

oneIsland

Your new magazine from
the Isle of Wight Council
Issue one
October 2006
www.iwight.com

Summer of success

The Island
celebrates

Also inside:
Handy GCSE
hints for
parents

Special
healthy
eating
feature

Welcome



Welcome to the Isle of Wight Council's new magazine, *One Island*, a publication bringing you valuable information about the council and its services, together with news and details of events in the community.

One Island will appear every two months and will let you know about the real progress being made to bring you a more efficient council, providing the high quality and cost-effective services that we all deserve.

The council is dedicated to working positively and ceaselessly on behalf of Island residents and their families, both through its own services and with its many different partners.

We hope *One Island* will keep you informed of progress with our quest to put the council at the forefront of the best local authorities in this country.

In this first edition, we look at two issues that are of particular concern to us all: improvements in education standards (we provide some handy GCSE advice for parents); and projects to cut crime and the fear of crime on the Island.

We hope you enjoy the new magazine and we would be pleased to receive feedback on the first edition and ideas for areas of coverage in the future (see contact details at the top of the page).

Andy Sutton
Leader, Isle of Wight Council

One Island is published six times a year, appearing in February, April, June, August, October and December. If you have community news to share with other readers or would like to advertise in *One Island*, we would like to hear from you.

We also welcome your letters – you can contact us by post, email or telephone.

Post One Island, Publications, County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD

Email Onelsland@iow.gov.uk

Telephone 823105



makingcontact

USEFUL CONTACTS

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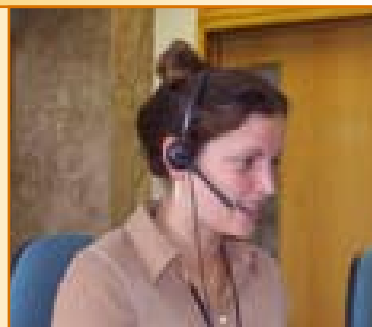
Mon to Fri: 8am to 6pm

Saturday: 9am to 1pm

For telephone assistance we recommend you contact the call centre directly where we aim to answer as many enquiries as possible at this first point of contact.

Popular numbers

Council tax	823901
Education	823455
Environmental health	823000
Housing benefits	823950
Libraries	203880
Licensing	823159
Planning	823552
Refuse collection	823777
Roads and highways	823777
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Trading standards	823396
Leisure services	823828



Adult and children's services

Adult services	823340
Children's services	525790
Local centres:	
Cowes	291144
Newport	823340
Ryde	566011
Sandown	408448
Headquarters	520600
Housing	823040

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

In an emergency dial 999

Fire and rescue control centre (24hrs)	525121
Out of hours:	
Highways	525121
Waste disposal	0800 3283851
Wightcare	821105

FACE TO FACE SERVICES

Newport Help Centre

Tel 821000

County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD

Mon to Fri: 8am to 6pm

Sat: 9am to 1pm

Ryde Help Centre

Tel 812678

188 High Street, Ryde PO33 2PN

Mon to Fri: 8.45am to 5pm

Sat: 9.30am to 12.30pm

Brading Help Centre

Tel 405873

West Street, Brading PO36 0DR

IW Council desk – Tues: 9am to 1pm

Shanklin Help Centre

Falcon Cross Hall, Falcon Road, Shanklin.

Mon only: 10am to 4.30pm

West Wight Information Centre

Tel 756140

Madeira House, Avenue Road, Freshwater

PO40 9UU

Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri: 9am to 3pm

Wed: 1pm to 5pm

Wootton Bridge Centre

Tel 884361

Joanne's Walk, Brannon Way,

Wootton Bridge PO33 4NU

IW Council desk – Mon, Tues,

Thurs, Fri: 9am to 1pm

councilmeetings

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are in public at County Hall. Call 821000 24 hours before a meeting to ensure it is going ahead and to check if any items are likely to be held in private session.

Council

(council chamber)

15 November (6pm)

13 December (6pm)

Cabinet

7 November (6pm) – Northwood House

5 December (6pm) – Broadway Centre

Development Control Sub-Committee

(council chamber)

30 October (6pm) – Medina Theatre

21 November (4pm)

19 December (4pm)

Licensing Sub-Committee

(committee room one)

13 November (4pm)

11 December (4pm)



Audit and Performance Committee

(committee room one)

14 November (6pm)

12 December (6pm)

Regulatory Committee

(committee room one)

6 November (4pm)

Standards Committee

(committee room one)

27 November (6pm)

Scrutiny Committee

(committee room one)

23 November (6pm)

21 December (6pm)

Policy Commission for Economy, Tourism, Regeneration and Transport

(committee room one)

8 November (6pm)

20 December (6pm)

Policy Commission for Care, Health and Housing

(committee room one)

22 November (6pm)

Policy Commission for Children and School Results

(committee room one)

1 November (6pm)

6 December (6pm)

Policy Commission for Safer Communities

(committee room one)

2 November (6pm)

7 December (6pm)

Tourism Partnership

(committee room one)

14 December (2pm)

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Cover picture:

The Scissor Sisters performing at the Bestival in September.



Raising standards, creating opportunities

ONE ISLAND is published by the Isle of Wight Council. The council does not accept responsibility for goods or services offered by advertisers. Additional copies are available from the Customer Service Centre at County Hall, libraries and other council facilities. Typetalk calls welcome.

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Islandimage



COMPETITION – Win a camera

In each issue of *One Island* we will be featuring a striking Isle of Wight image. It could be a stunning landscape or a memorable moment from an Island event or activity.

We would like readers to send us the very best Island photographic images they have taken to

help us celebrate the beauty and diversity of our Island.

To help whet the appetite we are including a special photo competition in this first issue of the magazine – with a selection of top prizes. So turn to page 27 for more details and get snapping!

• This picture was taken by Gavin Muncaster.



Sponsored by
Island Photo Centre

One Island is available on request as an audiotape, in large print, in Braille and in other languages.

For further details, please contact One Island on 823105. The magazine is also available online at www.iwight.com

Millions of pounds worth of work is underway to secure the Island's water supply and cater for rising demand.

Contractors engaged by Southern Water are working on two new pipelines – from Lepe in Hampshire, across the Solent to Gurnard – to ensure demand for water continues to be met over the next 25 years. The £15 million scheme is expected to be finished next summer.

The existing four kilometre cross-Solent twin mains brings the Island more than a quarter of its drinking water. Once work is completed, the new pipes could bring eight megalitres more water to the Island every day.

Work is also taking place on a £2.1 million scheme to extend the existing water mains pipeline between Chillerton water supply works and Chale Green, to St Catherine's Reservoir. This will improve the quality and security of water supply to residents in Chale, Niton and the Undercliff.

Work started on the new pipeline in April this year and should finish during the autumn.

Trevor Clark, Southern Water's drought manager, said: "Investing in schemes such as these is vital to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our customers and the thousands of visitors to the Island every year."

Multi-million pound schemes boost Island's water



New Lord Lieutenant is proud of his Island roots

From this month (October) the Queen has a new official representative on the Island – with Major-General Martin White taking over the important role of Lord Lieutenant.

Maj Gen White (pictured), who is Island born and educated, follows in the footsteps of Christopher Bland, who has retired after almost 11 years as Lord Lieutenant.

Maj Gen White, who has been a deputy lieutenant for six years, said: "I'm very proud. It's such a huge privilege to serve the Island where I was born and went to school. As a regular in the Army for 35 years I was often away but my family stayed here so I feel I've never really left. As an Islander, it gives you a

real appreciation of the place. It has a special identity, which is something we need to cling on to. Lord Lieutenants are part of the fabric of English life."

The appointment is honorary and is supported by the council through the Lord Lieutenancy office, with chief executive Joe Duckworth acting as clerk to the lieutenancy.

The council would like to express its thanks to Christopher Bland for his fine contribution to the Island during his period in the role.

Lord Lieutenant factfile

- Every county has had a Lord Lieutenant since



King Henry VIII appointed the first one in 1557.

- Originally responsible for maintaining local defence and civil order, the lieutenant stood in for the sovereign.

- Lord Lieutenants today are the Queen's representative and the first to welcome royal visitors or heads of state to their county.

- The position is usually held for ten years or until the age of 75.

Young people talk politics

Island students have been telling Isle of Wight councillors how to get young people interested in politics, as part of Local Democracy Week.

With 46 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds not voting at the last general election, this represents a huge challenge.

A recent debate involving high school students, chaired by 26-year-old Isle of Wight council member David Pugh, brought forward ideas such as getting councillors to visit schools, talking in everyday language and involving young people in decision making.

Look out for these ideas being put into place!

Power to the parishes

The Isle of Wight Council is currently at the forefront of local authorities devolving decision-making powers to town and parish councils.

The council has the goal of the Island becoming fully emparished by 2008, and to help all the Island's town and parish councils achieve 'quality' status by 2010. Five areas are currently awaiting approval to become town or parish councils, with full emparishment for the Island expected by April 2008.

Spearheading the work in this area is the council's recently-created parish and community development team, which is working closely with a parish task group (including councillors and clerks from the Island's 29 town and parish councils). Projects the team has been working on include:

- A survey of the relationship between the council and town and parish councils.
- Parish workshops to explore better ways of working.
- A scheme making awards of up to £5,000 for community projects.
- Subsidising training for clerks and payment of election expenses to enable them to achieve quality status.
- Publishing a quarterly newsletter to improve communication.
- Creating a silverline phone service for parish and town councils to report local issues to the council
- A special town and parish council portal on the *iwight.com* website.

Ron Mew, chairman of the Isle of Wight Association of Parish and Town Councils said: "This is a very exciting time for the Island's parish and town councils, the council has made a commitment to being more inclusive and giving us greater powers to provide the services our residents tell us they want."



Think before lighting up

The autumn and early winter months often place many people in a bonfire dilemma. On the one hand you may need to rid yourself of unnecessary garden waste, but on the other you should consider air pollution and potential nuisance to neighbours.

Most people are sensible about when they light bonfires, taking account of their neighbours and the materials they burn. But if you get it wrong, it can be an offence, punishable by a fine of up to £5,000.

• If you are unsure about your bonfire rights and responsibilities, then information and advice can be obtained from the council's environmental health service on 823000, or by looking at the website at www.iwight.com/eh



Comfort and safety at home



Older or disabled people who may need help with adapting or repairing their home to make life easier and more comfortable, are being encouraged to contact Anchor Staying Put, based at Shanklin.

Anchor Staying Put is part of the Anchor Trust, England's biggest not-for-profit provider of housing and care for older people. Through its work it helps people stay put in their homes rather than moving in to residential care or other accommodation.

Work carried out includes kitchen and bathroom adaptations, roofing, disabled access, structural repairs and extensions.

• To find out more tel: 867238 (answerphone available outside of office hours), email: stayingputiow@anchor.org.uk, or write to Anchor Staying Put, Unit B18 Whitecross Business Centre, Whitecross Lane, Shanklin, Isle of Wight PO37 7EJ.

New top team takes shape

Three new directors have recently joined chief executive Joe Duckworth to play key roles in the council's management team.



Steve Beynon (pictured, top) becomes the new director of children's services; Sarah Mitchell (middle) takes up the post of director of adult services; and Stuart Love (bottom) joins as director of environment and neighbourhoods.



Grasping the Olympic torch

Hard on the heels of the Isle of Wight's successful bid to host the prestigious Island Games for 2011, the council has been pressing ahead with plans to secure preparation camp status for the 2012 London Olympics.

Lee Matthews, community development and leisure manager, said the council had provisionally identified a number of different Island facilities, involving three or four sports (including athletics), and would be meeting with the operators to discuss options.

"We recently attended a regional conference to explain the process to apply for preparation camp status,

with all applications having to be with Sport England by January 2007. We have already looked at facilities across the Island to see which can match the sporting and support facility specifications."

It is hoped the Island's success in securing the Island Games for 2011 will act as a catalyst to help it become involved in the Olympic Games' preparations.

Lee said the council and Island Games Association were also looking at how both the Island Games and Olympic Games can support each other in terms of official and volunteer development.



The Book of Porchfield and Locks Green

A new book about life down the years in Porchfield and Locks Green is to be published in November. The publication, called *The Book of Porchfield and Locks Green*, has been written by Islander Keir Foss.

The author traces the changing fortunes of the rural community from the era of the lord of the manor and the big house, into a period of religious zeal and nonconformist self-reliance, and on to an age of owner-occupation and enterprise.

The book portrays the lifestyles and personalities that made the village, featuring more than 250 historic photographs (see picture below) - with nearly 300 family names mentioned.

The book is published by Halsgrove of Tiverton, tel: (01884) 243242 or visit www.halsgrove.com



Fossil catalogue goes online

A new online catalogue of fossils at Dinosaur Isle, Sandown will soon be up-and-running.

The catalogue will feature key fossils studied by scientists at the council-operated museum, including items such as the spectacular skeleton of the flesh-eating *Neovenator*.

Curator of geology, Martin Munt, said the aim with the catalogue is to increase access to information at Dinosaur Isle, and maintain the Island's high international profile in this field.

"The fossils on the list are all of international importance reflecting the world class status of the Island's geology, and the council's fossil collection."

Since the last such catalogue was produced ten years ago, the list has risen from 65 entries to 228 entries, all part of the 35,000 strong collection.

• The catalogue will be accessible through the Dinosaur Isle website at www.dinosaurisle.com



Knocking down job barriers

TV presenter Debbie Thrower is to host a mini-conference focusing on the latest diversity legislation – concerning age – at the Isle of Wight College, Newport on 29 November.

The conference will also act as the launch event for the Island's new LEADER (Local Employers Acting on Diversity, Equality, Race) group, developed from the Southampton LEADER group, which works to remove employment barriers for under-represented groups.

The group is an umbrella

organisation of employers working together to build a diverse workforce, and overcome issues of ethnicity, disability, age, gender, religion and religious belief, and sexual orientation.

Guest speakers at the mini-conference will include Lord Hunt of Kings Heath and former *Carry On* actor Jack Douglas, and there will be humorous sketches from The Garnett Foundation on how not to interview candidates for employment in relation to age.

There will also be the chance to ask a panel questions about

age legislation and on becoming a member of LEADER Isle of Wight.

• For more information about LEADER please access their website at www.diversityleader.org

To become a member of LEADER or to attend the mini-conference please contact:

Martyn Pearl:

martynpearl@medinahousing.co.uk

Rosie Barnard:

rosie.barnard@iow.gov.uk

Dave Fawcett:

davefawcett@hsbc.com

Pauline Hitt:

pauline.hitt@iwcollege.ac.uk

PICTURED (from left) Martyn Pearl of Medina Housing Association, Pauline Hitt of the Isle of Wight College, Rosie Barnard of the Isle of Wight Council and Dave Fawcett of HSBC Bank

Crackdown on age discrimination

New regulations have been brought in making it against the law to discriminate against workers, employees, job seekers and trainees because of their age.

The Employment Equality (Age) Regulations 2006 were introduced on 1 October, and employers across the Island are being advised to make themselves familiar with the rules.

The regulations cover all employers in areas including recruitment, terms and conditions, promotions, transfers, dismissals and training – and will remove upper age limits on unfair dismissal and redundancy, with employees having the right to request to work beyond 65.

The new regulations are also intended to stamp out any workplace bullying and harassment on grounds of age.

For more details about the new legislation you can visit the following websites:

- Age Positive, www.agepositive.gov.uk
- Department for Work and Pensions, www.dwp.gov.uk
- Employers Forum on Age, www.efa.org.uk

The Bartered Bride



Mid Wales Opera returns to the Island on 27 and 28 October with a new production of Smetana's opera *The Bartered Bride*.

Circus performers and dancers add energy to the show, which has been described as one of Mid Wales Opera's most original and memorable productions.

It takes place at Medina Theatre, Newport on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 October. Tickets cost £15 and £13 and are available via the theatre box office on 527020.

Driving refresher



Better driving courses are being offered by the council's traffic and road safety team to help brush up skills motorists may have let slip since they passed their tests.

The courses are on one evening

a week for six weeks, at a cost of £25 per person.

To find out more call 823799, email roadsafety@iow.gov.uk or visit www.iwight.com/traffic_road_safety

Hone those cycling skills



© IW Tourism

People who want to improve their health and sharpen their cycling skills are being encouraged to take part in the Re:cycle initiative.

Re:cycle is adult one-to-one cycle training, with national standard trainers tailoring sessions to the individual taking part, whether a beginner or a regular cyclist.

The scheme is being promoted by the council's traffic and road safety section, to help build people's fitness and confidence behind the handlebars.

To find out more call 823799 or email roadsafety@iow.gov.uk



We will remember...

At this time of year, with Remembrance Sunday not far away, many people will be reflecting on the lives of those who have given service in wartime and other conflicts.

With this in mind, the county record office has found this postcard sent by Leonard Knight to his mother Eva, in the early months of the First World War, in September 1914. The Knights lived at Sussex House in the High Street, Ventnor, and the postcard is postmarked Larkhill Camp, Salisbury.

The message reads: "Dear Mother, Thanks very much for the parcel; the cake looks very nice, but I haven't had any yet. I hope you are alright. The pears were very nice, but rather squashed. With love from Len."

It is possible the troops pictured here were members of the 4th Hants Howitzer Battery. It is known that they were recruiting in Ventnor and Shanklin earlier in September, and at least 11 new men signed up in Ventnor as a result. What became of those pictured is not known.

Scheme helps youngsters build confidence

Sixteen Island youngsters recently benefited from a special scheme to help ease their transition from middle to high school.

The three-week project, part of the Extended Schools-funded Active8s' summer programme, was run by Mobile Youth Initiatives and Challenge and Adventure, and was geared particularly to those with communication and confidence issues.

Dee Makin, of Mobile Youth Initiatives, said the activities for the youngsters were designed to be educational, challenging and enjoyable, giving them new experiences and opportunities,



and recognising what they had achieved.

The itinerary included first aid training and qualification, cooking skills, sun awareness, behaviour perceptions, and outdoor activities such as sailing.

She added: "Gradually the young people shifted from being disruptive or lacking in effective communication skills and making their voices heard, to young people who could find enjoyment in achieving together. We hope the project will grow and enable more young people in the future to continue their personal development."

Recycling at your library

Island libraries are boosting local waste recycling levels by helping more people get kerbside boxes and kitchen food waste caddies.

Thanks to improved computer systems at all 11 libraries, the kerbside boxes and kitchen caddies can now be ordered at the same time as borrowing a book.

The aim of the scheme is to encourage people who aren't currently recycling at home to do so.

Last year the recycling rate on the Island was 35.5 per cent, with waste diverted away from landfill reaching 55 per cent. But it still meant 45 per cent was going into a big hole in the ground.

Sarah Buttress, waste minimisation and recycling officer, said: "This new initiative is an important step forward to promoting sustainable waste reduction and recycling within the community.

Ordering your box and caddy has never been easier."



An imaginative range of events and activities has been lined up for the second Isle of Wight Storytelling Festival, taking place during November.

The festival is being organised by the council's arts unit and local storyteller Sue Bailey, and full details are provided at www.isleofwight-arts.co.uk. For bookings, tickets and more details you can contact the arts unit on, tel: 823813, email: hannah.birks@iow.gov.uk

Highlights of the festival include:
• Annamation, at Brading Town Hall (Saturday 25 November)

Storytellers Anna, Anna and Susanna make up Annamation, using theatricality and song to bring stories to life. Recent winners of the Young

Storyteller of the Year Award, they will be providing a morning workshop session giving an introduction to the art of storytelling, followed by a picnic lunch featuring an 'open mike' session for individuals and families to share their tales with a relaxed audience.

www.iwight.com - from online payments to key council decisions

More than 200 Isle of Wight Council services are now available online - with others being added all the time.

All you have to do is visit www.iwight.com online services' section to find out what you can apply for, pay for, report or enquire about - all at the touch of a button.

Do you want to apply for a school place for your child? Request a library book? Pay for an excess parking charge? Submit a planning application? Report a highway defect? All these can be done online.

The website also provides up to date information on the

most important council decisions that affect you, local news, weather, forthcoming events, a full list of roadworks and invaluable advice for Islanders of all ages.

The site allows you to access your council whenever it suits you. With an average of 50,000 pages viewed daily and more than 2.4 million visited every month, it is easy to see why it is the Island's largest website, for essential information about everything you need to know about living, visiting and working on the Island.

In the evening they will use their engaging style to recall the epic world of Jason and the Argonauts and the search for the golden fleece.

This event is supported through Leader+ funding.

• Puppet-making workshops with Andy Lawrence, Theatre of Widdershins (18 to 24 November)

Storyteller and puppeteer Andy Lawrence will be returning to the Island to run a latex puppet-making workshop at Jubilee Stores' Studios, Newport. The weekend workshop (10am to 4pm, 18 and 19 November) will be suitable for beginners and is a re-run of the highly successful weekend run last year. The following week there will be evening workshops (6pm to 9pm, 20 to 24 November) for the students (and students who took part last year) to further their skills by making limbs and costumes as well as learning performance and animation techniques. The climax to the workshops will be a short student performance in the theatre at Quay Arts.

More details are available from www.theatre-of-widdershins.co.uk

• Rumplestiltskin, Quay Arts, Newport (Friday 24 November, 5.30pm)

Theatre of Widdershins will be using innovative puppetry and humour to perform this magical children's tale in the Anthony Minghella Theatre at Quay Arts, Newport. Suitable for ages four years-plus and lasting for about 55 minutes. Tickets available via the Quay Arts box office, tel: 822490.

• Mike O'Leary Workshops, Function Room, Castle Inn, Newport (Thursdays to 23 November, 7pm to 8.30pm)

Southampton-based storyteller Mike O'Leary has been running this course for budding storytellers since September. For more details call the arts unit on 823826.



Lottery funds give boost to Chale youngsters



A successful after school club has been started at Chale Primary School thanks to support from the Big Lottery Fund.

The funding has also helped the small school develop a breakfast club, and it recently became fully registered for full day care.

It means childcare provision for up to 20 children (aged two to eight, and some older children) can now be offered by the school, with a wide range of relaxation and play activities, including some focusing on health and fitness.

The funding – through the Extended Schools programme on the Island – has given such a boost to Chale Primary that nursery numbers have risen significantly.



A new community project has been introduced to encourage chair-based exercising for those on the Island with limited mobility.

The Isle of Wight Physical Activity Alliance – in partnership with the Island's NHS – is piloting the project at The London, Medina Housing Association's sheltered housing site at Ryde.

Louise Gray, of the alliance, said: "The idea is to promote active ageing by helping the elderly maintain and improve mobility, flexibility and strength – and so help functional capacity and independence.

"The exercises are chair-based and designed to improve muscle strength, power and gait, which will help reduce the risk of injury and improve performance."

Several landmark studies have shown that seated exercise is the safest, most effective way of strengthening functional muscle groups.

Once strength, co-ordination and balance have improved, a wide range of home-based, outdoor and community activities can be promoted with confidence.

The pilot scheme is running at The London until 7 December, and if successful it is hoped it will be expanded to other locations on the Island.

•More information on the project is available from Louise Gray on 823812.

Play safe at Hallowe'en

Hallowe'en will be with us soon, a time when spooks and mythical creatures are conjured up, but also a time when police advise parents to ensure their youngsters play it safe.

The police have always firmly resisted the practice of trick-or-treating, in which children knock on doors and play a trick on the occupant if they don't receive a treat.

Inspector Roger Middle said: "We would ask Island parents to take a sensible attitude towards letting their children out knocking on the doors of strangers. If you want your children to have Hallowe'en fun trick-or-treating, it should be supervised by adults and the 'victims' chosen from family and friends."

Helping you plan your car boot sales

Charities and other worthy causes across the Island stage car boot sales to raise vital funds.

The Isle of Wight Trading Standards Service is keen to help the organisers, sellers and consumers get the very best from sales, and to avoid pitfalls.

As well as contacting trading standards direct, there is a wealth of information about consumer law available through the website tradingstandards.iwight.com

A detailed downloadable leaflet covers selling goods at car boot sales – just follow the links through "For Businesses" and "Guidance Leaflets".

Another great source of information for local consumers is Consumer Direct – call 08454 040506.



Boot sales are an excellent way to trade unwanted goods in a friendly, informal way, but there are things to be aware of.

Unfortunately some unscrupulous dealers sometimes use boot sales as a way to dispose of counterfeit, dangerous or stolen goods.

Buyers may not have the same rights over faulty goods that they would if buying from a trader, and regular sellers at boot sales may be classed as traders and need to comply with a range of trading laws.

So the message is: "Brush up on the law, take care, and find that bargain!"



The Island's fire service – have your say



Members of the public are being strongly encouraged to register their views on options for the future set-up of the Island's fire and rescue service.

Consultations are being held on the Island and in Hampshire over whether to increase collaboration between the two fire services or fully combine them.

The consultations are being held from November to February,

and the findings will form part of the background evidence considered by the council in making the decision.

As well as the public consultation information, the council's cabinet will look at an options' appraisal report on the Island's fire and rescue service, and the findings of focus groups.

Paul Street, acting brigade manager for the Island's fire

and rescue service, said: "The independent options' appraisal report was commissioned by both fire and rescue services to look at collaboration or combination. It found a strong business case for the combination option, but before any decision is made full public input is needed."

The report followed a "poor" rating in a Comprehensive

Performance Assessment of the Island's service in July 2005 – but there has been clear evidence it has improved since then.

While there is more for the service to achieve, a recent review identified many strengths in its performance, including strong leadership and a positive direction of travel.

An operational assurance assessment of the service has also just been completed and shown some positive results.

How to register your views

You can access the public survey in a number of ways:

- It will appear on the internet at www.iwfire.org (from 1 November).
- It will appear as an insert in the Isle of Wight County Press in January.
- You can also attend a public meeting where the survey will be available. These meetings will be held throughout November and December, and you can find out the dates, times and locations at www.iwfire.org

Learning those vital citizenship skills

More than 780 children from eight Island middle schools have taken part in this year's Junior Citizenship programme.

The week-long programme for year 6 pupils involved valuable tips from a range of partner organisations, including:

- trading standards, talking about age-restricted sales;
- the police advising on personal safety;
- the fire service on fire prevention at home;
- St John Ambulance on first aid;
- Southern Vectis on safe bus travel;
- the council's road safety team, looking at crash simulation.

Matthew Bell, Extended Schools development officer, said they were looking for more ideas for next year's programme to involve even more partner groups, and to help make it even more effective and successful.

Top award for water-efficient hotel

A small family-run hotel on the Island has won a Southern Water award for water efficiency. Heatherleigh Hotel, in Queen's Road, Shanklin, picked up the accolade as part of the annual Green Island Awards scheme.

Hotel owner Mary Gregory received the award from Southern Water supply manager Jon Crooke at a ceremony at Cowes Yacht Haven.

Mary said: "We are dedicated to doing everything we can to be water-efficient and to put across a positive message to our visitors. Hopefully they will remember what they learn with us and take those water-wise messages home."

At the Heatherleigh, almost all of the baths have been replaced with showers; grey water recovered from showers and baths is used to water the gardens; and water butts are in place to collect rainwater. The formal gardens are also planted with drought-resistant, hardy plants to reduce water use and maintenance.

• For water-efficient tips you can visit the Southern Water website at www.southernwater.co.uk or www.beatthedrought.com



PICTURED Mary Gregory, owner of the Heatherleigh Hotel, Shanklin with Southern Water supply manager, Jon Crooke

May

Walk the Wight



In May more than 5,000 people took part in the annual Walk the Wight to help raise funds for Earl Mountbatten Hospice at Newport

© www.isleofwightfestival.com / Debs Allan

Summer of s

June

Nokia Isle of Wight Festival

Coldplay closed the Sunday night of the 2006 Nokia Isle of Wight Festival. Foo Fighters, The Prodigy and Procol Harum also performed over the weekend



The annual Round the Island Race took place in June with close to 1,600 boats competing over the 50 mile course

Round the Island Yacht Race



July



Ryde Arts Festival



Westlife



ABOVE Schools from around the Island joined many others for the nine day Ryde Arts Festival

LEFT In July the music continued as Westlife performed at Osborne House

Carnivals

Throughout the summer colourful carnival parades took place across the Island



You can read in depth reviews about all the events featured here and many others by going to www.iwight.com and clicking on the 'Events of the Year 2006' section.

If you are responsible for organising an event and would like to have it promoted online, then why not add it to www.iwight.com What's On database?

Success 2006

Scores of events and activities of all sizes and descriptions made the summer of 2006 one to remember and celebrate on the Isle of Wight.

The Island hit the headlines in many positive ways as a range of high quality events enhanced its reputation as a place to visit and live.

In this first edition of *One Island* we feel it only right that we celebrate the Island's summer of success in 2006, and pay tribute to the willpower and hard work of those who made it all happen.

From the Nokia Isle of Wight Festival to Skandia Cowes Week, and from the Garlic Festival to the Bestival, the summer of 2006 was a great example of how the people of the Island can work together to bring pleasure to many and firmly put the Island on the map.



The 75th anniversary Schneider Cup air race thrilled spectators in September

Schneider Cup

September

Bestival



The Bestival marked the end of the UK's summer festival season with performances from the Pet Shop Boys, Scissor Sisters, Lily Allen and Kid Creole and the Coconuts

August



Cowes Week

LEFT The spectacular fireworks' finale brought another successful Cowes Week to a close

RIGHT Some of the fastest powerboats in Europe were in action off Cowes

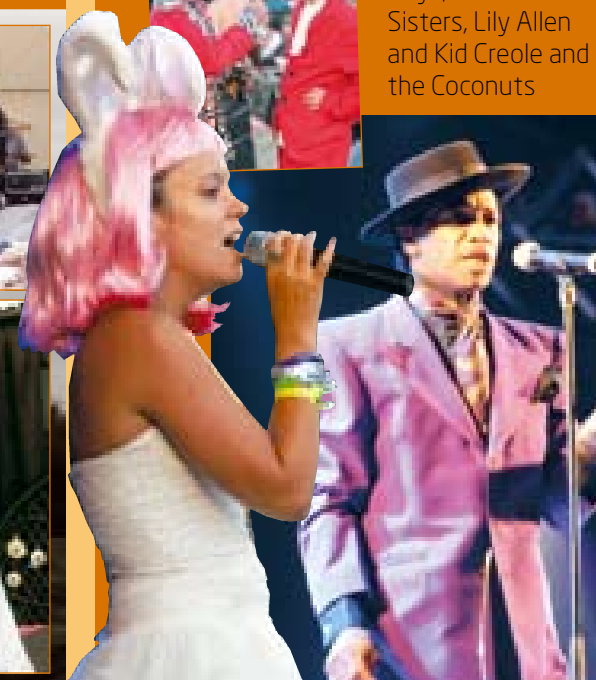


British Grand Prix of the Sea

From acrobatic performances to music by Chas 'n' Dave – the Isle of Wight Garlic Festival provided plenty of spectacle and entertainment. Comedian Vic Reeves was also spotted filming there for a new BBC food programme



Garlic Festival



We all want our children to be healthier – and improving diet and lifestyle are key ingredients in achieving this. Here we look at projects promoted by the council, the Healthy Eating Alliance and partners to tackle these important issues

Be Healthy, Be Happy, Be Active

A newly-published information pack is available to guide Island parents and carers in helping children make healthier choices.

The *Be Healthy, Be Happy, Be Active* pack contains five leaflets about the importance of children maintaining a healthy weight, information about healthy eating, healthy meal ideas, how to read food labels and ideas for increasing physical activity.

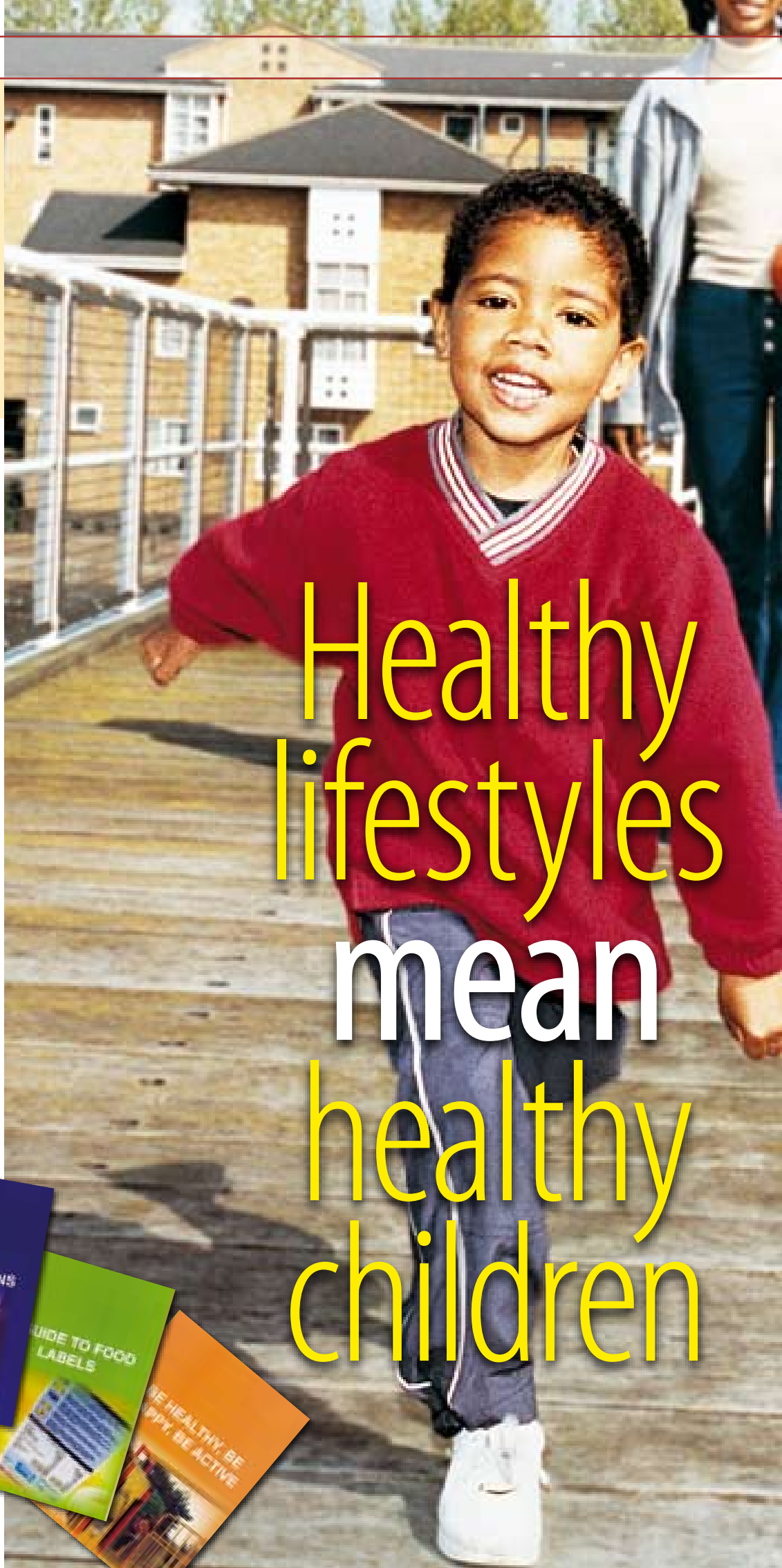
The pack has been put together by a partnership involving the Healthy Eating Alliance, Healthy Schools, parent representatives and public health, and is set against the upward trend in childhood obesity, both nationally and locally.

The pack is available through schools, GP practices, libraries and the Family Information Zone. For a copy of the pack telephone Elaine Garrett on 814282.

- National surveys show that rates of childhood obesity in England have doubled in the last ten years.
- On the Island it is estimated that nearly 7,000 children and young people under 15 are overweight or obese, and this can lead to an increased risk of health problems during childhood and later life.



Healthy lifestyles mean healthy children





PICTURED
(Left to right)
Sara Ellis,
Elaine Garrett
and Helen
Lewis of
the Healthy
Eating
Alliance

What is happening with school meals?

Nationally much work is underway to transform the quality of school meals in the wake of the Jamie Oliver campaign in 2005.

On the Island the work is being taken forward through a partnership led by the council with Healthy Schools and its client contract team, and working with the Healthy Eating Alliance, the school meals provider Pabulum, and the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust and parent representatives.

Helen Lewis, the Healthy Schools lead officer explained that the aim is to make positive changes in the nutritional quality of school meals and the way meals are provided.

She said locally a three-year programme of changes has been funded and is being implemented. This started with a consultation exercise to ask children, parents and staff for their views about school meals. Responses were received from the parents of 1,575 children, and almost 300 responses from children themselves.

The first year's funding for the programme has been spent on equipment to help school catering supervisors prepare more food with fresh ingredients (especially fruit and vegetables), and on providing nutritional training to school meals staff.

The Food in Schools toolkit

The Food in Schools toolkit is a comprehensive national resource to help schools implement a whole school approach to

promoting healthy eating for their school community.

This toolkit has been designed to provide schools with comprehensive information about how to develop healthy eating.

The manual includes sections on:

- healthier breakfast clubs;
- healthier tuck shops;
- water provision;
- healthier vending;
- healthier lunchboxes;
- the dining room environment;
- healthier cookery clubs;
- growing clubs;
- how to develop a whole school food policy.

A copy of the toolkit has been distributed to every school on the Island and can be downloaded in full from www.foodinschools.org

On the Island the kit is being promoted through the Healthy Schools Network. Almost 100 teachers, headteachers, parents, catering staff and other professionals have so far taken part in the training to help them deliver the programme effectively in Island schools.

What are GDAs and what do they mean?

Most of us are aware of the ingredient lists food manufacturers put on packaging, and that they list Guideline Daily Amounts (GDAs) for things such as proteins, carbohydrates, fats and salt.

The Healthy Eating Alliance has teamed up with the council's environmental health service to assist with understanding GDAs

– and has provided this cut-out-and-keep guide (below) to help you make healthy choices when you go shopping.

- GDAs are designed to give consumers additional information to help them make food choices as part of their total daily consumption. For example many labels now show GDAs for salt or sodium.
- The GDA for salt for adults is no more than 6g a day, the amounts for children are lower, while if you want to work out how much sodium counts towards your daily salt intake multiply the amounts given by 2.5.

See www.salt.gov.uk for more information.

Don't forget to use the cut-out-and-keep guide at the foot of this page to help you make healthy choices when you go shopping.



"Our priority is to secure better futures for children and young people on the Island – that means tackling health issues at an early age to encourage healthy eating, physical activity and healthy habits that continue into adulthood."

*Councillor Dawn Cousins,
cabinet member for Island
health, housing and
community well-being*

Look on the label

Recommended daily amounts for
average adults of normal weight

Each day	Women	Men
Calories	2,000	2,500
Fat	70g	95g
Sodium Salt	2.5g 6g	2.5g 6g

	A lot per 100g	A little per 100g
Sugar	10g or more	2g or less
Fat	20g or more	3g or less
	5g saturates or more	1g saturates or less
Sodium Salt	0.5g or more 1.25g or more	0.1g or less 0.25g or less

Helping your child prepare for their GCSEs

"We all have a part to play in helping realise the full educational potential of children and young people on the Island. Parents play a crucial role in providing support and encouragement to their children throughout their education and we want to ensure that parents have access to the right information and know where to seek help and advice."

Councillor Patrick Joyce, cabinet member for education, skills and learning

Mock GCSE exams are only a few months away for many Island 15 and 16 year olds – and next summer will be the real thing.

With this in mind we have produced this helpful guide, particularly aimed at parents.

Raising the standards of achievement on the Island is a major priority for the council. So if your child is taking their GCSEs soon, please take some time to read and even save these handy hints.

Let us all strive to ensure our children reach their full potential

Achieving on the day

Mock exams take place during December 2006 and January 2007 for all GCSE year pupils.

They help students test their knowledge and identify areas of weakness, while getting used to the style and format of the exams. They also help teachers set predicted grades.

This is a difficult time of year for young people when they would probably rather be getting into the enjoyment of the festive season, but it is critically important they treat the exams with the significance they deserve.

Final exams take place in the summer term, between mid May and the end of June, and with coursework,

provide the final mark for your child in their given GCSE subject.

With lots of distractions from the draw of the beach to the festivals and events taking place on the Island – it's vital they prepare well to ensure they achieve to their full potential – and still find time to take a break from their studies.

You can support your child by making sure they have a revision timetable, know the times of their exams and set aside plenty of time for revision in the right environment.

A good night's sleep and a healthy breakfast on the morning of an exam will also help students be prepared.

Making the grade

Coursework is an important part of almost every GCSE course and each subject has its own type of coursework and requirements.

In most subjects it makes up 25 per cent of the marks available, but in some subjects, such as art and design and technology it can be as much as 60 per cent.

Good coursework will increase your child's chances of success.

There are four golden rules to help produce good coursework:

• Take responsibility

Help ensure your child understands how important coursework is; check they are clear about what is expected, particularly deadlines, and encourage them to ask for help early on.

• Be organised

Help them draw up a coursework timetable with a list of what needs to be done by when. Get them to keep coursework for each subject in one place and keep it safe. Make sure they understand the marking scheme

Useful websites

For other helpful information, tips and advice, check out the following websites:

- www.eduwight.iow.gov.uk – information for parents and students.
- www.bbc.co.uk/revision – revision help for seven to 16 year olds.
- www.homeworkelephant.co.uk – help from primary to A levels.
- www.StudyZones.com – covers all subjects.
- www.topmarks.co.uk – homework/coursework advice.
- www.homeworkhigh.com – Channel 4 site covers work up to 16 years.
- www.nec.ac.uk – covers general information about GCSE exams.
- www.iwight.com – includes information on the local library service.
- www.parentcentre.gov.uk – advice for parents and carers.

For further help and information, you can contact your child's school or education advisors at the council's children's services section on 821000.

Top revision tips

Plan their time

- Check that they have created a revision timetable, with the dates and times of the exams displayed in their room.
- The school can supply a blank revision timetable or you can download one from www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/keystage4
- Help them use the timetable to plan revision sessions – they should plan to revise specific topics in each subject rather than all at once and plan to cover them several times, and again near to the exam.
- They should be starting to revise from February onwards rather than cramming it all in at the last minute and setting realistic targets so they feel they are making progress.
- To maximise your child's concentration make sure they plan for 30 minute sessions or an hour at the most, any longer without a break and it is likely that nothing will sink in.
- Ensure each session starts by tackling the most difficult bits.

The right environment

- Make sure students have a quiet, relaxing (but not too relaxed) place to study, away from distractions like TV or loud music, although some background music may help.
- Adopt a regular routine. Some students benefit from getting straight down to work as soon as they get in from school, others are better after a brief time to unwind.
- Make sure they can concentrate without interruptions – get them to create a "Do Not Disturb – Brain at Work" notice – to keep family members at bay.

Help make revision enjoyable

- Get them to make brief notes in words or pictures to help them remember key parts of a topic/subject and encourage them to stick them around the house/their room to help them remember.
- Give them different coloured pens to highlight key facts and figures in their notes and get them to create memory cards – with key facts, words, phrases or diagrams that they can take with them, eg on car/bus journeys.

Praise and encouragement

- Find more to praise than criticise. We tend to avoid what we get criticised for. Building confidence is essential to learning.
- Mark occasions when they reach key points in their revision – eg finishing a given topic – with a small reward like a snack or a video.
- Encourage them to explain things they have learned. It's a good rule of thumb that if you can follow their explanation, then they will be able to produce a good answer to an exam question on that topic.
- Encourage them to ask for help at school on any parts of the work that they do not understand and visit some of the revision sites online, eg www.revisioncentre.co.uk and www.samlearning.co.uk

Practice makes perfect

- Encourage them to look at practice tests to familiarise themselves with question styles and nearer the time, get them to time themselves so they learn how to plan out their response effectively. Many of these resources will be available from the school but they can also get them online at www.coursework.info

Regular brain breaks

- Too much study is not helpful, so encourage your child to plan in some relaxation time too. Give them a snack or drink and a change of scene between sessions to keep up their concentration and focus when they study.
- Physical activity can also help boost oxygen intake, as long as they are not too exhausted at the end of it. Sleep is important too, to re-charge their body and brain and help with concentration and reduce stress.



with coursework

and how much time to give to each section.

• Keep up to date

Encourage your child to stick to a routine of between one and one-and-a-half hours on a piece of coursework at a time. Get them to tick the work off against their timetable so you can monitor their progress. Government guidelines suggest Year 11 students should be able to do between one-and-a-half and two-and-a-half hours a day on coursework or revision.

• Meet deadlines

Get your child to plan to finish at least one week before any deadline.

Coursework requirements vary from subject to subject but all will involve some research and collecting of evidence. You can help your child by pointing out resources they can use: the internet, newspapers, magazines, books. If you don't have relevant resources at home, suggest they use the local library or their school resources.

Making our Island safe

We all want the Island to be a safe place to live, free of crime and anti-social behaviour. Here we look at three initiatives at the forefront of this quest

Spearheading the council's drive to make the Island a more secure place to live is its safer communities directorate – which has forged key partnerships to help cut crime and nuisance in the community.

The directorate's strong relationship with the police is a cornerstone of its work, and within this area of the council are sections dealing with consumer protection, licensing, fire and rescue, as well as a dedicated safer communities unit and an environmental response team.

At any one time, as well as the three initiatives featured here, there are many other projects taking place, bringing the council, its partners and the community together in a common cause.

Tackling those neighbourhood niggles

Spotted some graffiti that spoils your local landscape? Bothered by dog mess? If these are problems affecting your area then you should talk to your environmental response team.

Some of you may remember Harry Dea and Gill Mulcahy when they were Island street wardens. Now they have been joined by three others to become ACSOs (Accredited Community Support Officers), working with and for the community.

The newly-titled community officers have a range of powers, including:

- working with the community on anti-social behaviour, graffiti and other neighbourhood concerns;
- dealing with dog-related issues such as enforcing beach bans, fining owners who allow their pets to foul public areas, picking up strays, providing a microchipping service (see right), and giving advice on other canine matters.

To get in touch with the environmental response team you should call 821000.



PICTURED
Isle of Wight Radio presenter Alex Dyke gets his dog micro-chipped at this year's Isle of Wight Garlic Festival

"The Isle of Wight Council and our partners have been working hard to respond to residents' concerns across the Island about the noise, nuisance and safety issues surrounding the night-time economy. These kinds of initiatives are really making a difference."

Councillor Barry Abraham, cabinet member for safer communities

Catch the Night Shuttle home!

Clubbers in Ryde, Newport, and Sandown will in recent months have noticed a special new Night Shuttle bus service waiting for them after their Friday and Saturday nights out.

The service is a response by the council, police and bus firm Southern Vectis to residents' concerns about the noise, nuisance and safety issues surrounding the night-time economy in some Island towns.

Rob Owen, head of consumer protection for the council, said: "We have now made it easier for clubbers to get home with the launch of this new night shuttle on Friday and Saturday nights.

"This prevents noise and nuisance outside licensed premises when people come out after a good night out, and it will add to the safety of homegoing clubbers

and result in a quieter night for sleeping residents. Originally we piloted the scheme in Ryde, and it's proved a success, so we have extended it to Newport and Sandown."

• *For more information about your local Night Shuttle, pick up a timetable in Sandown, Newport and Ryde nightclubs, or ring Traveline on 0870 6082608.*



Safety in your area – Crime Reduction and Environment Weeks (Crew)

Crime Reduction and Environment Weeks, or Crew weeks for short, are when the safer communities partnership visits your town to work with the local community on key issues.

Simon Dennis, community support manager, said: "We do many positive and useful things with the community during these weeks to really get to grips with thorny local issues."

These include:

- cleaning up graffiti spots identified by local people (with members of the community punishment team);
- providing positive projects for young people (with a team from Connexions) such as sports and arts activities;
- ensuring licensed establishments are keeping young people safe and not selling them alcohol;
- bringing in extra police officers to patrol the area and increase safety on the streets;
- bringing in the environmental response team to answer neighbourhood questions.

Simon added: "Before a Crew week, key members of the community are invited to help plan the week, looking at the needs of the area. For example, at Ventnor Crew week, ward and town councillors, neighbourhood watch, the local housing association, and other representative community groups were involved.

"There have now been Crew weeks at Ryde, Cowes, Freshwater, Sandown, Shanklin and Ventnor. Watch out for one near you soon!"

let's talk about the **X** factor

Connexions on the Isle of Wight

It's been a busy summer for Connexions

We have held a really successful event; launched a brand new interactive website for young people and employers; and there are some new information resources available too!



Apprenticeships Online

Finding and advertising an Apprenticeship on the Island has now become easier with a new interactive website.

Apprenticeships Online has vacancies covering many different occupational areas and trades, ranging from woodwork to retail and accounting to electronics. So, if you are a young person looking for an Apprenticeship or an employer wanting to advertise a vacancy, the new site can help.

With Apprenticeships Online young people can:

- » check out all the Apprenticeship vacancies in the area;
- » apply and track their application online; and
- » gain more information about Apprenticeships.

Young people searching for an Apprenticeship will only need to complete one application form, which will be saved for any future applications.



The site allows **employers** to:

- » advertise Apprenticeship vacancies easily and instantly; and
- » gain instant access to information about Apprenticeships, training and work-based learning.

For more information talk to a Connexions Personal Adviser in your school or college, or you can visit the Connexions Centre in Newport.

www.apprenticeshipsonline.org

Newport Connexions Centre 29 High Street, Newport, PO30 1SS

Telephone: 01983 525927

Email: infoiow@connexions-southcentral.org

Opening Times: 9:30am-4:30pm Mon to Wed 9:30am-6:00pm Thu 9:30am-4:00pm Fri 10:00am-1:00pm Sat

What's new for 2006?

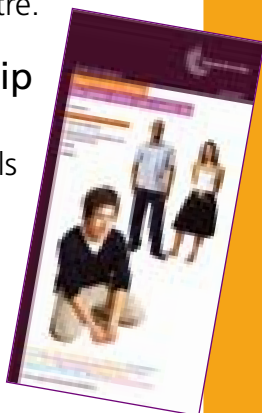
➤ Let's talk about your choices 14+



This booklet has been updated for 2006-2007. It contains information to help young people aged 14 and over to make decisions about their future. All learning and training opportunities on the Island are detailed. For your copy, ask in school or contact the Connexions Centre.

➤ Apprenticeship brochure

This brochure tells you all you need to know about Apprenticeships and is available from the Connexions Centre. For vacancies on the Island visit www.apprenticeshipsonline.org



➤ Year 11 planner

This is a bright and colourful information resource to help year 11 pupils to plan for their important year ahead.



Music and motivation at the Isle of Wight Learning & Guidance Event

Connexions joined forces with many sponsoring organisations to bring the largest learning and guidance event of its kind to the Isle of Wight in July.

Over 100 exhibitors attended the event at Cowes High School, offering information on careers, current vacancies, education and training, and volunteering opportunities. More than 2,000 people attended the event.

The programme of workshops inspired many event goers looking for a creative career. Young people were given dance music tips by MC Darrison and DJ Krooks, who have both been involved in the music scene since a young age. Kenwyn House, ex-member of the rock band Reef and professional session guitarist, passed on his expertise to music enthusiasts. Phil Gould, ex-member of the band Level 42, spoke about his career as a professional session drummer. To continue on the musical theme, John Giddings, promoter of the Isle of Wight Festival, led a question and answer session about his creative and successful career. Budding writers had the opportunity to get top tips from successful published authors during the Write Bites workshop.

To add to the fun, many competitions were offered throughout the day. Zoe Minshull, 14, from Cowes High School was the lucky winner of The Isle of Wight Economic Partnership's Inspire project's draw to win a top of the range i-Pod.

THE PROTECTORS

Day-in day-out, environmental health professionals are working behind the scenes to ensure many aspects of our lives are safer. In this feature we look at initiatives and advice in three key areas of their work: food hygiene, accidents at work and noise nuisance

Scores on the doors for food businesses

A scheme publishing the results of food hygiene inspection scores for Island businesses is to be launched by the council.

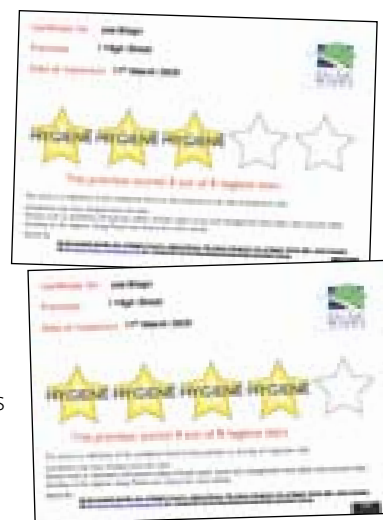
The move follows consultation with local food businesses and the public by the council's environmental health section.

In 2005/2006 environmental health carried out almost 1,000 food hygiene inspections on the Island.

The scoring system under the new scheme ranges from no stars for poor hygiene standards at the last inspection, up to five stars indicating excellent hygiene conditions.

Businesses will be given a certificate (pictured right) to display at their premises.

Environmental health manager, Warren Haynes, said: "It is hoped the publication of these scores will help to protect public health, allow consumers to make informed choices, provide recognition to those businesses with high standards and assist in improving those with poor standards."



National health and safety at work programme

In 2005/2006 the most common cause of accidents at work reported to the environmental health section was falls from height – some 26 per cent of the total – closely followed by slips, trips and falls.

To cut the risk of such accidents, the council's environmental health section together with the national Health and Safety Executive and other councils is taking part in a national programme called Fit 3 (fit for work, fit for tomorrow, and fit for life).

The programme involves approaches including inspections, coaching of employers,

free seminars and mail shots – all to reduce falls and other common work related injuries/ill health, such as being hit by a moving vehicle, upper limb injury, hand dermatitis, hearing damage and stress.

Environmental health visits to high risk workplaces will focus specifically on these areas to ensure compliance.

As part of this programme environmental health recently provided a morning seminar on safe working at height, inviting more than 200 Island businesses.

"We are confident that these new initiatives will go a long way towards helping raise the standards of food hygiene, make our working environment safer, and encourage people to be more considerate towards their neighbours."

Councillor Barry Abraham, cabinet member for safer communities

Measuring improvements in standards of food business

A 'Safer food, better business pack' is being used to help improve food safety hazard management among Island food businesses.

Improvements in the confidence of businesses to manage hazards will be measured before and after receipt of the

packs and guidance, to determine the packs' effectiveness.

Environmental health manager, Warren Haynes, said: "Rather than merely focusing on the number of inspections of food businesses, environmental health is aiming to improve the outcome following the inspection. This is achieved by measuring the improvement in a business's ability to manage food safety hazards."

The packs, produced by the Food Standards Agency and organisations from the food industry, help retailers and caterers comply with hygiene regulations.

Environmental health also provides free coaching to businesses to help them implement measures advised in the pack.

The pack contains fact sheets for businesses to work through and complete, and comes with a diary, to be signed every day by the person who is responsible for food safety in the business.

RIGHT A 'Safer food, better business' pack being explained by health protection officer Heather Ransome



Environmental health gets tough on noisy neighbours

Noise nuisance problems accounted for 35 per cent or 821 of the 2,346 requests for service help received by environmental health last year.

Most requests were dealt with at an early stage without the need for legal action – sometimes simply by the person complaining talking to the person responsible to make them aware of the problem.

If informal approaches fail, environmental health may be able to help, as long as the noise complained of can be categorised as a nuisance.

To decide if the noise is a nuisance officers have to consider things like how often it occurs, its duration, its loudness and the time of day it happens. If they are satisfied it is a nuisance the officers have a duty to take action.

The action can vary from the service of a legal notice, to prosecution for non-compliance and even seizure of the noise making equipment.

In the past anti-social behaviour orders (ASBOs) preventing people from owning noise-making equipment, have been secured.

Environmental health manager, Warren Haynes, said: "One-off domestic parties can sometimes be much more difficult to deal with. It is likely the music will need to still be preventing sleep after midnight, before we can legally take action. If police assistance is available, officers will aim to talk with the person responsible before that point, to control the noise and stop it at a reasonable time."

More information

For online information on the environmental health issues featured here you should visit: www.iwight.com/eh.

To contact environmental health direct you should tel: 823000 or email: eh@iow.gov.uk



PICTURED In some cases, equipment causing a nuisance can be seized



Local Policing in the Isle of Wight

The aim of Hampshire Police Authority and Hampshire Constabulary is to make Hampshire and the Isle of Wight safer places to live, work and visit.

Hampshire Constabulary is responsible and accountable to the communities it serves.

“By operating effectively with partnership organisations, listening to what the public think and working closely with Hampshire Constabulary, we aim to make sure the needs of the public are reflected in how the police force serves these two counties.”

Mike Attenborough-Cox, Chairman,
Hampshire Police Authority.

“This summary highlights how Hampshire Constabulary is performing and provides policing information for 2006/07. With you and our partners, we have identified our priorities, including the continued implementation of neighbourhood policing, to make sure we deliver a service where it matters most to local communities.”

Paul Kernaghan QPM CBE, Chief Constable,
Hampshire Constabulary.

Local contacts

If personal safety is under threat, you should always dial 999. For non-emergencies dial 0845 0454545. For advice and action on safety and anti-social behaviour issues dial 101.

Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Victim support line	0845 30 30 900
National Domestic Violence helpline	0800 2000 247
Isle of Wight Council	01983 821 000

Tackling your priorities

■ Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

Police officers are spending more time than before on frontline duty, and continuing to combat disruptive behaviour with Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABCs) and Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs).

	Jan '05	Now
ABCs issued	127	181
ASBOs issued	201	245

■ Improve road safety

The number of people seriously injured on the roads has decreased by 17.4% since last year. The number of people killed on the roads has slightly increased by 2.5%.

Road Casualties	2004	2005
Seriously injured	925	764
Fatalities	79	81

■ Detect a higher proportion of crime

The national standard for crime recording has changed. This shows a rise in overall crime figures, however the British Crime Survey shows that Hampshire and the Isle of Wight among one of the safest places to live in England and Wales.

■ Combat serious and organised crime

An operation to tackle criminals who benefit from the proceeds of crime, and a unit investigating money laundering were established. A murder prevention programme was implemented - early indications show the number of these crimes has reduced significantly.

Find out what is in your area:
go to www.hampshire.police.uk
or call **0845 045 45 45**



Hampshire
POLICE AUTHORITY

*for Hampshire
and the
Isle of Wight*

By 2007 we aim to reduce overall crime by 15%. To find out which policing issues most matter to you we work with local partner organisations and keep abreast of national developments. This process has pinpointed a number of areas for the police to work on in the coming year;

- Class A drugs
- Vehicle crime, burglary and personal robbery
- Road casualties
- Violent crime
- Serious and organised crime

Neighbourhood policing aims to make sure that the right people are in the right place, at the right time and in the right numbers. This is what will make communities safe and make people feel secure in the places they live and work.

The next two years will see a further 480 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) recruited to join the 59 already working in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

To get in touch with your local police station please dial 0845 045 45 45.

Isle of Wight Chief Superintendent

Chief Superintendent Stephanie Morgan

Email: isleofwight.management@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

The police stations on the Isle of Wight area are:

Cowes police station

Birmingham Road, West Cowes PO31 7BH

Newport Police Station

High Street, Newport, PO30 1SZ

Ryde police station

Station Street, Ryde, PO33 2QH

Shanklin police station

Landguard Road, Shanklin PO37 7HT

Ventnor police station

Church Street, Ventnor PO38 1SW

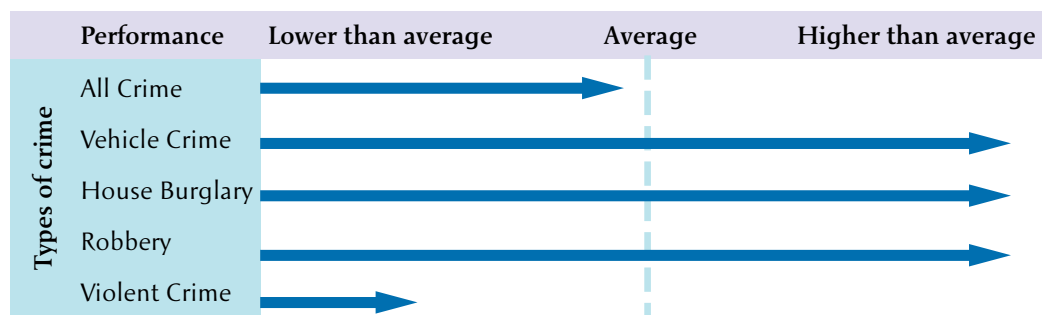
Yarmouth police station

High Street, Yarmouth PO41 0PL

All the above enquiry offices are open daily, please contact the police station for specific times.

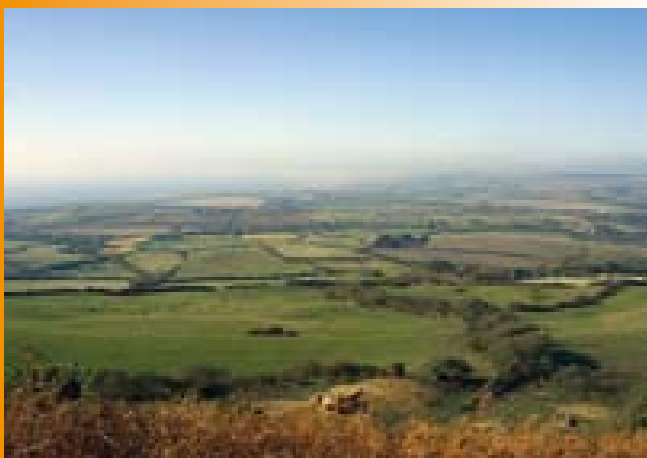
Hampshire Police Authority is an independent body which is responsible for making sure that Hampshire Constabulary provides an efficient and effective policing service.

Police forces with a similar number of residents and mix of rural and urban areas are grouped together as Most Similar Forces (MSF).



This diagram shows how Hampshire Constabulary is performing compared to other forces in a group from a national viewpoint.

Island Plan



You may have heard of the Island Plan and the various documents the council has been working on towards this plan. Here we give an update on the project

The Island Plan is a document which sets out how the Island will develop and change over the next 20 years. It will replace the old Unitary Development Plan (UDP).

The following documents will form key parts of the new Island Plan:

- **Core strategy**

The core strategy will provide the strategic vision for the regeneration of the Island over the next 20 years and will replace the strategic (Part 1) policies of the UDP. Other Island Plan documents will need to conform to the core strategy and will provide greater policy detail on particular areas and themes.

The core strategy was submitted to the government in May this year, and an independent inspector has been appointed to examine whether the plan is robust. A programme officer has been appointed who will be liaising between the council, the inspector and people who commented on the plan.

Contact details for the programme officer are:

Sue Thompson, St Nicholas House, St John's Road, Newport, Isle of Wight.

Tel: (01983) 823099 ext: 5392

Email: programmeofficerislandplan@iow.gov.uk

The inspector's examination is programmed to start on 16 January 2007 with the pre-examination meeting scheduled to have been on 12 October 2006.

- **The Bay Area Action Plan**

The Bay Area Action Plan (AAP) is a strategy which will outline how The Bay (the Sandown, Lake and Shanklin area) can be regenerated to establish it as a high-quality, thriving, sustainable community and a year-round tourism destination where business can grow and provide well-paid job opportunities.

The Bay will be an area of significant potential change and the council will need to make sure that change creates a quality environment for people to live and work in and to visit.

Consultation on the issues paper for The Bay AAP ended in August 2006. The council is currently analysing the results of this and preparing an options

paper, to be put out for consultation in November 2006.

This next round of consultation will be your chance to get involved in the future of The Bay area and we will be holding a series of exhibitions and workshops.

- **Housing and employment**

Work has recently begun on compiling the background information to help support the formulation of policies and proposals for the Housing and Employment Development Plan Document (DPD).

A key issue for this document will be the provision of infrastructure such as roads, energy and water, as well as health and education to sustain any new development.

The council is committed (through the policies in the core strategy) to encouraging and delivering this regeneration on previously developed (brownfield) land. The issues paper is due to be consulted on in autumn 2007.

- **Medina Valley Area Action Plan**

The council, together with SEEDA and the Isle of Wight Economic Partnership, has been working on the first phase of the regeneration of the Medina Valley through the Cowes Waterfront initiative. Now that the development in the centre of East Cowes has been given the go ahead, the next stage is to consider wider regeneration issues and other key sites in the Medina Valley. Work will shortly begin on an Area Action Plan (AAP) with an issues paper due in January 2007.

Underpinning all of these parts of the Island Plan is the main theme of achieving sustainable communities through economic-led regeneration. This will be delivered through the renewal of our towns and villages as well as the restoration of pride in our built and natural environment.

There are many opportunities for the public to take part in developing these important policy documents, and we value your input.

- You can find out more about the Island Plan and view many of the key documents at: www.iwight.com/living_here/planning/Planning_Policy/Island_Plan/

one island forum



Each edition of *One Island* in the future will be carrying a special section for readers' letters – on a specific issue important to us all on the Island.

The subject for the letters' section will change with every issue, with a prize of a £25 voucher for the best letter.

So please get writing and let us know your views and suggestions.

Publication will be at the discretion of the *One Island* editorial team, and space available may dictate the amount of room we can set aside for letters.

The subject for the next issue (15 December) will be:

County Hall: should it be redeveloped, and what type of new headquarters should the council seek?

Please send your letters by writing to: **One Island**, Publications Unit, Isle of Wight Council, County Hall, High Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD.
Or email: oneisland@iow.gov.uk

We look forward to hearing from you.

Win a superb new Nikon camera!



In association with Island Photo Centre

The Island's largest independent photographic retailer

Ryde 49 Union Street. Tel: 563993

Newport 79 Upper St James' Street. Tel: 525105



Enter our *Island Image* photographic competition and stand a chance of winning:

- **A Nikon Coolpix L4 digital camera**
- **A £50 voucher**
- **A £25 voucher**

We are looking for striking images with an Isle of Wight connection to feature in the contents section of each issue of *One Island*.

It could be a stunning landscape or a memorable moment from an Island event or activity – the choice of entry is yours. It is your chance to help us celebrate the beauty and diversity of the Island.

All you have to do is fill in the form below and return it with your entry or entries in the format described.

Entries can also be made via www.iwight.com/photocompetition. The competition is being run in conjunction with iwight.com and images submitted via that route will qualify for consideration.

After judging for the next issue we will then notify those entrants whose images have won prizes. We will also publish details of the winners in future editions of the magazine.



ISLAND IMAGE COMPETITION

Name:

(If aged under 18 years please ensure you have parental/guardian permission to enter, and include their name above, with your own).

Address:

Telephone No:

No of entries:

Closing date: 14 November, 2006

Send to: One Island, Island Image Competition, Publications Unit, County Hall, High Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD. (Please write your name on the back of the print(s) or on the CD(s) sent in).

Format details: Entries are accepted in print or digital format:

- Prints should be at least 6"x4" in size and printed on photographic paper. **Inkjet or laser prints are not acceptable**
- Digital images should be submitted on CD
- You can upload to www.iwight.com/photocompetition

We regret we cannot accept emailed entries (as attachments or in other electronic formats) due to the volume of traffic that may result on the council's system.

Please note: 1) The prizes awarded (and mentioned above) will only relate to those photographs entered for publication in the 15 December issue of *One Island*. Images published in editions after that of 15 December will be awarded a separate prize of a £25 voucher.
2) Those entries that appear in *Island Image* will be credited.
3) We are unable to return entries, so please ensure you retain the original film, print or digital file.
4) Entries will not be accepted from any person working for the Isle of Wight Council.

World Heritage Site?

Study looks at potential of Island coastline

The Isle of Wight Centre for the Coastal Environment at Ventnor is conducting a ten-month study to assess the potential for parts of the Island's coastline to be designated either a World Heritage Site or a GeoPark*.

If approved, the designation could result in significant benefits in terms of tourism and economic regeneration in rural areas on the Island.

Dr Robin McInnes, coastal manager, said: "With our fossil rich cliffs, outstanding natural beauty and some of the Earth's finest areas of geological exposure, we have a world-class coast. Our Island's rugged coastline boasts unrivalled examples of erosional features and processes, landslide complexes and coastal scenery."

He said the study would

make a thorough assessment of the Island coastline's geology, geomorphology and coastal scenery – taking in part of the north-west coast from Newtown to the Needles and the whole of the south-west coast and part of the Undercliff.

Both World Heritage Site and Geopark designations carry considerable status and in other areas have greatly benefited local economies, tourism and quality of life.

- Further information on the Island study is available at the website www.coastalwight.gov.uk/worldclasscoast.htm

**A Geopark is a new international designation which is being awarded through Unesco. Eventually, up to 500 Geoparks will be recognized worldwide.*

picture by Wightlight Gallery

Euro coastal project helps IW

PICTURED The shoreline at Blackgang (picture by Wightlight Gallery)

Experts from the Isle of Wight Council's Centre for the Coastal Environment at Ventnor have been involved in a major coastline management project with partners from many different countries.

The Messina project (Managing European Shoreline and Sharing Information on Near-shore Areas) was designed to maximise the benefits of future investment in coastline management and promote coastline management – for places including the Island – in a sustainable way.

The project, which began in 2003, drew to a close with the Littoral 2006 International Coastal Conference, held in Poland in September.

Claire Marriott, senior coastal scientist, said: "The Messina project was co-financed by the European Commission through its Interreg iiic programme, and has led to the creation of a coastal manager's 'tool kit', which will benefit the Island's coast and other coastal areas in Europe."

For more information please contact Claire Marriott, tel: 857220, email: claire.marriott@iow.gov.uk

Cash for a cache!

An innovative project to encourage people to get out and about on the Island – and featuring the hi-tech game geocaching – is being promoted by the council's parks and countryside section.

Geocaching is a game for people with hand-held electronic direction finders called GPS receivers. Many walkers and sailors now have such units, which look like mobile phones and can pinpoint their location using the same technology as the popular in-car satellite navigation units.

With funding from the Isle of Wight Economic Partnership's *Leader+* project, the parks and countryside section will be developing special Isle of Wight geocaches and promoting them for locals and tourists to use. Some handsets will be available and there will be introductory events to teach anyone interested how to get geocaching.

Parks and countryside manager and amateur geocacher, Matthew Chatfield, said: "It's a bit like a treasure hunt – you find the location of a cache from the internet or a leaflet, type it into the GPS, and then off you go to follow the little arrow. It can be a great way to explore new parts of the countryside, and there's the excitement of finding a little box of 'treasure' at the end. My kids love it because it involves a gadget – it gets them away from the video games!"



Nature notes

In late October, the countryside is laden with fruit and seeds of all kinds, as plants reach the stage of dying back for the winter. Animals (and people) supplement their diets with many kinds of fruit, and blackberries are a hedgerow favourite. For the plant, it's an effective method of spreading the seeds as they pass through digestive systems intact and grow in new locations the following year.

Burdock, agrimony and cleavers spread by hitching a ride on passing animals (human or otherwise), using ingenious hooks to do so. If you (or your dog) take a detour through tall plants during a walk, brushing down afterwards can reveal an astounding set of variations on the 'hooked fruit' theme.



LEFT Beware eating freshly picked sloes – they may look like damsons but they will leave your mouth very dry

Dandelion 'clocks', and 'thistledown' have tiny delicate parachutes; ash 'keys' and sycamore and field maple 'helicopters' have wide blades. All of these have a surface area large enough to catch the wind. It's a highly successful technique, and freshly disturbed ground often has a good show of these plants in the following season.

If you have heard a popping sound near gorse bushes this summer, it was the pods drying, twisting, and splitting under the tension to scatter their seeds. Himalayan balsam, an attractive plant with pink or mauve domed flowers that grows along some of our streams and rivers, has a similar method of spread. It's also called 'touch-me-not'. If you do not heed the warning, it is likely to fire a volley of seeds at you with some force! In some parts of the country this plant has become a serious problem as it grows so vigorously that it blocks watercourses.

Anne Marston, assistant ecology officer

Raising the flag at Fort Victoria

A well-known and popular feature for many years at Fort Victoria Country Park, Yarmouth has been its flag, visible from much of the western Solent.

The Union Flag is hoisted daily by Fort Victoria ranger Anita Matheson, but in early 2006 disaster struck when the old fort flagpole became unsafe and had to be removed. For the summer season the fort was minus its iconic flag.

Fortunately the countryside rangers at Fort Victoria, helped by volunteers, built and installed a new flagpole in time for the popular Fort Victoria Foray – and the Victorian fort was once more able to proudly fly the Union Flag.

RIGHT The new Union flag is unfurled at Fort Victoria by Councillor Val Ottway of Freshwater Parish Council





Mid-Wales Opera will perform *The Bartered Bride* at Medina Theatre from 27 to 28 October

ACTIVITIES

Guy Fawkes Bonfire Party

(4 November)
A fireworks' display, torchlight parade and guy competition at Yarmouth town and common, from 5.30pm, check local press for confirmed times.

Sandown Carnival Association Fireworks

(5 November)
Major fireworks' display following a parade at Grafton Street, Melville Street, Fitzroy Street, Station Avenue, Albert Road, High Street and Pier Street, from 6.30pm, grand fireworks' finale at the pier, 8pm.

The Biggest Charity Quiz of the Year

(9 November)
At Lower Hyde Holiday Village, Shanklin,

from 6.45 pm, teams of four to register in advance with Parlex, tel: 526535, cost £20 per team, all proceeds going to Earl Mountbatten Hospice.

Book Fair

(18 November)
Book fair with postcards, ephemera and football programmes at Nodehill Middle School, Orchard Street entrance, Newport, 10am to 3.30pm, admission 20p, contact 520493.

Puppet-making Workshops

(18-24 November)
Storyteller and puppeteer Andy Lawrence of the Theatre of Widdershins running a latex puppet-making workshop as part of the Isle of Wight Storytelling Festival, weekend workshop (18-19 November, 10am to 4pm), evening

workshop (20-24 November, 6pm too 9pm), at Jubilee Stores' Studios, Newport, more details at www.theatre-of-widdershins.co.uk

Winter Bazaar

(25 November)
Christmas craft, raffle, games, cards, hot chestnuts, mincemeat pies, mulled wine, at Whitwell Village Hall, 4.30pm.

Christmas Weekend and Carol Singing

(25-26 November)
Traditional carols around the Christmas tree and the chance to take advantage of a ten per cent discount at the Osborne House Christmas shop, 12 noon.

Indoor Arts Market

(26 November)
Arts market and exhibition by Island artists, at West Wight Sports Centre, 10am.

EXHIBITIONS

Aspects of St Lawrence plus Shipwrecks Along the Undercliff Coast

(20-28 October)
An exhibition at Ventnor Heritage Museum, Tuesdays to Saturdays.

Ventnor Railway 1866 to 1966

(20-28 October)
An exhibition at Ventnor Heritage Museum, Tuesdays to Saturdays.

UKLandscape.net, Winter Exposed Exhibition

(6 October – 19 November)
A nationwide travelling landscape exhibition in association with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, promoting the range of winter biodiversity across

the country, Dimbola Lodge Museum (open Tuesdays to Sundays 10am to 5pm), Freshwater Bay, tel: 756814.

Russell Squires, Infinitely Soft

(13 October – 26 November)
An exploration of landscapes as seen through a pinhole camera, Dimbola Lodge Museum (open Tuesdays to Sundays 10am to 5pm), Freshwater Bay, tel: 756814.

Steve Pereira, Deep Water Steel

(24 November – 14 January)
An exhibition of the photography of Steve Pereira, Dimbola Lodge Museum (open Tuesdays to Sundays 10am to 5pm), Freshwater Bay, tel: 756814.

MUSIC

The Bartered Bride, an opera by Smetana

(27-28 October)
Mid-Wales Opera perform this heart-warming masterpiece at Medina Theatre, Newport, tickets £15/£13 from box office, tel: 527020.

The Poozies in Concert

(5 November)
Britain's leading all-female folk ensemble at the Quay Arts, Newport, from 8pm.

Christmas Concert and Carol Competition

(9 December)
The Tritone Singers perform a Christmas concert at St Mary's Church, Carisbrooke, starts 7.30pm, includes Christmas music from Grieg, Stravinsky and

Rachmaninov and other old favourites, also a performance of new carols composed as part of the choir's carol writing competition, tickets £5 (children free), available from choir members or on the door.

Carols in the Square
(16 December)
Enjoy the Christmas tree lights while singing carols in Yarmouth town square, 6pm.

TALKS

Landscapes of Provence by Cezanne and Van Gogh
(16 November)
Vectis Decorative and Fine Arts Society presents a talk at the Medina Theatre, Newport, 8pm, guests £5.50, inquiries tel: 299377.

In the Bleak Midwinter
(7 December)
Vectis Decorative and Fine Arts Society presents a talk at the Medina Theatre,

Newport, 8pm, guests £5.50, inquiries tel: 299377.

THEATRE

Death of a Salesman, by Arthur Miller
(18-21, 25-28 October)
The Pulitzer Prize-winning family drama, Apollo Theatre, Newport, all seats £6, box office tel: 527267.

The Isle of Wight Variety Show
(12 November)
An evening of entertainment for all the family, with song, dance, magic, comedy, ghost stories, Irish dancing, rock and roll, at Medina Theatre, Newport, 7pm.

Rumplestiltskin, a puppet show from the Theatre of Widdershins
(24 November)
Innovative puppetry and humour bring to life the magical children's tale, suitable for ages four-plus, at the Anthony Minghella Theatre, Quay Arts,

Newport, tickets from the Quay Arts box office, tel: 822490.

Sleeping Beauty, traditional pantomime
(2-10 December)
Cowes Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society presents this traditional pantomime at Trinity Theatre, Cowes, performances at 2.30 pm on Saturday 2 December, Saturday 9 December and Sunday 10 December, and at 7.30pm on Thursday 7 December and Friday 8 December, tickets available from the theatre box office, open daily from Friday 24 November (not Sunday), 10am to 3pm, tel: 295229.

The Merry Gentleman
(6-9, 13-16 December)
A play about the spirit of Christmas with music by Dorothy Reynolds and Julian Slade (creators of *Salad Days*) at the Apollo Theatre, Newport, all seats £6, box office tel: 527267.



Russell Squires, Infinitely Soft Exhibition at Dimbola Lodge from 13 October to 26 November

Trailers

These listings are provided free, as a public information service. Details must be submitted either by:

filling out this form, or emailing your details to oneisland@iow.gov.uk

Please conform to the format shown. Entries are included at the editorial team's discretion. **Deadline for the next issue: 6 November.**

Title of event/activity:

Date:

Brief description:

Venue:

Time:

Contact name:

Telephone:

Please return to:

Trailers, One Island,
Publications Unit,
County Hall, Newport,
Isle of Wight PO30 1UD
or email to
oneisland@iow.gov.uk no
later than 6 November 2005

Future issues:

Issue date	Listings period covered
15 December	15 December to 1 March
16 February	16 February to 4 May



Rumplestiltskin A puppet show for children aged four-plus at the Anthony Minghella Theatre, Quay Arts, Newport on 24 November

SCHOOL PLACES

Don't miss
the deadline

If you are applying for a school place for your child next September, you must do so by

5pm, Thursday 30 November 2006.

Don't forget you can now apply online at www.eduwight.iow.gov.uk/admissions

For help or advice, please call 823455, or email school.admissions@iow.gov.uk