 or email [multiply@iow.gov.uk](mailto:multiply@iow.gov.uk).

### **Saturdays**

Children's Games Club: First Saturday of the month 10.30am - 12.00pm

Lego Club: Last Saturday of the month 10.00am - 12.00pm

Junior Colouring Club: Third Saturday of the month with colouring, drawing and being creative. All materials provided.

With all children's activities, children need to be accompanied by an adult throughout.

**Saturday 19th November** 10.00am - 3.00pm Cowes Library Christmas Craft Fair with a wide range of unique Christmas gifts, children's Christmas crafts, Huxley Magic Show 1.00-2.00pm (£1per child)Lucky dip. There will be a fund raising

raffle and cakes and refreshments courtesy of the Supporters of Cowes Library. If you wish to take part, tables are available at £6. For more information or an application form, call in at Cowes Library or Tel: 01983 293341.

## Diabetes Group

Isle of Wight

Do you have Diabetes?

Do you know someone with Diabetes?

Are you a carer to someone with diabetes?

We are holding an informal Coffee morning on the second Tuesday of the month. An ideal opportunity for likeminded people to meet and chat.

**At The Garden Room behind All Saints' Church, Gurnard.  
Meeting Tuesday 8th November 10.00 until 12.00 noon  
All are welcome**

Should you require further information, telephone:  
Ian 528480



### **The Friends of Northwood Cemetery**

are hosting their regular monthly Coffee Morning  
in the West Chapel at Northwood Cemetery  
on Friday 4th November between 10.30am and 12.30pm.  
All are welcome, refreshments are free but donations are  
appreciated. This month's theme is Cards and Gifts

Any queries to Tony Butt on 295807

>

**Gurnard****Gurnard Parish Council Report October 2022**

The September meeting had to be delayed following the death of Her Majesty, the Queen. We met on the 28<sup>th</sup> September in what felt like a different world. There is a new King and a new Prime Minister, Autumn and dark evenings have crept up on us and rain has fallen although the drought restrictions are still in place, as are worries about the cost of heating our homes and feeding our families: a strange new world with many of the same concerns.

Our energetic and hard working Environment Officer opened with a comprehensive and useful report. Senad is someone who can help with concerns such as graffiti or other forms of inconsiderate behaviour around the parish. Out of the inevitable list of planning applications one was incomprehensible. Either there is a need for councillor training or perhaps the focus should be on applicants, architects or consultants ensuring plans are clear. Worryingly Southern Water comments are generic and include no consideration of the cumulative impact of development on the overloaded sewer system. Many Gurnard residents are concerned by combined sewer overflows (CSOs) mis-use; the lack of any adequate testing regime means there is insufficient data on water quality. A council Beach Safety Working Party will be reconvened soon, aim is to include the Environment Officer, a Gurnard Sailing Club representative, a regular swimmer and an Environment Agency representative. Water testing can be set up locally but it is very expensive and the council needs to be sure it is using your money effectively.

There were many other items discussed: a survey on the seven seafront benches, minor incidents of anti-social behaviour (the biggest concerns being the lighting of fires) and the possibility of a Forest School opening.

At the next meeting, barely a fortnight later on 12<sup>th</sup> October, there were again a number of planning applications and it was helpful that most could be easily understood, just one was ambiguous. If you believe you will be affected, whether positively or adversely, it is always a good idea to send in a comment to the IWC Planning site, a traditional letter or an on-line comment is equally useful as a guide for your local councillors.

The Chairman's report and other agenda items considered anti-social behaviour that has been experienced in the village. Unpleasant littering and graffiti, inconsiderate noise levels: not keeping dogs under proper control or not disposing of bags of dog poo properly are, sadly, recurring problems. Lighting fires where they are forbidden will be less appealing as winter sets in but the over-turning of planters at the junction of Church Road with Worsley Road was more offensive. The very positive response from some residents in putting the planters back so quickly helped. Perhaps the formation of a new group to support Gurnard in Bloom and other local environmental and sustainability goals can harness this community

response and grow our village greener. The council decided not to attempt to anchor the existing planters more firmly as some damage has been caused. Perhaps new planters or alternative designs are needed; these could be planned for the future and in the meantime we hope to enjoy the lovely pansies and other plants for a while longer.

The defibrillator on the wall adjoining Gurnard Press is not easily accessible and the provision of both a new location and external casing for this important village asset are being explored.

An 'open letter' requesting the Island MP look carefully at supporting the Climate and Ecology Bill was unanimously agreed and will be available to all residents on the council noticeboard, local social media and the GPC website via this link:

<https://www.gurnardpc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Bob-Seely-MP.docx.pdf> The letter makes clear the concern GPC has about the continued, excessive use of CSOs on Gurnard Beach. Several councillors supported the demonstration held on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> where about 100 people met to protest against pollution of our beach and seawater. A simple survey consulting on the seven Welcome Back benches was carried out asking the question of whether users are happy with the seat positions or not. Following that Cllrs Bugden, Acton, Nolan and Franklin counted the responses. Out of the 38 slips returned: One was spoiled: **Twenty six** liked the current position: **Eleven** were not happy with the seats' position. As there was a big majority in favour of the seats in their current positions the council is happy with the very clear result.

A fruit tree specialist will be employed to give some care to the long neglected community orchard in Old School Meadow (OSM) with the impact reviewed at the end of the first year. GPC hope this will lead to an improved community asset and further care and possible community days may be part of future consultation. The crab apple tree ordered early in the year for planting as part of the Queen's Green Canopy will be planted soon by Gurnard resident, Mr Bert Jupe; he has helped care for the tree for months (waiting for a suitable planting window over a summer of drought) and is going to take care of watering it as necessary until it is established. Planting date and time tbc.

How to get signs advertising village amenities, their possible design, location and wording, were discussed at length. It is not possible to have a brown tourist sign due to limited village parking but enquiries about an alternative sign, the wording, location(s) and cost are being made with an aim of supporting our village businesses.

Safety concerns on Baring Road and junctions (inappropriate /dangerous parking and some excessive speed at school drop off or pick up times) were discussed. Central funding for a lollipop person is no longer available but may come from parish or town councils. An Island wide review of road and speed limits is

currently underway but Baring Road is not currently seen as a priority. GPC will contact the Research about the potential for opening a Community Pantry in the village has been under-taken but it may not be effective use of funds to open a discrete village pantry, instead supporting the Cowes food bank and backing the IWC Warm Spaces initiative might be more effective. Cllr Fuller advised the IWC are providing 'air fryers' (cheaper cooking method than an oven) and a summary of what else is on offer will be made available as soon as possible. A listing of **Warm Spaces** available in the village will be compiled. Some events may carry a charge or request a donation, but all will offer, as well as a warm space, the chance to meet with people and enjoy some refreshment. GPC encourages residents to support 'warm space' events by donating cakes if they can. If there is a need, the council could potentially help in renting space from local venues to hold additional events. GPC representation at, and a Royal British Legion donation for, the Remembrance Service Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November were agreed.

#### **Contact Us**

The next full Parish Council meeting will be held in the village hall at 6.30 pm on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022. There is always an opportunity at the start of the meeting for members of the public to make comments and ask questions. If there is anything you feel the Parish Council could help with, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs. Katie Riley, telephone 07305013718 or email: [gurnardparishcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:gurnardparishcouncil@gmail.com)

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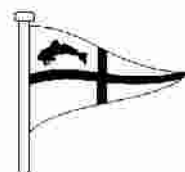
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