

# oneIsland

Your magazine from the  
Isle of Wight Council  
**Issue ten**  
**November 2007**  
[www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com)

## Bringing pride to our communities

Town centre managers  
lead the way

**Also inside:** East Cowes Project - the way ahead  
Top marks for Island police





## Welcome



Welcome to the November edition of the council's magazine, in which we continue to bring you updates on our One Island programme of initiatives.

Among the projects covered in this issue are the town centre managers, who are now in place and having a positive impact; speed management initiatives, including speed limits outside schools; our successful One Million Blooms scheme; and the affordable housing development at Nettlestone.

We also continue to focus on our partnership work, and include an article on the recent national accolades attained by our colleagues at Hampshire and Isle of Wight Constabulary. Another link highlighted in this edition is the fund raising work of our firefighters in support of the Wessex Cancer Trust.

Among the special features for November is a look at progress with the exciting East Cowes Project, following the recent announcement that Waitrose is to join the scheme. We also complete our series of articles on how various areas are represented across the Island, taking a look at Carisbrooke.

Next month, in our December issue, we will bring you details of opening hours for various council services over the Christmas and New Year period, and further positive updates on our One Island projects.

**Councillor David Pugh**  
**Leader, Isle of Wight Council**

**One Island** is published each month, except for September and January – these editions are combined with those of the previous month. 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, Communications, County Hall, Newport  
PO30 1UD

**Email** Onel Island@iow.gov.uk

**Telephone** 823105



## makingcontact

### USEFUL CONTACTS

Isle of Wight Council, County Hall,  
Newport PO30 1UD

**Fax** 823333

**Email** customer.services@iow.gov.uk

**Website** www.iowight.com

### TELEPHONE SERVICES

**Call centre** 821000

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

Automated telephone payments	559310
Council tax	823901
Education	823455
Environmental health	823000
Housing benefits	823950
Libraries	203880
Licensing	823159
Planning	823552
Refuse collection	823777
Roads and highways	823777
Tourism	813818
Trading standards	823396
Leisure services	823828

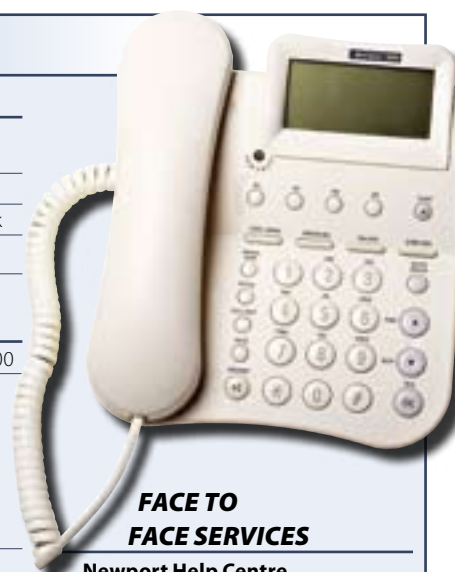
### Adult and children's services

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

Freshwater Library, School Green Road, Freshwater PO40 9AP

Mon: 9am to 5.15pm,

Tues and Wed: 9.30am to 5.15pm, Thur:

(closed), Fri: 9.30am to 4.45pm. Closed for lunch (1pm to 2pm each day)

#### Wootton Bridge Centre

**Tel** 884361

Joanne's Walk, Brannon Way,

Wootton Bridge PO33 4NU

IW Council desk – Mon, Tues,

Thurs, Fri: 9.15am to 1pm

#### Cowes Help Centre

Beckford Court, Beckford Road, Cowes

Fri (mornings): 9am to 12 noon

## council meetings



Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are in public at County Hall. Call 823200 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.

### Cabinet (Shanklin Theatre)

11 December (6pm)

### Planning Committee (council chamber)

27 November (4pm)

18 December (4pm)

### Licensing Committee (committee room one)

10 December (4pm)

### Audit and Performance Committee (committee room one)

4 December (6pm)

### Scrutiny Committee (committee room one)

6 December (6pm)

### Policy Commission for Business and Infrastructure (committee room one)

2 January (6pm)

### Policy Commission for Care, Health and Housing (committee room one)

5 December

### Policy Commission for Children and School Results (committee room one)

28 November (6pm)

### Policy Commission for Safer Communities (committee room one)

3 January (6pm)

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Cover picture: East Cowes town centre manager, Gill Mulcahy



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# Islandimage



Rockfall at Compton, by Peter Stott

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](http://www.iwight.com)





## The One Island programme

The council's One Island programme was launched in February this year in response to the findings of last summer's residents' survey.

The programme consists of 24 projects for 2007/2008, based around the themes of respect, pride and value.

Many of the projects are now underway and we will be bringing you regular updates on their progress.

The projects focus on the themes of Respect, Pride and Value.

More information on some of these projects is provided at [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com). Articles in this edition of the magazine which relate to the programme are labelled with the One Island symbol, shown above.



Picture © IW Tourism

An innovative vision to transform the Isle of Wight into the world's largest 'eco-Island' is being shaped by the council and its partners.

Although the plans are currently in the embryonic stage the bold idea has already caught the attention of the national media.

*The Guardian* led the way recently with a half page spread headlined "Welcome to the Isle of Wight: Yachting Mecca, Tourist Haven and Eco Trailblazer". That was followed by numerous interviews on BBC TV and radio and independent radio stations.

The vision involves the bringing together of existing initiatives and future projects that will put the Island at the forefront of the eco-revolution.

Already work is being done. Construction has started at the £8 million gasification plant at Forest Road, Newport and the council has drawn up its own carbon management plan – a document that sets

out how it will lead by example by reducing its own carbon footprint.

Further steps toward that goal include the Pan Urban Redevelopment – that will see a whole new community built to a high environmentally-friendly standard.

Council leader, David Pugh, said: "The recent publicity about the *Eco Island* aspiration has really put the Island's intentions on the map. It is now up to us to use the momentum to carry through this vision.

"The vision of *Eco Island* is not just about making the Island self sufficient using its natural resources, it is also very much about creating jobs, wealth and investment by attracting the very latest technology here to do that.

"I believe the Island is uniquely positioned to be able to achieve this."



## Speed reduction zones underway

The first phase of schemes to cut road accidents by reducing traffic speeds is about to be introduced.

The council has identified road safety as a major area of concern among residents and is embarking on a range of measures to tackle the issue.

The initiative involves the introduction of 20mph speed limits and zones outside schools and the residential roads nearby.

A number of 20mph advisory speed limits

will also be introduced at locations where the characteristics of the site prevent the introduction of a formal restriction.

Locations for the first phase of the speed reduction work include:

### 20mph zones:

- Carisbrooke Park Estate, Carisbrooke.
- Fairway/Perowne Way, Lake.

### 20mph speed limits:

- Mayfield Road/Pell Lane, Ryde.
- Playstreet Lane, Ryde.
- Love Lane/ Ash Grove, Cowes.

### 20mph advisory speed limits:

- A3021 Whippingham Road, Whippingham.
- School Road, Godshell.
- Newport Road, Upper Ventnor.
- Nettlestone Green, Nettlestone.

## Zoryna is new safer neighbourhoods head



A new head of safer neighbourhoods has been appointed by the council. She is Zoryna O'Donnell (pictured), who was formerly community safety manager at

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

Zoryna, who is Ukrainian-born, said she is looking forward to building on the partnership working that maintains the Island as one of the UK's safest places to live, work and visit.

Director of environment and neighbourhoods, Stuart Love, said: "This is a hugely important area for the council, and Zoryna joins at a time when One Island initiatives such as town centre managers will begin to bring about real public realm improvements across the Island."



## Advice on dyslexia

If you are looking for information or guidance on the subject of dyslexia, the Wight Access Group is advising you to contact the British Dyslexia Association helpline on 01189 668271.

The national helpline is being recommended as the main source for information following the disbanding of the Isle of Wight Dyslexia Association, after many years of supporting local dyslexics.

The national helpline can also be contacted by emailing [helpline@bdadyslexia.org.uk](mailto:helpline@bdadyslexia.org.uk).

Dyslexia is a combination of abilities and difficulties that affect the learning process in one or more of reading, spelling, writing and sometimes numeracy. Accompanying weaknesses may be identified in areas of speed of processing, short-term memory, organisation, sequencing, spoken language and motor skills. It occurs despite normal intellectual ability and teaching and is independent of socio-economic background.

Famous people with dyslexia include Richard Branson, Sir Steve Redgrave, Jamie Oliver and Susan Hampshire.

Dyslexia is recognised under the Disability Discrimination Act and the Disability Public Duty, and employers and all public bodies are required to make reasonable adjustments for those who are dyslexic.

- The Wight Access Group is a consortium of service users and professionals who meet regularly to monitor the Island's Disability Equality Scheme. The full scheme and the action plans can be viewed at [iwight.com](http://iwight.com)



## Don't miss the school admissions deadline!



If your child or children are due to start a new school in September 2008, don't forget to return your school admission forms.

The forms must be received by the council's admissions office at County Hall, Newport by 4.30pm on 30 November.

You can also fill out the

forms online via the *Eduwight* website – and you will be emailed a confirmation that your application form has been received.

Please note, if your child is entering Year 9 in September 2008, they WILL be able to complete their GCSE course on the same site.

Also, if you are applying for your child to attend a church-aided primary or middle school, you must include the school in your preferences and obtain a supplementary form from the school concerned. This form must be returned to the school and not the council's admissions office.

- If you have any queries, you should call the admissions office on 823455 or email: [school.admissions@iow.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@iow.gov.uk)

## Social care team's national accolade

The council's social care and development team has been "highly commended" in the national Skills for Care Accolades 2007.

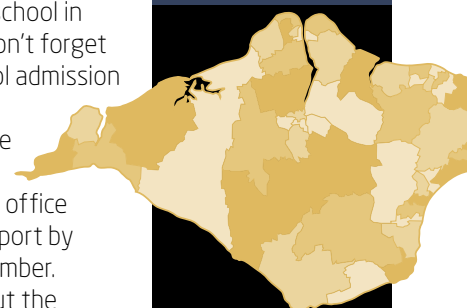
The annual awards recognise the most innovative practice in the field of social care throughout the country.

The awards acknowledged the Island team's ability to lead the way in the development of new learning opportunities for social work students in schools.

Cabinet member for health and wellbeing, Dawn Cousins, said: "Awards of this kind don't happen without a huge amount of effort and commitment on the part of everyone concerned. Osborne and Downside Middle Schools in particular are to be congratulated for their enthusiasm in supporting the development of effective partnerships across the council structure."

Further placement opportunities are being developed with Ventnor Middle School and in the private, voluntary and independent sectors.

## Draft boundary changes published



The Boundary Committee has published its draft recommendations for the review of electoral divisions on the Island.

The draft recommendations, published on 25 October, recommend a 40 member council including a two member ward covering Brading, St Helens and Bembridge, and can be found on the committee's website at [www.boundarycommittee.org.uk](http://www.boundarycommittee.org.uk). Interested parties have until 17 January next year to comment on the recommendations – and then, after a period of consideration, the committee will publish their final recommendations next summer. The final agreed changes are expected to be in place for the next elections to the council, in May 2009.

## Council clampdown on abandoned vehicles



More than 30 motorists who avoided paying road tax had their cars clamped or impounded during a week-long purge on untaxed vehicles organised last month by the council in partnership with the police.

A total of 34 cars were clamped during the crackdown, of which 24 were impounded by NCP, the company contracted by the DVLA to carry out the operation across the Island.

The council arranged the visit because of the high number of reports it receives each week from residents concerned at untaxed or abandoned vehicles.

In September alone there were 65 reports of abandoned vehicles, the majority of which were untaxed.

Bethan Beasley, head of the DVLA wheel-clamping unit, said: "Untaxed vehicles are often unroadworthy and involved in other forms of criminality. There is little doubt that the vast majority of law abiding motorists support our efforts to catch the minority who still think they can get away without paying their tax."



# TRUANCY WATCH

These premises participate in the truancy watch scheme

Children of school age not accompanied by an adult and without good reason will not be served on any school day between the hours of 9am and 3pm






## Ryde becomes anti-truancy zone

Ryde has become the Island's second town to launch an anti-truancy scheme, following on from Newport in 2006.

Businesses at Ryde are working with the council and Hampshire Constabulary to crack down on pupils skipping school when they should be in lessons.

Shops or outlets which are part of the scheme will not serve school age children between 9am and 3pm on school days, unless the children are accompanied by an adult and have a good reason for absence or a valid absence slip from their headteacher.

Businesses taking part will display posters in their windows to show they are signed up to the Truancy Watch initiative.

Council education welfare officers and police community support officers from the Ryde Safer Neighbourhoods policing team will stop and question any young people they suspect are playing truant. Those found to be out of school without permission will be returned.

The Truancy Watch scheme aims to encourage young people to maximise the benefits of learning while also raising awareness of the seriousness of truancy.

## Big appeal for vital lung equipment



Firefighters from Newport are supporting the Wessex Cancer Trust in raising funds for equipment to help patients whose lungs are affected by cancer and its complications.

A team of fire and rescue service employees will be cycling from St Thomas' Square, Newport to the Vatican Square in Italy – aiming to raise £25,000 for the appeal for a thorascop for St Mary's Hospital, Newport.

The Square to Square Challenge, a partnership between the Wessex Cancer Trust and the fire and rescue service, will cover a distance of 1,400 miles or around 100 miles a day.

The appeal to raise funds for the challenge – to take place next August – was launched at the respiratory unit at St Mary's at the end of October. The thorascop will allow the hospital to provide an extra service on the Island for patients whose lungs are affected by cancer.

Newport station watch manager, Kelvin Wright, said businesses and individuals will be encouraged to sponsor specially-designed drill tops and t-shirts as part of the fund raising efforts.

- Wessex Cancer Trust has been raising money to support Island cancer patients for the past 25 years, including £250,000 towards the new chemotherapy unit at St Mary's and giving £16,000 in family grants in 2006. It also runs a minibus service for Island cancer patients to Southampton General Hospital from the Red Jet terminal, and promotes the prevention and early detection of cancer.

The council is set to develop a new service through its Wightcare team to help the Island's older people live more independent lives.

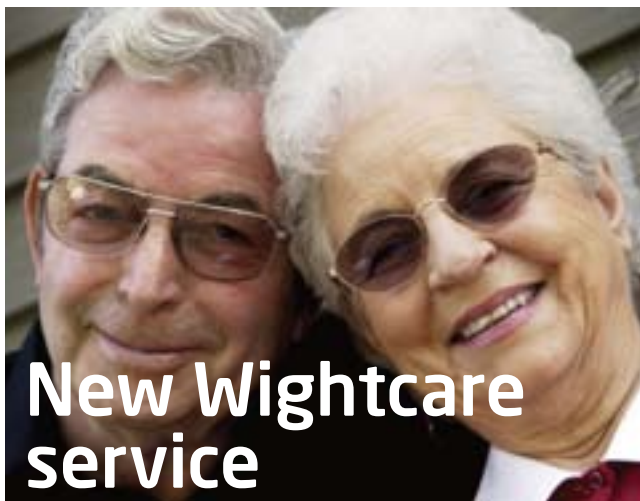
The service will provide more 'early interventions' to assist older people with regaining skills and abilities. It will typically be provided for up to six weeks with the aim of those benefiting becoming as independent as possible in that time.

The service is designed to lessen the likelihood of people becoming more dependent, and will reduce the need for older people to have to leave their own homes and move into residential care.

Implementation plans for the new service began in October and will be gradually introduced across the Island.

The project is part of a longer-term aim of working with the Island's NHS Primary Care Trust to plug the gap in community intermediate care, and to work towards a single point of access to multi-disciplinary teams.

The new way of working will also free-up resources and capacity for preventative care and the rapid response service.



## New Wightcare service

## Turn to iweight.com for online planning

*iweight.com's* planning online facility allows you to submit and pay for planning applications, view current applications, track their status and view all case documents online.

You can also submit comments against applications during the consultation period – and even delve into the database of all applications made since February 2004.

This popular section of the site receives an average of 200,000 page views per month.

A new feature has recently been added, enabling users to download and listen to the audiotaped record of planning committee meetings, as MP3 files. Simply go to [www.iweight.com/planning](http://www.iweight.com/planning), click on the second tab down to enter planning online and then access the section marked 'Planning Committee'. Underneath the heading of 'Minutes & Agendas' you will see a list of the latest documents that have been added to the site. Select your preferred choice of 'Minutes' and click on any of the blue hyperlink headings to download the audio from that meeting in MP3 format.

# Affordable housing at Nettlestone



PICTURED (left to right): Paul Hann (Vectis Housing Association), Martyn Pearl (Medina Housing Association), Sharon Packer (in the digger cab), Councillor Diana Tuson, and John Stevens (Medina Housing Association)

Ten new affordable homes are being built in Eddington Road, Nettlestone thanks to funding made available by the council.

The project is supported by Nettlestone and Seaview Parish Council and will provide local homes for people in the area of Seaview and Nettlestone.

Funding of £595,460 is being provided by the council – the majority of which has come from payments made by developers under the commuted payment process.

The scheme will provide ten two-bedroom eco-friendly homes (five rented and five shared ownership) – designed to be adaptable for future use by the provision of a flexible roof space.

Western Challenge Housing Association is developing the scheme, which will then be owned and managed by Vectis Housing Association.

The scheme will provide improvements to a play area at the front of the site, including new safety surfaces.

Sharon Packer, rural housing enabler, said: "It is thanks to the excellent partnership working between all those involved that has made Eddington Road the first such scheme in over seven years to gain planning approval on the Island."

# Eco-mousemats!

The Island's Footprint Trust is giving away free eco-mousemats – made from recycled car tyres – to all local schools, libraries and help centres.

The mousemats, funded by the EU Leader+ scheme and the Isle of Wight Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Development Fund, give details of useful websites about water, energy, waste and transport issues.

Ray Harrington-Vail of the trust, said: "The aim of the mousemats is to help reduce the carbon footprint of the Island. If people follow some of the guidance given they



can make a real impact on the planet and on their wallets."

The initiative adds to the work the trust is currently carrying out in many Island schools.

• More information on the work of the trust can be found at [www.footprint-trust.co.uk](http://www.footprint-trust.co.uk)

# Increased opening at two main libraries

Library users in Ryde and Newport can now enjoy an extra day to choose their books and other items for borrowing.

Ryde Library is now open between 9am and 5.30pm on Thursdays, and Lord Louis Library at Newport is open between 9am and 5.30pm on Wednesdays – both days when they used to close.

The extended opening hours have been introduced due to popular demand and to increase the number of days that library resources are available to residents of the Island's two largest towns.

# Foot and mouth precautions completed

The operation to help protect the Island against the recent mainland outbreak of foot and mouth disease was recently completed by the council.

Mats impregnated with disinfectant and put in place at ferry ports were taken up following a decision by the Department for Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (Defra) to relax controls.

The mats were originally deployed as a precaution after Defra declared Hampshire a risk area.

Stuart Love, council director of environment and neighbourhoods, said: "The matting was a constant reminder of the need to be vigilant – although it provides only a limited level of protection against the disease."



Mr Love thanked ferry companies for their co-operation in the exercise.

All six ferry routes to the Island were covered and a total of 200 square metres of

matting were doused with 11,000 litres of approved disinfectant during the operation.

The operation – as well as the administration of animal movements and giving advice to stock holders and hauliers – was run by council trading standards officers. Environmental health staff were also involved in the initial deployment of the mats.

Richard Stone, trading standards manager, said: "During the whole process only a couple of comments were received from people who said we were not disinfecting when we had announced that we were.

"However, in fact, they had crossed the saturated matting without realising it, which in my view demonstrates the success and smoothness of the whole operation."



Planting work will soon be underway on this year's final two centrepiece One Million Blooms displays.

Groundwork is being done on the designs at St George's and St Mary's roundabouts at Newport.

Work will continue in the coming weeks so the displays will be at their colourful best next spring and summer.

Planting at both sites follows the environment-friendly ethos of One Million Blooms, with the designs requiring little maintenance and planned to be drought resistant.

The project has seen many designs created across the Island through the expertise of council staff, including Ventnor Botanic Garden curator Simon Goodenough.

The council is looking to build on the success of the inaugural One Million Blooms project next year and is keen to hear from any community groups or town and parish councils who wish to get involved.

- Anyone interested should contact parks and countryside manager, Matthew Chatfield on 821000.



## One Million Blooms continues...



PICTURED: St George's roundabout, Newport has been cleared in preparation for the new planting

## Time to apply for concessionary fares



Island residents aged over 60 or with a disability should qualify for a new concessionary bus fare scheme run by the council.

The new scheme starts in April 2008 and will permit free travel on the Island and throughout England.

To qualify you should complete a form and return it with an identification photo before 14 December.

Forms are available from **council help centres** at Newport, Ryde, Wootton and Freshwater, and **libraries** at Bembridge, Brighstone, Cowes, East Cowes, Freshwater, Newport, Niton, Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin and Ventnor.

More advice on the scheme is available from the concessionary fares hotline on 823135.

## Crackdown on violence and criminal damage



A major campaign is underway to help drive down violence and criminal damage on the Island.

The need to tackle both violent crime and criminal damage has been identified as a priority by the police and the council, who have drawn up a range of measures under the name Operation Viper.

Some of the steps have already been put into place and new initiatives will be introduced in the coming weeks.

The plan contains steps to address immediate issues – such as ensuring police patrols target the locations of problems – as well as tackling the root causes of offending.

Temporary chief superintendent Dean Jones said: "We have put in place a range of tactical options, which our officers will be empowered to use in tackling anti-social behaviour arising from the night time economy. These include targeted, high visibility patrols on streets worst affected and the use of passive drugs dogs to detect and deter the use of illegal substances.

"The Isle of Wight remains a

safe place and our zero tolerance approach to offences of public order, drunkenness and assaults aims to keep it that way."

Police will also be using new powers to tackle anti-social behaviour, granted under the Violent Crime Reduction Act. Section 27 of the Act allows officers to ban a person aged 16 or over from an area for up to 48 hours to prevent alcohol-related crime and disorder.

Those playing a role in the initiative include the council's trading standards and licensing teams, the Safer Neighbourhood Partnership, the local education authority and the multi-agency Drug Action Team.

Councillor Diana Tuson, cabinet member for safer communities, said: "If we are to make the Island an even safer place we have to work together to ensure we tackle not only the immediate problems but also the issues that cause the difficulties. Operation Viper provides a comprehensive approach to tackling issues we know are of greatest concern to Islanders."



## Landmark design for new Cowes learning centre

The ground-breaking new learning centre planned to replace Cowes High School will be in a landmark building featuring radical and inspirational designs.

Plans are currently being drawn up for the building, with construction work due to start in 2008 and the centre operational from 2010.

The centre is being designed to meet curriculum needs for decades to come, replacing the typical school look of desks and classrooms with learning zones and IT suites, more akin to major companies.

The project will have many innovative features, and will promote community involvement through a state-of-the-art business centre and conference facilities.

There will also be an interactive resources centre, and students will be encouraged to do the majority of their work on laptops and personal digital assistants.

Headteacher at Cowes High School, David Snashall, said: "The facility will not just be confined to use for students. The whole Island community will benefit from its services, including businesses, sports clubs and voluntary organisations."

Cabinet member for children and young people, Councillor Alan Wells, said: "This is a very exciting project for the Island. We approached the government in 2005 with our vision for the new centre and were awarded over £30 million, which will fund almost the entire cost. This project, along with our ongoing determination to raise educational standards on the Island, shows just how committed we are to give youngsters the level of education they are entitled too."



Island high school pupils are to be given a valuable lesson on the dangers of drugs and alcohol in two drama performances next month.

Last Orders, by the educational theatre group Solomon, will be performed for all Year Nine pupils at Carisbrooke High School on 5 December and at Sandown High School the following day.

The performances are being staged as a joint initiative funded by the council's trading standards section, Drugs Awareness and the police, with a contribution from each participating school.

The Last Orders presentation involves a cast of three re-enacting an evening of binge drinking, based on real life events recorded by author Mark Hyde in the 1990s. The three characters (aged 15 to 17) suffer a series of consequences as a result of their drinking, and the audience is then invited to interview them in a TV studio-style format.

Among issues the production seeks to raise are the law regarding alcohol sales, how drinking can lead to anti-social behaviour, and the link between drinking and health problems and unplanned pregnancies.

Advertisement

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**See our website: [www.hantsfamilymediation.org.uk](http://www.hantsfamilymediation.org.uk)**

Registered charity number: 1081090



# The way ahead for East Cowes

A major spur has been given to the East Cowes regeneration project, with the announcement that Waitrose is to be a key part in the scheme's first phase. Here we take a look at the project and what it will mean for the town

"This announcement shows that the Island is a place capable of attracting the country's top companies. This is a tremendous boost not just to consumers, producers and employment but also to the profile of East Cowes and the Island."

*Councillor George Brown, cabinet member for economy, planning and property*

"Having such a well respected brand on board will, I am sure, act as the perfect catalyst to drive the project forward."

*Councillor David Pugh, council leader*

MAIN PICTURE: East Cowes Green

BELOW: town centre; BOTTOM: The site of the new Hawthorn Meadows housing development



A 20,000 SQ FT Waitrose store, creating an estimated 180 jobs, is to be at the heart of the first phase of the East Cowes Project.

The food store – a crucial part in this complex regeneration scheme – will be located in a new town centre including health facilities, offices, shops, 200 new homes and 300 car parking spaces. A children's centre and other community facilities are also being considered.

Phases two and three of the project will see the town's waterfront developed to create a gateway to the Island, establishing East Cowes as a new visitor destination, attracting tourists and marine-related industry.

The project will also include a marina, bars, restaurants and a hotel. Additionally there are plans for a maritime heritage centre.

The involvement of Waitrose was announced recently by the agencies working together on the East Cowes Project – the council, South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and English Partnerships.

A detailed plan for the food store is to be developed over the next few months and there will be a public exhibition of the plans prior to a planning application in the New Year.



# East Cowes Project – the story so far

The East Cowes Project is the flagship project of the Cowes Waterfront Initiative.

It is a visionary plan to regenerate the town centre of East Cowes by improving employment prospects and creating a new waterfront.

Already work has been done. Venture Quays, in the famous Union Jack Building

formerly occupied by Westland Aerospace, is being promoted in the interim as a location for marine related employment. Currently 250 people work on the site for employers including Dame Ellen MacArthur's Offshore Challenges sailing team and world-leading wind turbine manufacturer Vestas Blades.

Elsewhere there has also been further investment in regenerating the town. Work is underway on a plan by homebuilders Barratt for 500 homes off Whippingham Road. This development – that offers a high proportion of properties aimed at first time buyers – is linked to another scheme to develop land for employment use.

It all means the town is changing rapidly

since its industrial heritage was shaped in 1881 when the J.S White shipyard was founded. Until its closure in 1966 the company built motor torpedo boats, destroyers and submarines mainly for the Royal Navy.

Upon its closure the shipyard was taken over by the British Hovercraft Corporation (BHC). At the former White's site, hundreds of hovercraft, invented by Sir Christopher Cockerell in 1959, were developed and manufactured until the early 1980s.

Another giant of British industrial history, Saunders Roe, built the famous Columbine Shed (now Venture Quays) in East Cowes in 1935. The company built seaplanes including the largest ever metal seaplane *The Princess*.



The arrival of Waitrose is expected to provide a boost to local producers because the company has a commitment to using locally sourced produce.

Waitrose director of development, Nigel Keen, said: "We are very pleased to have been selected as the preferred food store partner by SEEDA, and are looking forward to working up more detailed plans in the near future."

SEEDA development director, Peter Cusdin, said: "This provides real evidence that the plan for East Cowes is changing perceptions of the town and stimulating major private sector investment."

David Ashworth, area director for English Partnerships, said: "Having a store such as Waitrose will provide a focus, a community core and economic anchor to the redevelopment of East Cowes."

Outline planning permission for the masterplan for the East Cowes Project was granted in October. It is expected the detail of the new scheme will be submitted to the council in the spring.

As part of the town centre development, SEEDA and the council are currently working on plans with the local GP practice and the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust for a new health centre, and with the police for a new East Cowes police base.



ABOVE: East Cowes Harbour



# Representing Carisbrooke

We complete our focus on how residents' affairs are represented in areas across the Island, with a look at Carisbrooke

WITH ITS castle dominant over the surrounding landscape, Carisbrooke was for many years the headquarters for the lords governing the Island.

In our final feature of how residents' affairs are represented throughout the Island, we return to the county's original seat of government – giving details of the two Isle of Wight councillors for the area as well as Carisbrooke Management Committee.

(\* We previously included details of Newport Town Management Committee in the first of our special area features, on Newport, in the March 2007 issue of the magazine.)

## Carisbrooke Management Committee:

Barbara Foster (chairman), Ian Day, Martin Cooper, David Whittaker, Lesley Cooper, Andrew Weeks, Jeremy Dale, Graham Montrose.

**Clerk to the management committee:** Julie Martin  
**tel:** 823281 **email:** julie.martin@iow.gov.uk

Details of Shorwell Parish Council should have been included in our previous feature that took in the central and south Wight – with the parish council area falling within the Isle of Wight Council's Central Rural ward. To make up for the omission, we include details here.

## Shorwell Parish Council members:

Denis Russell, Christine Hounslow, Charles Warne (chairman), Peter Bingham, Robert Haynes, Peter Savory **Parish clerk:** T. Peppitt  
**tel:** 529105 **email:** tompeppitt@aol.com

PICTURED: The gatehouse at Carisbrooke Castle  
RIGHT: Shorwell Shute

## Carisbrooke area councillors (Isle of Wight Council)

### Carisbrooke East

David Whittaker  
**Tel:** 526760  
**Email:**  
[David.Whittaker@iow.gov.uk](mailto:David.Whittaker@iow.gov.uk)



### Carisbrooke West

Barbara Foster  
**Tel:** 523386  
**Email:**  
[Barbara.Foster@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Barbara.Foster@iow.gov.uk)



**530** Saxons defeat natives in Bowcombe valley and conquer the Island.

**1082** William the Conqueror visits Carisbrooke Castle.

**1110** Present walls of Carisbrooke Castle are built.

**1156** Carisbrooke Priory established by Abbey of Lyre.

**1296** Carisbrooke Castle reverts from seat of Island Lords to military centre.

**1377** French lay siege to Carisbrooke Castle.

**1602** Major refortification of Carisbrooke Castle in the face of Spanish threat.

**1647** Charles I flees to Carisbrooke and is ultimately imprisoned.

**1650** Charles I's daughter, Elizabeth, dies at Carisbrooke Castle, aged 14.

**1711** Paper mill operating at Clatterford ford.

**1859** Carisbrooke Roman Villa discovered in the grounds of the vicarage.

## CARISBROOKE TIMELINE

Courtesy of information drawn from the online Isle of Wight History Centre at [www.iowhistory.org.uk](http://www.iowhistory.org.uk)



# Getting to grips with local problems



Examples of the work currently being undertaken by town centre managers include:

## Shanklin

The once-a week help centre has been kept open with colleagues from the local police Safer Neighbourhood team.

## East Cowes

Town centre manager Gill Mulcahy gathered a team including local children, parents, councillors, town councillors, school governors, and the Safer Neighbourhoods policing team to tackle problems such as graffiti and vandalism in Jubilee Recreation Ground.

## Ryde

A plan is underway to work with the Harcourt Sands site management team and restorative justice on a general maintenance project to create a more aesthetically pleasing area for the public.

## Freshwater

Work has taken place to clear waste from a persistent area of anti-social behaviour around the Multi Use Games Area to the side of the sports centre in Moa Place. As a result incidents of damage and anti-social behaviour have dropped by 90 per cent.

## Sandown

In just his second day in post, town centre manager Stuart Marlton stepped in to stop an incident of widespread flyposting in the town.

## Ventnor

Working closely with Ventnor Town Council, car parks have been weeded, signs and rusty poles replaced and dog bins repaired. Problems with litter, dog fouling, graffiti and fly posting are also being dealt with.

## Newport

Issues dealt with have included road signs, abandoned vehicles, and discarded receipts from bank cashpoints. The town centre managers have also attended meetings and established links with Shop Watch and Pub Watch, and have completed a litter bin survey.

## Cowes

Projects have included a graffiti blitz, a crackdown on fly-tipping in the High Street, tackling vandalism of street furniture in The Cut, installing a dog bin in Shamblers Road, and freeing up space in Mornington Road car park for the Cowes Business Association Fun Day on 8 December.

The Island's new town centre managers have now been in post for two months and are already making a big difference in their communities...

PICTURED: East Cowes town centre manager, Gill Mulcahy (far left), discusses local issues

IN RECENT weeks the Island's team of town centre managers has been taking positive action to bring improvements to their local areas.

As well as getting themselves known in their communities, they have been planning and undertaking a whole range of projects.

In Shanklin, town centre manager Mick Howard stepped into the breach to ensure the greatly-used community help centre could remain open as normal when staffing issues threatened to limit its opening times, while in Ryde the managers have been working to make the Harcourt Sands site safer and less of an eyesore.

They also do their bit in island-wide initiatives. An example of this occurred in the *Not In My Neighbourhood Week* when the managers identified more than 100 items of graffiti in their areas and made sure they were removed.

The whole idea of town centre managers involves close working with existing town and parish council, management committees and other community groups. The *Not In My Neighbourhood* work proved a good example of that partnership work in action because the operation was carried out jointly with police Safer Neighbourhood teams.

Senior town centre manager, Rob Campbell, said: "The town centre management project is a long term one which involves ongoing training and further networking with all partner agencies, especially the police Safer Neighbourhoods teams.

"The town centre managers have been extremely busy so far and that work will continue as they strengthen their community links. They have already built strong foundations within their communities which will provide a very good base for future work."

## Isle of Wight Council Summary of accounts

Year ended 31 March 2007

This special summary of accounts tells you where the council spent its money in 2006/2007, on services ranging from education to highways and transport.

We are keen to have your feedback, so please fill in and return the questionnaire on page 16.

A full copy of the council's 2006/2007 audited accounts is available online at [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com). A paper copy can be made available upon request.

"It is important the council is fully open and accountable when it is spending your money. Your views are vital in determining the best way forward to share key financial information with you, so please take the time to fill in the questionnaire and provide us with your comments to allow us to develop future reports."

*Councillor Barry Abraham, cabinet member for residents and resources*

## What we spent

The table below shows the net cost of running council services between April 2006 and March 2007 and where the money came from to finance those costs.

Net expenditure	2006/2007 (£'000)	2005/2006 (£'000)
Education services	11,805	*76,928
Social services	47,923	42,169
Cultural and planning	23,193	23,576
Highways and transport	9,703	7,068
Fire services	7,010	6,756
Housing services	3,557	4,803
Corporate services	6,634	8,428
Court services	413	393
	<b>110,238</b>	<b>170,121</b>
Increase/(reduction) in balances	3,422	(126)
Less: other operating costs and income	(132)	(586)
	<b>113,528</b>	<b>169,409</b>

### Where the money came from

Local council tax payers	62,759	59,625
General government grants	10,424	*62,689
Business rates	40,461	46,979
	<b>113,644</b>	<b>169,293</b>
<b>Net revenue (surplus)/deficit</b>	<b>(116)</b>	<b>116</b>

## Capital expenditure and financing

Capital expenditure generally represents money invested by the council on buying, upgrading and improving assets such as roads and buildings. The council and its stakeholders expect to receive a benefit from capital expenditure over a long period of time. During 2006/2007 we spent £21.504 million on providing new assets and improving existing assets. The expenditure was financed from a combination of borrowing, grants, receipts from the sale of assets and finance leases.

	2006/2007 (£'000)	2005/2006 (£'000)
Education services	10,633	10,288
Highways and transport	5,420	7,574
Social services	303	253
Fire services	504	240
Housing services	1,275	2,667
Coast protection	826	1,375
Other services	2,543	3,321
	<b>21,504</b>	<b>25,718</b>

### This was financed by

Increase in borrowing	12,385	18,156
Capital grants and contributions	6,853	7,149
Income from sale of land and buildings	1,921	413
Finance leases	345	0
	<b>21,504</b>	<b>25,718</b>

\* For 2006/2007 the arrangements for government support for the funding of schools changed. Previously funds were provided as part of the council's overall Revenue Support Grant. In 2006/2007 the council received a specific grant known as the Dedicated Schools Grant. A sum of £67.8 million has therefore been credited against education services that would previously have been included as part of the general government grants. The difference between 2006/2007 figures and comparative figures for 2005/2006 for these two lines is substantially explained by this change.



## In a typical year, we:

- support more than 900 people by providing home care services;
- collect 99 per cent of council tax and 99.2 per cent of business rates, both of which are in the top quarter nationally;
- support 750 children through our specialist education teams;
- have 20,500 13 to 19 year olds attending youth and community service meetings and events;
- welcome 840,000 visitors to our libraries and 965,000 visitors to our leisure facilities;
- carry out 3,380,000 domestic waste collections (65,000 per week);
- clean 894 kilometres of public highway;
- maintain 826 kilometres of public rights of way;
- issue more than 1,500 licences, 100 per cent within the target response time;
- encourage 207,000 cyclists to use our cycle paths.

## During 2006/2007, we:

- brought 56 empty properties back into use;
- encouraged 6,000 Island children and young people to visit the Big Day Out to find out about our local services;
- achieved 100 per cent child protection reviews within the agreed timeframe;
- enabled 2.25 million free fare journeys on local public transport by people aged over 60 or with a disability;
- enabled one million journeys to be made by young people on local public transport at 50p per journey, via the Student Rider scheme;
- encouraged 44 per cent of Island schools to have approved travel plans, as part of which Greenmount Primary at Ryde has the highest level of walking to school, at 76 per cent;
- continued our programme of home safety fire checks, which has seen a further significant drop in accidental dwelling fires – 44 per cent reduction since 2000;
- launched the *Scores on the Doors* food hygiene award scheme allowing residents and visitors to assess the hygiene of restaurants, pubs and other food outlets;
- achieved the award of a national charter mark for customer service excellence, the environmental health and office services teams;
- delivered a health and safety target within the Local Area Agreement which resulted in national recognition from the Health and Safety Executive, identifying the Isle of Wight as a best practice model for other local authorities.

## Balance sheet – what the council owns and what is owed

The balance sheet shows the end of year financial position for the council as a whole. It provides details of the financial value of land, buildings, roads and other assets owned by the council, and the value of borrowings and other amounts owed.

	2006/2007 (£'000)	2005/2006 (£'000)
Capital assets	329,912	303,753
Stocks	591	612
Cash in bank and investments	31,888	34,183
Money owed to the council	19,569	14,362
Money owed by the council	(40,961)	(37,137)
Long-term borrowing	(131,866)	(131,307)
Pensions and other liabilities	(149,585)	(159,843)
<b>Total assets less total liabilities</b>	<b>59,548</b>	<b>24,623</b>

### This was financed by

Earmarked reserves	34,660	31,238
Capital and accounting reserves	22,833	(8,553)
General fund balance	2,055	1,938
<b>Total reserves and balances</b>	<b>59,548</b>	<b>24,623</b>

**Capital assets** include land and buildings, highways' infrastructure, vehicles, plant and equipment and community assets. The largest part of the balance sheet value is in land and buildings, of which schools represent the highest amount.

**Earmarked reserves** represent funds held by the council for specific purposes. They include unspent allocations of budget held by schools, as well as money for insurance and risk management and to support future capital investment. Such reserves are held to meet future liabilities or spending commitments, as well as promoting good financial management by allowing a degree of flexibility between years. Planned use of these reserves over the next four years will make a significant contribution to delivery of the council's One Island improvement agenda.

**Capital and accounting reserves** consist of: the fixed asset restatement account reflecting the unrealised increase in the value of assets; the capital financing account representing capital expenditure already financed from cash sources (with the balance of assets financed from long term borrowing); and the pensions reserve which represents the total pension liabilities offset by investment assets held within the Isle of Wight Pension Fund. The change in value in year has arisen as a result of increased values of assets and an actuarial valuation of the pension fund, reducing the amount of the liability.

**General balances** are required to provide adequate funds year on year to meet any unforeseen calls on the council's available resources. The council has estimated that the minimum amount necessary to meet such financial risks is £2 million, and the general fund balance has consistently been held at that level for a number of years. The balance is relatively low as a percentage of net operating expenditure when compared with other similar councils, so financial risks need to be predicted and managed effectively in order to avoid any significant calls on the general fund balance.

## Cash flow summary

This summarises the total cash inflows and outflows of cash arising from transactions with third parties, and includes both revenue and capital transactions.

	2006/2007 (£'000)	2005/2006 (£'000)
Net borrowing on 1 April	(112,517)	(100,227)
Cash in	337,217	290,903
Cash out	(340,926)	(303,193)
Net borrowing at 31 March	(116,226)	(112,517)
<b>Net increase in borrowing</b>	<b>(3,709)</b>	<b>(12,290)</b>



## Questionnaire

### have your say...

This is the third time the council has published summary accounts in this format. We hope they are easily understood.

Your feedback is important to us, and we want to know what you think about the summary accounts and how you feel they could be improved.

In particular, for 2007/2008, we will be producing an annual report which contains summary financial information, but which provides more emphasis on performance and achievements.

Please complete this short questionnaire and let us know what you think about the content or layout. Alternatively you can email: [Carol.Harrison@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Carol.Harrison@iow.gov.uk) with your comments. A number of people responded to last year's questionnaire, and as a result we have made amendments to the style and content of this year's summary.

Please return the survey to (there is no need for a stamp):

**Summary of accounts survey, Financial Services (Room 210), Isle of Wight Council, FREEPOST (SCE 13306), County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD.**

### Summary of accounts - survey

- 1 On a scale of one to five, where one is not at all useful and five is highly useful – please rate how useful you found the summary:

☐ 1
 ☐ 2
 ☐ 3
 ☐ 4
 ☐ 5

- 2 What aspects of the summary did you find most useful?

- 3 On a scale of one to five, where one is very poor and five is very good – please rate the presentation of the summary of accounts:

☐ 1
 ☐ 2
 ☐ 3
 ☐ 4
 ☐ 5

- 4 Do you consider this summary meets your needs for information about the council, or would you prefer to receive an annual report which includes summary accounts as part of the content? If so, what additional information would you find useful in an annual report?

- 5 If you have any suggestions on how we could improve either the content or the presentation of the summary of accounts, please add them here:





# Excellent rating for police

## Thumbs up from assessors for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight...

POLICE ON the Isle of Wight and in Hampshire have been recognised as achieving an 'excellent' standard in their handling of serious crime and for the protection provided to the public of the two counties.

The rating came in the annual Police Performance Assessments, published by the Police and Crime Standards Directorate and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC).

The assessments also rated the resource and efficiency management of Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police as 'excellent'.

Of the remaining five headline areas assessed for the force, four were graded as 'good' and one was graded as 'fair'.

A separate detailed report from the HMIC – which focused on neighbourhood policing, performance management and protecting vulnerable people – stated that “across all three areas, the force has either maintained or improved on an already satisfactory level of service to the public”.

Chief Superintendent Stephanie Morgan, who until recently led the Isle of Wight Operational Command Unit, said: “This is excellent news, both for the force and those living on the Island. We have seen huge changes here in the past few years, not least the implementation of neighbourhood policing and a new computer system, so this achievement is no mean feat.

“On the Island, we are performing well, with one of the highest detection rates within the force. We also have the lowest levels of burglary and vehicle crime in the force. And our officers are the busiest in the force, attending more incidents than anywhere else.”

Chief Constable Paul Kernaghan welcomed both publications. He said: “I am delighted the reports recognise the hard work and successes over the last year by all associated with Hampshire Constabulary. I am particularly pleased that our excellent grades

were awarded for 'Serious Crime and Public Protection' and 'Resources and Efficiency'. This demonstrates our focus on combating serious crime and protecting the public while delivering value for money.

“Our only 'fair' grading in the headline assessment was for 'Implementation of Neighbourhood Policing'. This has been a real

focus for Hampshire Constabulary over the past year and these efforts are recognised in the HMIC report, which terms the roll-out of neighbourhood policing as 'a notable success'.

“Some areas for improvement have been identified in the HMIC report and we will be closely studying the recommendations to ensure we continue our steady progress.”



PICTURED: Sergeant Richard Stapleton of the Ventnor Safer Neighbourhood policing team



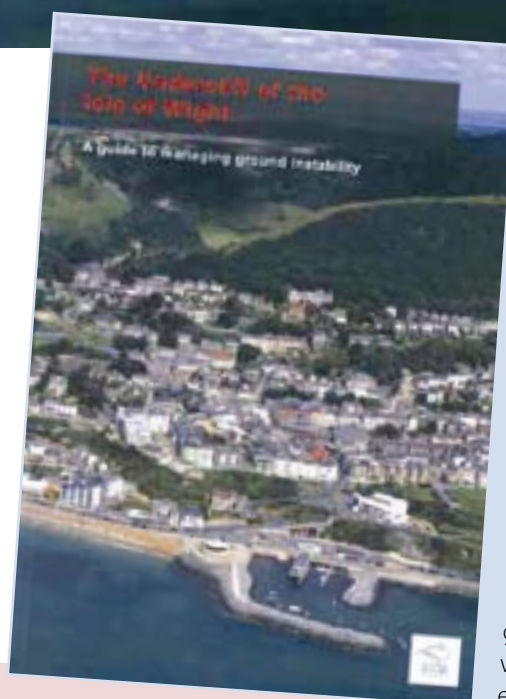
## Island represented at international event

Representatives from the council's centre for the coastal environment at Ventnor attended the Institute of Civil Engineers International Conference on Coastal Management 2007, held in Cardiff at the end of October.

The conference highlighted innovation and best practice in coastal management, with Isle of Wight Council officers Helen Fairbank, senior coastal scientist, and Emma Mathie, coastal engineer, presenting a technical paper on managing coastal hazards in a changing climate.

The paper presented the results from the European Response Project (Responding to the risks from climate change), a three-year initiative supported by the European Community, launched in 2006.

The £1 million project was led by the centre for the coastal environment and included partners from the UK, Italy, France and Poland.



## New Undercliff guide published

The council's centre for the coastal environment at Ventnor has produced a new guide promoting the sustainable management of ground instability in the Undercliff.

The illustrated guide (*pictured left*) will give practical information for all those with an interest in the Undercliff – which extends for 12 kilometres from Blackgang to Bonchurch, and includes the town of Ventnor and the villages of Bonchurch, St Lawrence, Niton and Blackgang.

The guide has been developed following a series of studies and investigations undertaken since 1987, looking at landslide risk and taking account of climate change.

## Nature notes



Short, grey, dull days with mist, fog and drizzle – is this your picture of November? Hibernation seems an attractive prospect, and for some species it is a good way to cope with the stresses and strains of winter. Dormice (*pictured*) and hedgehogs spend time feeding on the rich pickings of the autumn harvest of seeds, nuts, fruits and berries and lay down a thick layer of fat under their skin. They curl up in hollows and crevices, covering themselves with a layer of moss and fallen leaves for a quilt, and sleep for several months.

But this is no ordinary sleep – even with a substantial layer of fat, going several months without food requires special measures. The animal's heart rate slows; breathing becomes shallow, the body temperature drops, and the animal goes into a state of suspended animation. They may wake once or twice before spring if we have a particularly warm spell.

Frogs and toads spend the winter deep in ponds, in a state of torpor. They cannot control their body temperature and they become less active as their surroundings cool down. They take in oxygen dissolved in the water through their skin, and it is sufficient for their needs as long as the pond surface is free of ice.

Butterflies such as small tortoiseshell and red admiral may be found in roof spaces and outbuildings, inactive and seemingly lifeless until a sunny day and gentle warmth brings them out. Life is both fragile and resilient, and always a source of wonder.

Anne Marston, assistant ecology officer

## Seasonal guide to wildlife in the garden



Autumn is the time to clear out the pond. If you are removing plants, leave them on the side of the pond for a few days to allow any animals caught up in them to escape back into the water.



## ACTIVITIES

### Wightcat Crafts

(24 November – 19 December)  
Cardmaking Workshop (24 November, 1 December, 10.30am to 1pm), Beginners' Parchment Class (28 November, 5 December, 1.30pm to 4pm), Parchment Craft Club (19 December, 1.30pm to 4pm), booking in advance essential at Wightcat Crafts, 14 Carisbrooke Road, Newport, tel: 527525.

### Book Fair

(24 November)  
Book, postcard and ephemera fair, Parish Centre, Town Lane, Newport, 10am to 3.30pm, 20p admission.

### Christmas Fair

(1 December)  
A Christmas fair in the Royal Yacht Squadron Pavilion, 2pm to 4pm, for Holy Trinity Church, Cowes, all the usual stalls, including refreshments.

### Wight Christmas Experience

(1-2 December)  
Celebrate the Island's Christmas with gifts, food and drink from Island-based companies, also entertainments for children, supporting Earl Mountbatten Hospice, the Riverside Centre, The Foyer and Not Just Enterprise, to be held at the Riverside Centre, Newport, 10am to 4pm, contact Julie, tel: 759405, [www.wightexperience.co.uk](http://www.wightexperience.co.uk)

### RNLI Continental Christmas Coffee Morning

(5 December)  
Coffee and continental pastries at the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club, Cowes, in aid of the RNLI.

### Christmas Tree Festival

(6-9 December)  
A display of decorated trees on the theme of The Nativity and Christmas Carols, also a concert by Wight Satin

Ladies Barbershop Singers (on Friday 7 December, 7.30pm), at Shanklin Methodist Church, Regent Street, daily 10am to 4.30pm, Sunday 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

### RNLI Barrel Organ Music

(8 December)  
Music and coffee morning at Murray's Restaurant, Cowes High Street, in aid of the RNLI.

## CINEMA

### One Week with Jhelisa - Rediscovering America

(6 December)  
A film of Jhelisa in New Orleans in 2005 as she works on her forthcoming album, Quay Arts, Newport, 7.30pm, tickets £4, tel: box office 822490.

## EXHIBITIONS

### Fishbourne Art Group

(23 October – 26 November)  
A variety of mediums and subjects from an art group formed five years ago, Quay Arts Café Wall, Newport.

### Art Room, Osborne Middle School

(10 November – 8 December)  
Celebrating the school's creative talents, featuring illustrated stories, war images, sculpture and much more, Quay Arts, Newport.

### The Royal Watercolour Society Group Exhibition

(19 November – 12 January)  
An exhibition curated by David Firmstone, vice-president of the society and an Isle of Wight artist, with works by society members who are some of the most distinguished artists working in the medium today, Quay Arts, Newport.



**A painting by David Firmstone is just one of the watercolours on display as part of the Royal Watercolour Society Exhibition at Quay Arts from 19 November to 12 January**

### The Light of Creation, Melanie Swan

(24 November – 12 January)  
Mosaics, iconography and traditionally-painted icons by local artist Melanie Swan, Quay Arts, Newport.

## MUSIC

### A Life in the Year: Celebrating Seasonal Traditional English Custom

(25 November)  
A romp through the wealth of music, song and dance that marks the English seasons, presented by Quay Arts in association with Vaguely Sunny, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £12/£11, tel: box office 822490.

### A Traditional Xmas

(8 December)  
Folksong, tunes and carols from Keith Kendrick and Sylvia Needham, plus the Dollymopps, at The George Street Centre, George Street, Ryde, doors open 7.30pm, tickets £7.50/£5, tel: 612696.

### Christmas Concert

(8 December)  
Tritone Singers' Christmas Concert, St James' Church, Yarmouth, 7.30pm, tickets on the door.

### Shanklin Town Brass Band Christmas Concert

(8 December)  
The annual Christmas concert of Shanklin's local band, including a

mix of traditional carols and modern festive melodies, at United Reformed Church, High Street, Shanklin, 7.30pm, free entry and refreshments, [www.shanklintownbrassband.org.uk](http://www.shanklintownbrassband.org.uk)

### Cantata Choir Christmas Concert

(9 December)  
Carols for all, with brass ensemble, some

audience participation old favourites, at Medina Theatre, Newport, 2.30pm, tickets £5/children £3.

### The Gramophone Party

(14 December)  
A vibrant Island-based outfit, inspired by jazz and blues pioneers, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £10/£9, tel: box office 822490.

## Future issues:

Issue date	Listings period covered	Deadline for submission
21 December	21 December to 14 March	26 November
29 February	29 February to 4 April	4 February

## Advertisement

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## MUSIC

### Turn Up and Sing the Messiah

(18 December)  
All welcome to sing or join the audience, no rehearsals required, at Sts Thomas Church, Newport, 8pm, donations requested, all surpluses to Cancer Care.

### John Cadman

(22 December)  
Lute and guitar music from the Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods, as well as contemporary music by Spanish and South American composers, and original compositions, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £7/£6, tel: box office 822490.

## POETRY

### Lynne Truss presents Tennyson's Gift

(30 November)  
A comical peek into Victorian Freshwater

presented by top comic writer and presenter Lynne Truss, Quay Arts, Newport, 6pm, tickets £6/£5, tel: box office 822490.

## TALKS

### Valentine Grey, and The True Story of the Titanic

(5 December)  
Two talks to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association, firstly Roger Fruen on the famous chimney sweep boy, and secondly Noel Stimson with some little known facts on the Titanic disaster, at Nodehill Middle School, Newport, 7.30pm, visitors welcome, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410.

### History of Christmas Shopping

(13 December)  
Vectis NADFAS (National Association of the Decorative and Fine Arts Society) presents an illustrated talk at Medina Theatre, Newport, 8pm.



**A Life in the Year: Celebrating Seasonal Traditional English Custom - music, song and dance combine to mark the English seasons at Quay Arts on 25 November**

## THEATRE

### Peter Pan

(6-9 December)  
Join Peter Pan on a magical journey to Neverland, a Christmas family pantomime with laughter and songs, at Ventnor

Winter Gardens, all performances 7.30pm except Sunday matinee at 2.30pm (final show), tickets £6.50 adults/£5.50 senior citizens and children, tel: Winter Gardens box office (open 12 noon to 2pm every day).

### Cinderella

(8, 13-16 December)  
Cowes Amateur Operatic and Dramatic Society presents a magical pantomime at Trinity Theatre, Cowes (at 2.30pm on 8, 15 and 16 December, and 7.30pm on 13 and 14 December), tickets £5/£6, from the box office tel: 295229.

### The Smith Family Panto! Or Sleeping Mother Whittington in Boots!

(13 December)  
Quay Arts Christmas show, written and directed by Sean Aita and presented by Forest Forge, a modern fable for the whole family with live music and comedy, Quay Arts, Newport, 6.30pm, tickets £10/£9, tel: box office 822490.

### Christmas Variety Show

(20 December)  
A show especially for children, featuring Vectis Brass Band, Wight Satin Harmony singers, sing-along songs, Jubilee Tappers, an interval mini-disco and magic from Randini, with all under-tens getting a present from Santa, at Ventnor Winter Gardens, 6.30pm

to 8.30pm, adults £5/ children £2 (must book in advance), tel: box office 855215.

### Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

(20-22 December)  
The New Strolling Players present their annual family pantomime, at the Memorial Hall, Freshwater, 7.30pm each evening (plus Saturday matinee on 22 December at 2.30pm), tel: box office 752956.

### Nativity play, The Journey

(24 December)  
A traditional/modern nativity play by members of Holy Trinity Church, Cowes and friends, Christmas refreshments after, at Holy Trinity Church, 5pm.

### Peter Pan

(26-30 December)  
TaylorMade Productions present a traditional family pantomime by John Morley which remains true to the classic story, including villains to hiss at, music, dance and knockabout comedy, at Medina Theatre, Newport, 2.30pm daily and 7.30pm on 30 December, contact Genny Taylor, tel: 883341.

## 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](mailto:oneisland@iow.gov.uk)**

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**Deadline for the next issue: 26 November (21 December publication date).**

Title of event/activity:

Date:

Brief description:

Venue:

Time:

Contact name:

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