

# oneIsland

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

## Summer of success

The Island celebrates



**Also inside:** Search for a sporting star  
Countdown for new-look Pan



## Welcome



Welcome to the October edition of the council's magazine, marking a year since we launched the publication to keep you up to date with our quest to deliver high quality and cost-effective services.

This issue is also the first to be published since I was elected council leader in September, a position through which I pledge to work tirelessly and with dedication on behalf of Island residents.

It is appropriate I also take this opportunity to thank my predecessor Councillor Andy Sutton for his significant contribution over the past two-and-a-half years.

In this edition we continue to bring you updates on the various projects forming part of our One Island programme of initiatives, with information about the Pan development project, town managers, free swimming for schoolchildren, free homecare for the over 80s, and how we are tackling speed on the roads.

We also underline our ongoing commitment to partnership working, with key information about the Island's safer neighbourhood teams, and a special four-page supplement from the Island's NHS Primary Care Trust.

We hope in its first year the magazine has helped to keep you informed about much of the important work we are carrying out. We remain committed to making progress on behalf of all Islanders, and through the magazine will keep you fully up to date.

**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.iow.gov.uk

### 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 (1.30pm 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

## councilmeetings



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.

#### Council (council chamber)

21 November (6pm)

#### Cabinet (to be confirmed)

20 November (6pm)

#### Planning Committee (council chamber)

23 October (4pm)

27 November (4pm)

#### Licensing Committee (committee room one)

12 November (4pm)

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

30 October (6pm)

4 December (6pm)

#### Scrutiny Committee (committee room one)

25 October (6pm)

6 December (6pm)

#### Standards Committee (committee room one)

19 November (6pm)

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

14 November (6pm)

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

31 October (6pm)

5 December

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

28 November (6pm)

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

22 November (6pm)



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Cover picture: Madness lead singer, Suggs, performing at the Bestival in September



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# Islandimage



Picture: St Helens, by Oliver Parsons

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 the progress of the One Island programme.

The projects that make up the programme are:

### Respect (covering social and community services)

- Care packages for young people
- Free personal home care for over 80s
- Developing 14 to 19 education provision
- Low cost homes for Island people
- Pan area development
- Free swims for young people during holidays
- Raising standards in Island schools
- Policies to meet the needs of young people

### Pride (covering environmental areas)

- One Million Blooms
- Free parking for environmentally friendly vehicles
- Island Games and sports development
- Public conveniences (refurbishment and rebuild)
- Public realm improvements in West Wight, The Bay and East Cowes (improving public facilities such as litter bins, signposts, bus shelters, railings and bollards and street nameplates)
- SMS bus information (allows travellers to receive text information on mobile phones about bus services)
- Speed management and road safety
- Town centre managers
- Anti-dog fouling campaign
- Improving Island roads

### Value (corporate issues)

- Boundary review (council electoral divisions)
- One Council (to ensure the council is fit for purpose to deliver major improvements)
- Getting it right for the customer
- Town and parish council partnership (to increase the number of services delivered direct by quality town and parish councils)
- Joining up public services across the Island
- Improving the way we work with the voluntary sector

More information on some of these projects is provided at [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com) and through special articles in this edition of the magazine. These are labelled with the One Island symbol, shown at the top of the page.

## New cabinet team



PICTURED: Back (left to right) Barry Abraham, George Brown, Alan Wells, Tim Hunter-Henderson; front (left to right) Diana Tuson, David Pugh, Dawn Cousins

The new leader of the Isle of Wight Council, Councillor David Pugh, has appointed a streamlined cabinet for the remainder of 2007/2008.

The cabinet, reduced from ten to seven portfolio holders, is responsible for the detailed, day-to-day direction of the council's policies and operation. As well as Councillor Pugh – who is additionally responsible for housing, leisure and governance – the cabinet includes:

Cabinet member	Responsibility
George Brown (deputy leader)	Economy, planning and property
Alan Wells	Children and young people
Diana Tuson	Safer communities
Tim Hunter-Henderson	Environment and transport
Dawn Cousins	Health and wellbeing
Barry Abraham	Residents and resources

## Town centre managers take up their posts

PICTURED: Ryde is just one of the towns on the Island to benefit from town centre managers

Eleven new town centre managers are now working to ensure communities across the Island are kept neat and tidy.

Having completed their initial training, two town centre managers per town have been assigned to bring about improvements in Ryde and in Newport while individual managers will be raising the street scene standards in Cowes, East Cowes, Sandown, Shanklin, Freshwater and Ventnor. A further town centre manager will act in a supervisory capacity.

A key role of the managers will be to ensure the various public realm contracts are carried out – including making sure all litter bins are taken away on time, highways swept to the required standard and litter is picked up.

They will also be the council's eyes and ears in town centres, and will report acts of vandalism and graffiti so they can be quickly remedied.

In addition, the town centre managers will have powers to issue fixed penalty tickets for offences like dropping litter, fly-tipping, fly-posting and allowing dogs to foul pavements.

• The town centre managers are contactable via the public realm co-ordinator, Dan Rowling on 550980 or [safer.neighbourhoods@iow.gov.uk](mailto:safer.neighbourhoods@iow.gov.uk)





## Sports club and volunteer conference



A special conference to support sports clubs in developing and training their volunteers is being staged at Ryde Theatre on 30 October.

The event, which takes place from 6pm to 9pm, will provide information on funding for sports from local, regional and national sources, as well as guidance on accreditation for volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, the council's sports unit can encourage and help you via the conference - and give you a steer about different roles and sports. The conference will also include a national governing body fair.

- To book your free place at the conference please contact the sports unit on 823818, or email: [vicki.wallis@iow.gov.uk](mailto:vicki.wallis@iow.gov.uk)

## Education decision deferred



The cabinet of the Isle of Wight Council has decided to slightly alter the timetable concerning proposals for the future of Island education - putting back its consideration of the plans from October to November.

The decision is to provide time to reflect on the different representations made to the council about the proposals. The proposals will be brought before both the cabinet and full council

in November.

Cabinet member for children and young people, Councillor Alan Wells, said: "We recognise that this is a major issue for the Island and it is crucial that we get this right. We value all the feedback that we have received and we want to ensure we have had time to look at all the different views put forward and listen to the advice of officers and government representatives."

## Reactive signs to help cut speed



Eleven new speed-reactive signs designed to cut traffic accidents by reminding drivers they are travelling too fast are to be installed during November.

The new signs are due to be located in: Bembridge, Embankment Road; Carisbrooke, Clatterford Road and Gunville Road; Gurnard, Tuttons Hill; Havenstreet, Main Road; Nettlestone, Calthorpe Road/Nettlestone Hill; Winford, Alverstone Road; Whitwell, Ventnor Road; Sandown, Culver Parade and Esplanade; Shanklin, Whitecross Lane; St Helens, Station Road and Carpenters Road; Wroxall, High Street.

A speed reactive sign remains blank until excessive vehicle speed is detected. The sign then displays an appropriate message for up to four seconds or until the vehicle slows sufficiently.

Similar signs erected throughout the country have produced consistently lower vehicle speeds and fewer accidents.



## Peter is elected Newport North councillor



A new councillor has been elected for the Isle of Wight Council's Newport North ward.

Peter Humber, the Conservative candidate, was elected at a by-election on 30 August.

The by-election was required following the resignation of Councillor Julian Whittaker, who had represented the ward since 2005.

Turnout for the by-election was 30.04 per cent.

## New standards committee members



PICTURED: (left to right) Peter Tautz, Susan Tudor-Smith and Captain Anthony Brindle

Three new independent members have been appointed by the council to fill vacancies on the Island's standards committee, which monitors the standards of those in public office.

The three, who are all members of the public living on the Island, are former barrister Susan Tudor-Smith, Captain Anthony Brindle who was formerly in the Royal Navy and Merchant Navy, and retired policeman Peter Tautz.

Their appointment takes the total number of committee members to ten.

## Formal complaints to Standards Board of England

The Island's standards committee has made formal complaints to the Standards Board of England over possible breaches of the Isle of Wight Council's members' code of conduct.

It follows issues raised in a report submitted to the council's planning committee on 25 September in connection with a specific planning application.

Standards committee chairman, Mark Southwell, said: "It was clear to the committee that the report raised serious ethical issues for the council and that the public need to see that issues of probity are addressed promptly."

Council chief executive, Joe Duckworth said: "Our actions must be honest, open, accountable and objective. We must show absolute integrity in the decisions we make, advice we offer and the way we deliver services."

## Home Information Packs - advice on historic and traditional buildings



Key guidance on how the new Home Information Packs will affect historic and traditional buildings on the Island is now available from the council's conservation team.

More than 25 per cent of the Island's building stock is made up of historic and traditional buildings – mainly those listed, in a conservation area or pre-dating cavity wall construction.

Home Information Packs (HIPs) were introduced into the housing market on a phased basis from 1 August this year. Homes with three or more bedrooms marketed for sale from 10 September require a HIP, and the pack includes an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) that provides an energy rating for a property.

Historic and traditional homes are not exempt from Energy Performance Certificates, but do require special consideration since they have been built very differently from modern housing.

The certificates grade the likely energy performance of homes and are generated from survey data and a standardised model of how the building was constructed.

The ratings, from A to G, are accompanied by advice and suggestions about how to cut carbon emissions and reduce fuel consumption.

Standard measures to improve energy efficiency in modern buildings may be expensive, ineffective and harmful in traditional buildings. They could also be illegal if carried out without the appropriate statutory consents.

English Heritage advises that while almost every traditional and historic home can accommodate some energy improvements without harming its special character, it is important work is planned and carried out carefully.

The council's conservation team is available to give advice to assessors and home owners, and can be contacted on 823552, email: [conservation@iow.gov.uk](mailto:conservation@iow.gov.uk). Guidance notes can be downloaded from the website at [www.iwight.com/conservation](http://www.iwight.com/conservation)

## Local list to mark distinctiveness

Since January this year the council's conservation and design team has been running a project to produce the Island's first local list of buildings, structures, parks and gardens of architectural or historic interest.

The local list – produced in partnership with parish councils and local history groups – identifies buildings, structures, parks and gardens that contribute to the distinctiveness of the Island's built environment.

To be included on the local list a building, structure, park or garden must satisfy set criteria. For example:

- is it closely associated with famous local people/historic events?
- is it the work of a particular architect or designer which illustrates local or regional architectural history or design?
- does it relate to an important aspect of local social, cultural, religious, political or economic history?
- does it retain its historic features and layouts?
- does it provide an important visual amenity locally?
- does it show qualities of age, style or distinctive characteristics relative to the area?

At present inclusion on the local list does not give protection in the way that statutory listing does, but it does recognise distinctiveness.

To become involved in the project or to nominate a building, structure, park or garden for inclusion on the first local list you should contact the council's conservation and design team on 823552.



## Get your new public transport handbook

The latest version of the Island's only comprehensive public transport handbook is now available.

The free guide, published by the council, includes timetable information on bus, rail and ferry services to, from and within the Island. It also includes information on the busiest National Express routes from Portsmouth and Southampton, some train information and also details of travel to mainland hospitals.

Other information includes details of the new One Island SMS scheme that will enable bus timetable information to be texted to passengers' mobile phones and also details of chain ferry sailings.

The new public transport handbook covers the autumn/winter season from 30 September to 5 January.

The handbook is available from council customer help centres, libraries, tourist information centres, and from Wightbus drivers.

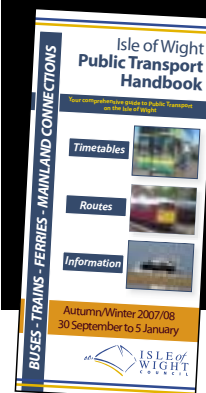
## Eight hundred benefit from free home care



Around 800 elderly and vulnerable people are now benefiting from the council's groundbreaking Free Home Care Scheme.

The initiative, introduced on the Island in April this year, entitles people, aged 80 and over, free personal care from the council's social services department – regardless of income or savings.

Funding to pay for the new approach is coming from savings created by having fewer people moving into residential care homes.







## Special support group

Island residents wanting information or support in connection with the sensitive issue of self-harming are able to contact the group, Isle of Wight Insight into Self-Harm (IWISH), which has been running in its current form since 2004.

Since it was set-up, the group has sought to provide a supportive environment for those who self-harm. People with personal experience of self-

harming are involved in the running of the group.

Self-harm is described as any act of harm a person deliberately causes to their own body, such as scratching, cutting, burning, bruising etc. People who self-harm tend to go out of their way to hide their problem. It can be a way of dealing with overwhelming thoughts and emotions, often to stop those feelings getting out of control.

- If you suspect someone in your life may be self-harming, or if you yourself are self-harming, contact IWISH for information – Kathy Groves (self-harm liaison nurse), tel: 522214, Steve Whorwood or Len Harverson, tel: 532943.

IWISH is linked to the Wight Access Group, 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)

## Transitional period for planning policies

About one third of the policies in the Island's existing Unitary Development Plan (UDP) are being phased out as part of the transition towards the new "Island Plan".

The government has required the phasing out in accordance with its timetable for the progression of the Local Development Framework and the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 – which introduced new planning guidelines for councils.

The UDP was adopted in 2001, and drafted to ensure planning decisions were made in the best interests of the Island and its residents at that time.

Its phased out policies, which expired at the end of September, cover a range of areas from mineral extraction to leisure facilities and services. They are listed in full at [www.iwight.com/planningpolicy/udp](http://www.iwight.com/planningpolicy/udp)

In the interim, before the new Island Plan is completed, the council will be guided by the remaining "saved" policies in the UDP, together with national guidelines and planning policy statements.

The new Island Plan is being developed according to a timetable – including consultation – agreed between the council and the Government Office of the South East.

It will enable the council to define policies reflecting how the Island's needs have changed since 2001. Much of this



work is underway and the first round of consultation with residents on the draft plan will begin in February 2008.

Head of planning, Bill Murphy, said: "We need to ensure we create a comprehensive document that takes into account the Island's development needs both now and into the future, as well as recent changes in planning legislation."

By March next year the council will also produce a Sustainable Community Strategy for the future of the Island to 2020. This will identify a blueprint for how the council and its partners will help the Island develop and thrive into the future. The Island Plan will have a crucial role in implementing this strategy.

- You can follow the progress of the Island Plan on the council's website at [www.iwight.com/islandplan](http://www.iwight.com/islandplan)

## Iwight.com's wedding cam reaches afar

A special wedding cam service provided through [iwight.com](http://iwight.com) at Northwood House, Cowes, is proving increasingly popular.

Four web cameras cover the register office and three marriage rooms at the grade II listed venue – which is the HQ for the council's register office.

If a couple give permission, the camera in their room can be switched on just before their ceremony starts, with a photograph captured every 30 seconds and instantly published on [iwight.com](http://iwight.com), uploaded to the wedding room homepage at [www.iwight.com/weddingcam](http://www.iwight.com/weddingcam).

Last year more than 300 wedding ceremonies were conducted at Northwood House, and the web cam service provided a valuable link for those who were unable to attend.



## Extended alcohol control order for Newport?

A new measure to help prevent alcohol-related anti-social behaviour could be extended throughout Newport.

Following the success of declaring Church Litten a Designated Public Place Order (DPPO), there is now a proposal to cover the majority of Newport with the order.

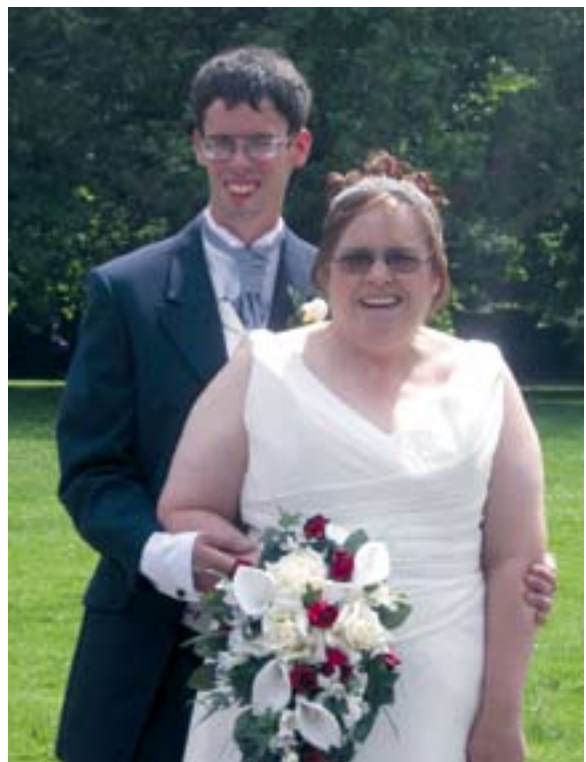
The DPPO gives the police powers to tackle alcohol related crime, disorder and nuisance by making it an offence to drink alcohol in the designated area after being required by a police officer not to do so. Failure to comply may result in an arrest. Once designation is made, the police will also have the powers to remove alcohol from persons.

This does not mean that drinking alcohol in these areas is banned, however. If you are drinking alcohol sensibly and responsibly the designated area order will not affect you.

The new proposed area encompasses most of Newport and is some 50 times larger than the existing Church Litten designated area.



# Support network helps couple towards big day



Support services on the Island have played a major role in helping a local couple with learning disabilities set out on their new married life together.

Scott Watkin and Stephany Cunningham (*pictured*) were recently married at Northwood House, Cowes, and were able to plan for their big day and future life thanks to the support of a range of organisations and individuals.

Scott and Stephany have been able to develop skills and confidence through People First (the Island's self-advocacy group) and working for the Learning Disability Partnership Board (the body that shapes Island policy for learning disability services).

A forward-looking residential home, and staff from Supporting People, had initially helped the couple set up home together when they became engaged two years ago, and they were then able to prepare for their wedding with the help of friends from People First, Supporting People staff, and family.

All the back-up help – through a process called Person-Centred Planning – meant the couple were able to achieve more independence with their own flat and garden, could save some money, enjoy a memorable wedding day and experience a honeymoon in Tunisia.

- If you would like to volunteer to help people with learning disabilities plan their lives and achieve their dreams, please contact Pat Ready on 823099 (ext. 2955).

## Support for top youth cricket event



Special funding was given by the council to the annual Isle of Wight Youth Cricket Festival held at the end of August – an event in which the Island's under-16 team triumphed for the first time.

The council's contribution was towards various administrative costs for the five-day festival, which was played at club grounds around the Island. The Island entered two sides in the festival, with the under-16 first team topping the table ahead of other county under-16 teams including Buckinghamshire, Devon, Herefordshire and Hertfordshire.

Council vice-chairman Arthur Taylor joined Island MP Andrew Turner to present prizes at the conclusion of the festival.

# Sporting activities for people in Pan

The council's sports unit has been working with the Pan Neighbourhood Partnership to provide more chances for local residents to take part in sports and physical activities.

The sports unit recently recruited a new sports development officer, Tom Lyons, whose role will include supporting initiatives for Pan.

As well as encouraging participation in sports, he will be promoting existing activities such as aerobics and badminton clubs and those at Medina Leisure Centre.

He is also keen for Pan residents to train and qualify as volunteers and coaches to help sustain activities in the long-term.

Activities already set-up (*listed opposite*) include a six-week boxing course for teenagers and a new Newport Dog Training Club. A walking club and mother and toddler yoga are next on the agenda.

- Anyone keen to take part in any physical activities or to volunteer to assist in the Pan area, please contact Tom Lyons at the sports unit on 823819.



ACTIVITY	LOCATION	DAY	TIME
Aerobics	Barton Primary	Tuesday & Thursday	6pm – 8pm 6.30pm – 7.30pm
Badminton (juniors)	Downside Middle	Thursday	4pm – 6pm
Badminton (adults)	Downside Middle	Thursday	6pm – 8pm
Teenage Youth Gym	Medina Leisure Centre	Saturday	12 noon – 2pm
Six-week Boxing Basics Course	Downside Middle	Thursday	8pm – 9pm
Newport Dog Training Club	Downside Middle	Sunday	10am – 12 noon
Pan Sports Football Club	Pan Recreation Ground	Tuesday	6pm – 7.30pm



## Busy summer for lifeguards



PICTURED: Members of the council's beach lifeguards teams

The council's lifeguards proved their worth during a busy summer season – assisting in hundreds of incidents including some dramatic rescues.

As well as overseeing beaches at Sandown, Shanklin, and Ryde, for the first time the council funded a full-time professional lifeguard team at Ventnor from a purpose-built HQ. It is hoped their presence will help qualify the beach for a coveted Blue Flag award next year.

Islandwide the beach lifeguards in 2007 helped re-unite 11 lost children with their families or guardians and gave advice or helped prevent an incident in 86 cases.

They issued warnings to beach users in danger of getting into trouble in 45 cases and applied minor first aid to 153 patients. They gave major first aid to 15 accident victims and logged a further 23 instances in which they provided assistance to beach users. Ten rescues were also carried out.

Matthew Chatfield, parks and countryside manager, said: "The work the lifeguards have done at each of the beaches this year fully justifies the council's decision to invest in improving this service. The presence of lifeguards is a considerable re-assurance to beach users."

## Two more councils achieve quality status



Cowes Town Council and neighbouring Gurnard Parish Council are celebrating achieving Quality Town and Parish status.

It means the Island now has eight town and parish councils that have achieved the status – or 28 per cent of the Island's 29 parish and town councils. Nationally only three per cent of such councils have achieved accreditation.

The Isle of Wight Council is a major supporter of the scheme, which it views as a way of giving more responsibility to local councils to improve services for

local residents. The aim of the council is to provide support and development opportunities to all local councils wishing to attain quality status by 2010.

To become a quality body, parish and town councils must pass a number of tests. These include having a qualified clerk, holding at least four meetings a year and providing evidence on engaging with their community. The Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme is run by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

## Arts Away brings top performers to local venues

The Arts Away touring scheme will soon be bringing a range of top quality performers to local venues around the Island – thanks to a partnership between the council's arts unit and voluntary promoters.

Performances in October, November and December include:

**An Evening with Gordon Giltrap** – one of the most innovative acoustic guitarists in the UK, at St John's Church, Ryde, on Friday 19 October (8pm), tickets cost £8.50, tel: 611913.

**La Bohème** – the Mid Wales Opera perform Puccini's opera at Medina Theatre, Newport on Friday 19 October and Saturday 20 October, both at 7.30pm, tickets cost £15/£13, tel: 527020.

**A Comedy of Errors** – Circus Berzercus return with their chaotic clowning and dazzling juggling, as well as unicycling and magic, at Brighstone's Wilberforce Hall, on Friday 9 November (7.30pm) and Nettlestone Primary School on Saturday 10 November (6.30pm), tickets cost £5/£3, tel: 740295 (Brighstone) or 613911 (Nettlestone).



PICTURED: Circus Berzercus

**Funny Business** – Circus Berzercus perform Funny Business, at Totland Church Hall on Thursday 8 November (7pm), tickets cost £5/£3, tel: 823813.

**The No Hall Too Small Tour** – Country and Western parodies with Hank Wangford and Reg Meuross, at Ryde High School's Studio Theatre on Friday 30 November (7.30pm) and Forelands Middle School, Bembridge on Saturday 1 December (7.30pm), tickets cost £6/£3, tel: 611705 (for Ryde), or 823813 (for Bembridge).

**An Evening with Cathryn Craig and Brian Willoughby** – American singer-songwriter Cathryn Craig and guitarist Brian Willoughby of Strawbs fame, appearing at St John's Church, Ryde, on Friday 7 December (8pm), tickets cost £7.50, tel: 611913.

**Rags to Witches** – Josh Elwell and Company present a show based on the magical folklore of the New Forest, with puppetry and clowning, at Chale Primary School on Saturday 8 December (6.30pm), and Bembridge and Youth and Community Centre on Sunday 9 December (2pm), tickets cost £5/£3, tel: 730328 (Chale) or 873311 (Bembridge).

Further performances, ranging from the London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra to The Juniper Tree, will be taking place as part of the Arts Away programme from January to May.

The arts unit supports venue promoters with a grant towards performance fees, as well as publicity and tickets, advice and guidance, with the aim of helping them become self-sufficient in the long-term.

• For more details please call Nina Cullinane at the arts unit on 823813, or check the website at: [www.isleofwight-arts.co.uk](http://www.isleofwight-arts.co.uk). Arts Away programmes are available at local libraries.

## Big increase in free swimming take-up



Thousands of young people on the Island have taken advantage of the council's popular free swimming initiative this year.

The scheme saw 9,763 more junior swims take place in 2007 than for the same period in 2006 – a rise of around 45 per cent.

Free swims took place at The Heights in Sandown, Waterside Pool in Ryde and Medina Leisure Centre in Newport. West Wight Sports Centre Pool, which is run independently, also joined the initiative during the summer months.

The scheme is open to young Island residents aged four to 15 (swimming is free at all times for under fours).

The biggest rise this year was recorded in the summer months, when 17,240 free swims took place, compared to 13,732 in 2006.

## Make sure you know the job regulations



Businesses on the Island are being reminded of the regulations for employing children and young people.

Anyone employing a young person (under 16) must have a permit, which can be obtained by submitting a form to education welfare services at the council. The form (WM8) is available from County Hall, Newport or via the council's website at [iwight.com](http://iwight.com)

Information is also available at the [www.eduwight.iow.gov.uk](http://www.eduwight.iow.gov.uk) website on those areas in which under-16s cannot be employed and the hours restrictions for employment.

Young people cannot be employed if aged under-13 (except in approved specified circumstances).

## Accolade for Island centres

The Island's tourist information centres have been successfully chosen as official partners to the national Enjoy England programme.

It follows a rigorous selection process in which the centres had to show proven commitment to promoting the UK as a holiday destination, as well as to sustainable tourism, and full use of a destination management system.

The Enjoy England Programme was set up to highlight the important service tourist information centres provide.

Gillian Burnett, tourist information centre manager for the council's tourism services, said: "Our centres are now recognised by VisitBritain as ambassadors of the England project and will be at the forefront of all relevant VisitBritain marketing campaigns."

The new Enjoy England Official Partner quality marque sign and window stickers will appear at Island tourist information centres.



## Trend-setting conveniences!



PICTURED: Artist's impression of the new toilets at Ventnor

Four new public conveniences on the Island are set to be among the most environmentally-friendly toilets in the country.

Features in the new facilities at Yaverland, Brading, Wootton and Ventnor will include:

- wind turbines to generate electricity;
- roofs made of drought-resistant plants;
- roofs made of photo-voltaic cells to create electricity from sunshine;
- mini-hydro-electric generators;
- using harvested rainwater to flush and clean the toilets;
- energy efficient light fittings;
- low maintenance materials;
- water saving flush devices.

The four super loos, costing close to £1 million, will also combine striking designs and even public art.

The investment is part of the council's One Island programme, after residents identified the need for better public conveniences.

The work is in addition to other One Island schemes to refurbish conveniences in Devonian and Eastern Gardens, Sandown and Post Office Lane, Newport, a new-build in The Cut, Cowes, and the recruitment of five toilet attendants.

## Affordable housing at Nettlestone

Work has started on the first rural affordable housing scheme on the Island in more than five years.

The scheme at Nettlestone will provide five affordable homes for rent and five affordable homes for shared ownership.

The project, overseen by Medina Housing Association, involves council housing officers working with the local parish council to identify local people who have a priority for housing.





# Are you a sporting star of the future?

*Spotlight on the council's Search for a Star project...*

"The Search for a Star project is a fantastic opportunity for young people on the Isle of Wight who have taken little or no part in sport before to find out if they have the potential to become a star of the future."

*Councillor David Pugh, council leader*

## Isle of Wight Talented Athlete Programme

Young Island sportsmen and women who have reached county, regional or national level are being encouraged to apply to a special programme to help improve their performance levels.

The Isle of Wight Talented Athlete Programme works at three levels – gold, silver and bronze – and supports progression through grants, free access to training facilities, fast track access to physiotherapy and sports sciences, free or reduced-cost public transport and coach development support.

Applicants must be residents of the Island, with priority going to those sports

contested at the Island Games. They can apply once every financial year (April to end of March), using application forms available from: The Isle of Wight Council Sports Unit, Guildhall, High Street, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1TY, tel: 823818.

Application forms will be available from November and will be accepted throughout the year and awards made twice yearly.

YOUNG ISLANDERS are being given the chance to become sporting stars of the future – thanks to a groundbreaking new scheme launched by the council.

Youngsters across the Island are being invited to take part in the Search for a Star project, which forms part of the council's Talented and Gifted programmes.

The initiative aims to unearth previously unrecognised talented young people – some who may not realise they have a talent for a particular sport.

The hope is to find those who will follow in the footsteps of previous Islanders who have enjoyed top sporting success, such as athlete Kelly Sotherton and swimmer Darren Mew.

Around 1,500 Year Four children are due to be assessed by sports development officers during the autumn term, across a range of multi-skill disciplines.

The assessments focus on skill-levels, strength, agility and co-ordination.

The best 80 children will then be invited to take part in further multi-skill and coaching academies in the New Year, where clubs, coaches and governing

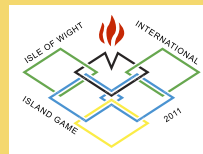
## Island Games

The Nat West International Island Games will be hosted on the Isle of Wight in 2011. This event will present a unique chance for the Island to showcase its sporting prowess on an international stage, and is seen by both the Island Games Association and the council (who are partners in the games) as a key event in the lead up to the 2012 London Olympics.

The council has pledged to spend £1.3 million to maximise the benefits to the Island when it holds the games. Part of this pledge will be enhancing a range of sports development initiatives to support increasing participation and performance. The council also sees the games as a major contributor to its policies for developing sport and attacking the issues of poor health and obesity.

bodies will add their support.

Lee Matthews, community development manager, said the council and its partners are committed to increasing both the quality and opportunity of sporting activities within and outside schools. This project builds on the excellent work of the school sports partnership, clubs and governing bodies as they look to identify, support and develop young stars of the future.



## Supporting success in sport



Isle of Wight Talented Athlete Programme – grants for individuals





# SUMMER OF

## May: Walk the Wight



Wet conditions didn't deter more than 5,000 people from walking across the Island. It was expected that almost £250,000 would be raised for Island charities

Scores of events of all sizes and descriptions across the Island made the summer of 2007 one to remember and celebrate. From the Isle of Wight Festival to Skandia Cowes Week, and from the garlic festival to the Bestival, the summer of 2007 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.

## June: Round the Island Race



Close to 1,800 boats and 14,500 competitors took part in the 55-mile course around the Isle of Wight in a race that saw some of the biggest names in the sailing world competing alongside weekend sailors and family crews

## June: Isle of Wight Festival



PICTURED: Mick Jagger  
BELOW: Muse



The Rolling Stones closed a weekend that saw internationally-famous acts such as Muse, Snow Patrol, Donovan, Amy Winehouse and The Feeling perform

## July: Ryde Arts Festival



A carnival parade was just one of the highlights of the Ryde Arts Festival, that saw performers, poets, photographers, musicians, artists, schools, community groups and art experts join together to celebrate their creativity





# SUCCESS!

## August: Skandia Cowes Week



This year's Skandia Cowes Week took place from 4 to 11 August, involving 8,500 competitors per day taking part in 35 races and an influx of more than 1,000 yachts

## August: White Air



The White Air Extreme Sports Festival has fast become the UK's premier extreme sports festival. The festival offers world-class action including 18 sports on the water, beach and land and has expanded into art, 'have a go' activities and a full live music stage on the beach



Images © White Air

## Island shows

Through the summer the Island hosted several shows - here are a selection of images from them

### Chale Show



A motorcycle stunt display was just one of the attractions at the Chale Show this year

### County Show



Equestrian activities are still a major part of the Isle of Wight County Show

### Garlic Festival



A wet weekend didn't deter people from getting up and dancing to Mungo Jerry (bottom)



# SUMMER OF SUCCESS!

## September: Bestival

More than 30,000 music fans flocked to Robin Hill Country Park near Newport over the weekend of the 7, 8 and 9 of September for the fourth annual Bestival.

The musical extravaganza was bigger than ever and sold out in May, despite provision being made for the site to accommodate an additional 5,000 festival-goers. More than 300 musicians and DJs performed to crowds at 14 different locations, including the main stage, a Big Top, Club Dada and a bandstand.



### Fancy Dress

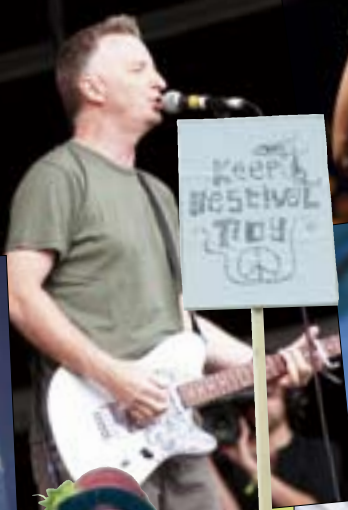
One of the big attractions of the Bestival was the variety of fancy dress on show



ABOVE: Night of 100 Ukeleles  
BELOW: Kitty, Daisy and Lewis



TOP RIGHT: Primal Scream  
ABOVE RIGHT: The  
Beastie Boys  
RIGHT: The Go! Team



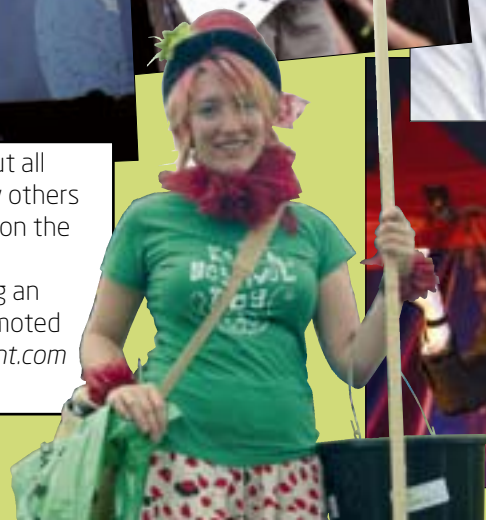
RIGHT: Billy Bragg  
BELOW: The Chemical Brothers



You can read in-depth reviews about all the events featured here and many others by going to [iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com) and clicking on the 'Events reviews' section. If you are responsible for organising an event and would like to have it promoted online, why not add it to [www.iwight.com](http://www.iwight.com) What's on database



LEFT: Comedians Phill Jupitus and Ed Byrne (below left) were two of the acts who performed in the Festival tent  
BELOW: The Levellers





## Happy, healthy birthday!



IT'S JUST one year since the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust came into being – and quite a year it has been.

With this special supplement we show some of the many changes and improvements our staff have introduced during the past year.

We've also taken the opportunity to look at some of the other changes we want to make – not least cutting waiting times for treatment to an all-time low.

We're proud of what the PCT has done in its first year, and proud of the skill and commitment shown by our staff. They deserve credit and praise for all they have done.

In true Oscar-night style, we also need to thank many other people.

We could not have achieved our results without the active support and involvement of the Island's GPs, dentists, pharmacists and opticians. Nor could we have achieved them without the close working links we have established with the Isle of Wight Council, the Island's voluntary groups, and a host of other partners.

To all of them, and to the thousands of local people who have supported our services and staff in many different ways, we offer our heartfelt thanks.

### £1 million investment helps Island go further, faster on waiting times

WAITING TIMES for hospital treatment on the Island are already at an all time low – and they're about to get even shorter!

A national target for the NHS says that by December 2008 no-one should wait more than 18 weeks from GP referral to the start of treatment.

We're intending to go even faster by meeting the 18-week target months ahead of schedule for Island patients.

Island health services already meet that standard for more than half of all patients who need hospital admission, and for seven out of ten outpatients.

We're now gearing up to meet the standard for every patient – and investing more than £1 million extra this year to make it happen.

The money will pay for more



*Ed Macalister-Smith: better, faster care*

clinics and operating sessions, and any extra medical supplies needed. Services getting extra investment include ophthalmology, the chronic pain service, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, dermatology, endoscopy, and psychological therapies.

Every stage of the process is being streamlined – from seeing your GP to having any diagnostic tests and then being treated in an outpatient

clinic or admitted to hospital.

Taken together with other changes such as new booking systems which make it easier to get convenient appointment times, the waiting time target signals a revolution in NHS services.

"Waiting times have been cut dramatically in recent years and thousands of people on the Island have benefited from better, faster care," said PCT chief executive, Ed Macalister-Smith.

"Now it's time to make the final step so that no-one has to wait any longer than absolutely necessary for their treatment."

- You can help achieve 18 weeks by keeping GP, clinic and hospital appointments or giving us plenty of notice if you cannot. Every wasted appointment makes it harder for everyone to meet the target.

### Extra year of life is PCT target

CANCER, circulatory diseases, respiratory problems and mental health have been named as top targets for the next five years by Island health staff as they aim to add an extra year to Islanders' average lifespan.

The 'big four' have been chosen on advice from public health doctors who say that tackling them will make the biggest difference to health.

The first three account for three quarters of all deaths on the Island, while mental health problems are a significant cause of illness locally.

While our residents are generally healthier than average, public health experts say the Island faces a number of challenges:

- Ageing - by 2012 one in four residents will be 65 or older.
- Inequality - people in the most deprived wards live eight years less than those in the least deprived.
- Mental health – suicide rates are high and our mental health is below average.
- Chronic health problems – around 26,000 Islanders say they have a long-term illness or health problem that affects their daily life.
- Smoking – around 26,000 Islanders smoke, although most say they'd like to quit.
- Obesity – more than half our population is overweight or clinically obese.

### Beating the bugs



NOTHING'S SAFE from the march of technology these days – not even the humble mop!

Cleanliness assistant Sheila Kirby is pictured at St Mary's Hospital wielding the latest weapon in the battle against superbugs – the microfibre mop.

Its ultra fine head cleans at a microscopic level, leaving nothing behind but tiny water droplets.

Microfibre mops also reduce the risk of slips and trips as floors dry more quickly; reduce the need to vacuum (now seen as a potential contamination hazard in hospitals), and lessen the risk of back injuries and strains as staff no longer need to rinse or wring out mops, or carry heavy buckets of water.

## Robot picks up pharmacy praise



The St Mary's robot in action, watched by pharmacy technician Daniel Hinchley

THANKS TO TV adverts we're used to robots beavering away in car factories and the like – but you may not have known that since March, one has been hard at work in the backrooms of the St Mary's Hospital pharmacy.

Linked to our pharmacy computer system, it can automatically put away, store, pick and dispense medicines quickly and efficiently.

Chief pharmacist at St Mary's, Gillian Honeywell, says that installing the robot has brought significant benefits.

"It has reduced the risk of dispensing errors, reduced the time people wait for medicines before they are discharged from hospital, and improved stock control," she said.

"Time saved on routine tasks and dispensing has allowed our staff to spend more time on the wards improving the safety and efficiency of the way we manage medicines.

"We spend £4 million a year on drugs and dispense 600,000 packs of medicines, so there is a lot of work involved in managing medicines safely and making sure patients understand how to take their medicine."

Once a prescription has been logged, pharmacy staff order the medication and generate the patient's label from their computers. The robot then retrieves the drugs from storage and delivers them to the dispenser's workstation by conveyors and chutes in a matter of seconds.

## Eczema research

Do you have a child who suffers from eczema?

If so, he or she could help researchers at the Island's David Hide Asthma and Allergy Research Centre.

Professor Tara Dean, deputy director of the centre, hopes to recruit 80 eczema sufferers aged between six months and 16 years for a national study of the effects of softened water.

Eczema is more common in hard water areas such as the Isle of Wight. This study will examine whether it can be improved in children by softening all the water in the home apart from a single tap in the kitchen for drinking.

If you would like to help with the trial or want more information, please contact the team at the David Hide Asthma and Allergy Research Centre (tel: 534178). There is also more information at [www.swet-trial.co.uk](http://www.swet-trial.co.uk)

## Thanks? Thanks!

LAST YEAR the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust received 147 written complaints – and more than 1,750 complimentary cards and letters.

It's great for our staff to get a 'thank you', and every card or letter is welcomed. But we also take every comment or complaint just as seriously, and make every effort to sort out anything that didn't go as well as it should.

Sometimes all we can do is say sorry. At other times we may be able to change the way we do things, or remind staff about the correct procedures, to try to make sure problems don't happen again.

If you have a concern or question about Island health services and want to talk to someone, contact our PALS (Patient Advice and Liaison Service) team on 534850. Last year the service helped more than 900 people.

## Five more community matrons

ASK ISLAND patients about community matrons Sharon Silvester and Chris Richards, and words such as "brilliant", "excellent" and "wonderful" abound.

They'll also tell you the Island should have more community matrons – and we can report that their wish is about to come true.

Five more community matrons – highly experienced nurses who make sure patients with complex, long-term health needs get the best possible care – will take up post around the Island at the end of October.

Each will be linked to one or more GP practices and will work with around 40 patients, aiming to keep them well and living at home as far as possible.

### Different

Their patients will typically have multiple long-term conditions, take at least four different medicines, regularly see several different health and social care professionals, and be at risk of sudden hospital admission if their care isn't managed carefully.

"Our experience to date is that by providing hands-on care and co-ordinating the work of other professionals, community matrons make a real difference," says chief nurse for the PCT, Carol Alstrom.



Chief nurse Carol Alstrom

## Your money – your NHS

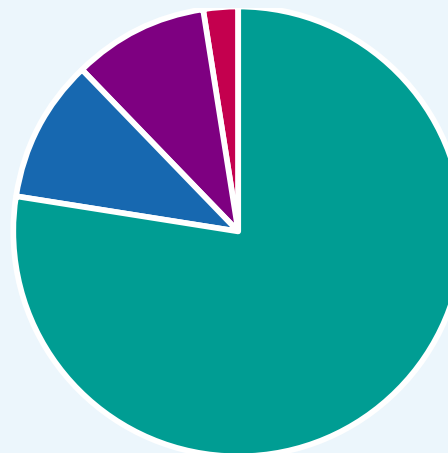
LAST YEAR your PCT spent £205 million on health services – more than £1,450 for every man, woman and child on the Island.

Most of the money – almost £159 million – was used to buy healthcare for local people. This included all the services at St Mary's Hospital, specialist services from NHS hospitals on the mainland, and some non-NHS healthcare services.

Just over £21 million was used to pay for primary care services, including payments to GPs and dentists for their services.

Almost as much (£20.8 million) was spent on prescribing costs. This includes prescribing by GPs, and paying pharmacists to dispense prescriptions.

Another £5 million was used to pay for the management and administration of our organisation.



### Where your money went

Buying health-care services – £159 million

Primary care services – £21 million

Prescribing – £20 million

Management/administration – £5 million



## Ambulance drive for ever-better service

AMBULANCE SERVICES on the Island are looking to cement their reputation as England's top-performers by investing heavily in their staff.

Today's ambulance service is much more than a transport provider.

That's still an important part of its work but alongside it is a stronger emphasis on providing direct patient care through skilled staff who can perform tasks that were once the preserve of doctors.

Around one in ten members of front line Island ambulance staff are being trained to the highest levels as emergency care practitioners who can even prescribe medicines for patients.

Another two thirds are trained paramedics and many others are emergency vehicle operators – skilled drivers who also have clinical training so they can support paramedics.

"Ambulance services are helping to deliver care close to home and moving away from automatically taking every patient to hospital," explains director of ambulance operations for the Island, David Arnold.

"There will always be some patients who need to go straight to the emergency department but that's certainly not true of everyone. Some may need to go to their GP surgery, and ambulance crews may be able to treat others on the spot.

"We are giving our staff the skills and knowledge to make those decisions and deliver care where they can."

The Island's ambulance service is one of only two services nationwide to meet the latest target (arriving on the scene of a life-threatening situation within eight minutes of the phone first ringing).

## Drugs: GPs give VFM

GETTING VALUE for money is close to most people's heart – and few can demonstrate success better than the Island's GPs.

Thanks to their efforts, and support from the PCT's medicines management team, prescribing costs on the Island have fallen faster than anywhere in England for the past three years.

In March 2004 the Island spent six per cent more than the average on prescriptions per head of population. Three years later it has turned that on its head, and now spends six per cent less than the average.

In hard cash terms that's £6 million saved in three years!

## Blitz on sex bug



Screening co-ordinator  
Sarah Stringer

SEXUAL HEALTH staff have launched a new website for Island youngsters as part of a determined blitz on chlamydia, the commonest sexually transmitted infection in the UK.

An estimated one in ten sexually active young people in the UK are infected with chlamydia.

Left untreated, it can lead to serious health problems – but the good news is that the infection is easy to diagnose and easy to treat with antibiotics.

The Island's chlamydia screening service launched on 1 September with the express aim of reducing infection rates. By April next year it will have tested around one in seven 15 to 25 year olds on the Island, and raised awareness of the infection among many more.

### Frank

Screening co-ordinator Sarah Stringer is using every means at her disposal to reach youngsters (including posters, bus adverts, and giveaways) but believes that the new website ([www.ruthe1.co.uk](http://www.ruthe1.co.uk)) will attract most interest because of its attractive design and frank approach.

"It is a matter of constantly chipping away to raise people's awareness," she says. "Persuading young people to talk openly about sex, and then be tested, isn't something you can just do overnight."

As well as providing screening and background information about chlamydia the website also points young people towards the Island's condom distribution scheme.

The scheme, which offers free condoms as protection against sexually transmitted infections and a means of tackling teenage pregnancy, enables sexual health staff to have one-to-one discussions with young people about safe sex.

You can phone the chlamydia screening service on 0845 050 9530 or email [ruthe1@iow.nhs.uk](mailto:ruthe1@iow.nhs.uk). All calls/emails are dealt with in confidence.

## Faster physiotherapy

FRACTURE PATIENTS are getting faster physiotherapy thanks to a new scheme at St Mary's Hospital.

Twice a week orthopaedic physiotherapist Louise Carrington spends her morning in the fracture clinic at St Mary's, using her specialist knowledge to identify patients who'll benefit from physiotherapy.

Some simply need – and get – on the spot advice from Louise. Others are referred for rehabilitation sessions in their local physiotherapy clinic.

"Identifying physiotherapy needs in the fracture clinic means people don't need to wait for an assessment and then wait again for a physio appointment," explained Louise. "We can offer them more timely, effective treatment."

She'll see up to 15 patients per session, most of them young and relatively fit. Common problems include broken wrists, ankles and the like – often the result of sporting injuries.

## Chemotherapy unit brings comfort

PATIENTS need comfort in every sense of that word – and that's just what patients get in the refurbished chemotherapy unit that opened last autumn in St Mary's Hospital.

Every detail has been carefully considered – from the etched windows for added privacy, the most comfortable chairs the unit could buy, a creative colour scheme to bring a calming feel, and extras such as fish tanks, artwork, plants, music and large screen televisions.

The new unit allows more patients to be treated, including a number of patients who would otherwise have had to travel to Southampton for their chemotherapy.



Sitting comfortably: chemotherapy patient John Wells with nurse Simone Wells

## Praise be! Thumbs-up for quality of Island health care

A NATIONAL study says Island hospital patients are being fed well, treated with dignity, and looked after in good surroundings.

The National Patient Safety Agency – which rates food, privacy and dignity, and the overall environment in every English hospital – gave St Mary's Hospital a four star 'good' rating in all three categories this year.

White Lodge treatment and assessment centre for people with learning disabilities went one better, scoring a five star 'excellent' rating for privacy and dignity and four stars for its environment (it is not scored for food as it is self catering).



Reassuring: Island ambulance staff won widespread praise last year

An earlier survey by the national Healthcare Commission also shows Island patients are generally happy with local hospital services.

- Ninety-five of every 100 patients rated their care as good, very good or excellent.
- Ambulance staff won 100 per cent praise for their 'reassuring' attitude.
- Emergency department patients were happy with their privacy during examinations or treatment.
- Virtually every patient had confidence and trust in the doctors and nurses treating them.
- Ninety-five out of 100 patients said rooms and wards were very or fairly clean.

The survey also identified some areas where St Mary's needs to do better.

They include more information for patients about their condition, treatment and medicines; admission processes; making sure patients know who to contact if they were worried about their condition; and reducing delayed discharges.

LOCAL NHS services have also scored well in other quality surveys this year.

Services for people with diabetes on the Isle of Wight are among the best in England, says the Healthcare Commission, which has given the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust one of seven top 'excellent' ratings in the commission's review of diabetes services.

Island patients are also at less risk of acquiring the *Clostridium Difficile* (*C. Diff.*) infection in hospital than people in almost any other part of England.

Health Protection Agency (HPA) figures show that last year only seven out of every ten thousand people admitted to hospital on the Island contracted *C. Diff* (a bacteria that causes diarrhoea and fever) during their stay.

HPA figures also show that MRSA infection rates on the Isle of Wight are almost half the national average, with only 13 cases in the year from April 2006 to March 2007.

IT'S NOT just our hospital and community services that get a public thumbs-up. Island patients rated their GPs as above average in every category in the first-ever national survey of general practice.

The survey, conducted between January and March this year, shows that it is easier for Island patients to:

- see a GP within 48 hours;
- specify which GP they wish to see; and
- contact their GP practice easily by phone.

Practices on the Island have worked hard to improve their appointments systems and the survey shows patients are clearly pleased with the results.

Around one patient in five, though, reported difficulty in making appointments more than two days in advance.

## Mod cons at St Mary's



Miracles of modern medicine: Roy Vine and ward sister Nikki Pacy in the new dialysis suite at St Mary's

"IT IS an absolute pleasure to be able to offer our patients their care in modern surroundings."

So says Siobhan Robertson, who runs the new dialysis unit at St Mary's Hospital, and who would disagree with her?

The new unit, which opened last year, is operated for the Island by Portsmouth Hospitals NHS Trust. It has ten dialysis stations plus one single room – enough

for all the Island residents who need dialysis three times a week, and for visitors too.

It's spacious, light and modern – and infinitely better for patients who can spend four hours or longer in the unit on each visit. Extra comforts, including plasma TVs for each dialysis station, have been provided thanks to the generosity of the Kidney Patients' Association.

Modern and spacious are also the words used to describe our new respiratory department which opened at St Mary's late last year.

Its facilities include a dedicated pulmonary rehabilitation area with a gym, treatment rooms and a central area for diagnostic tests and therapies. Its ground floor location also make it easier for breathless patients to reach – a key request in a survey of patient satisfaction.

## New MRI scanner on way

A REPLACEMENT Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scanner will be up and running at St Mary's Hospital within the next couple of months.

The state of the art machine will allow 20 patients a day to be scanned – twice as many as the original machine. It will reduce waiting times and means St Mary's can now provide some scans that were previously only available on the mainland.

The new scanner replaces a nine year old machine bought through the generosity of local people, but which has been superseded by new technology.

## Annual report

Would you like to know more about the work of Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust?

We have just published our Annual Report and Accounts for 2006/2007. You'll find it on our website ([www.iow.nhs.uk](http://www.iow.nhs.uk)) or you can request a printed copy by phoning 552003.

Our website also contains lots of other useful information about health and health services on the Island, and details of the primary care trust and its work.



①



**Acting Insp Jason Bolwell**  
**Email:** [westwight.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:westwight.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Yarmouth police station

② ③



**Sgt Mark Lyth**  
**Email:** [ruralwest.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ruralwest.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Yarmouth police station

# Access to community safety

Introducing your Safer Neighbourhood policing teams...

SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS is the term chosen by Hampshire Constabulary for neighbourhood-style policing, and has been operating on the Island since April 2006.

The term reflects the ethos of achieving neighbourhood improvement through communities, the police and their partners (council, health and fire services) working together.

Every police service in England and Wales is required to bring in neighbourhood-style policing by April 2008 – and on the Island the Safer Neighbourhood policing teams have been established over the past year-and-a-half.

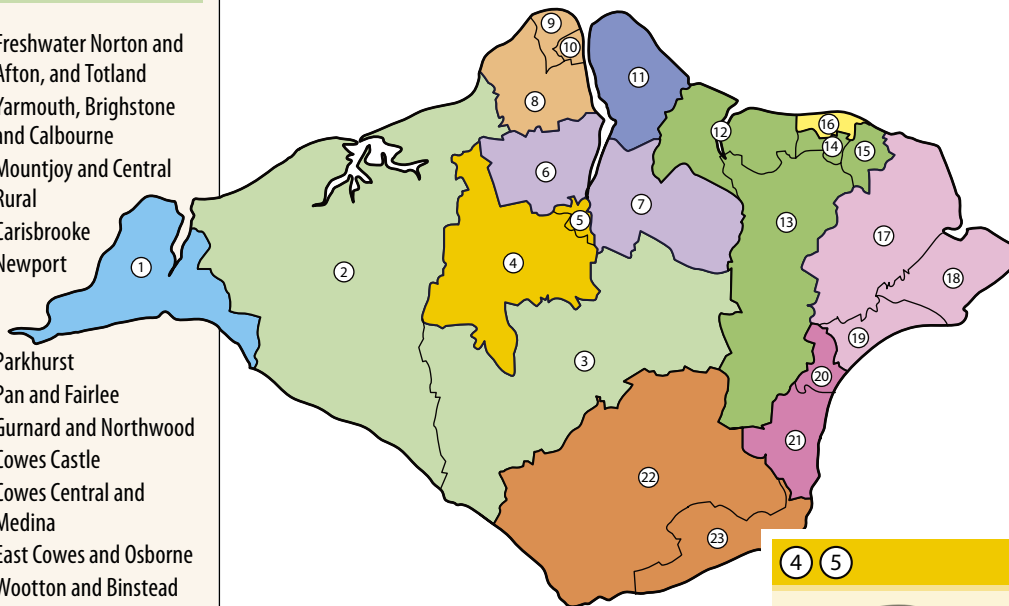
A key aim of Safer Neighbourhoods is to provide the community with access to policing or community safety services through a named point of contact.

On the Island, there are 11 sergeants who oversee the Safer Neighbourhood policing teams.

The neighbourhood teams are also made up of police constables, police community support officers (PCSOs) and special constables. The teams are overseen by Inspector Paul Savill.

Neighbourhood officers address the problems and issues directly affecting their areas. They provide a highly visible service and

- 1 Freshwater Norton and Afton, and Totland
- 2 Yarmouth, Brighthelm and Calbourne
- 3 Mountjoy and Central Rural
- 4 Carisbrooke
- 5 Newport
- 6 Parkhurst
- 7 Pan and Fairlee
- 8 Gurnard and Northwood
- 9 Cowes Castle
- 10 Cowes Central and Medina
- 11 East Cowes and Osborne
- 12 Wootton and Binstead
- 13 Ashley and Newchurch
- 14 Ryde South
- 15 Ryde St John's
- 16 Ryde North
- 17 Brading, St Helens, Seaview and Nettlestone
- 18 Bembridge
- 19 Sandown
- 20 Lake
- 21 Shanklin
- 22 Wroxall, Godshill, Chale, Niton and Whitwell
- 23 Ventnor



hold public forums to give residents the opportunity to influence how their community is policed.

Above all, the teams aim to reduce and prevent crime, maintaining the Island as a safe and secure place to live, work and visit.

For more information about your team and how you can influence policing in your community, visit [www.hampshire.police.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.uk)  
 • As well as Safer Neighbourhoods policing teams, the Island continues to be served by a 24-hour, emergency response team.

⑥ ⑦



**Sgt Penny Deacon**  
**Email:** [newportnorth.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:newportnorth.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Newport police station

⑧ ⑨ ⑩



**Sgt Julie Cocks**  
**Email:** [cowes.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:cowes.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Cowes police station

⑪



**Sgt Ged Armitage**  
**Email:** [eastcowes.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:eastcowes.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Cowes police station

⑫ ⑬ ⑭ ⑮



**Sgt Terry Clarkson**  
**Email:** [ruraleast.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ruraleast.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Ryde police station

⑯



**Sgt Steve Goodier**  
**Email:** [ryde.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ryde.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
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⑰ ⑱ ⑲



**Acting Insp Rick Davidson**  
**Email:** [eastwight.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:eastwight.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
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④ ⑤



**Sgt Amanda Longyear\***  
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**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Newport police station

⑳ ㉑



**Sgt Rachael Roscoe**  
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**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Shanklin police station

㉒ ㉓



**Sgt Richard Stapleton**  
**Email:** [southwight.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:southwight.snt@hampshire.pnn.police.uk)  
**Tel:** 0845 045 45 45  
**In person:** Ventnor police station

\* Picture unavailable at time of going to print



# Isle of Wight Connexions news

information, advice,  
guidance and support for  
young people, parents,  
carers and employers



## Creative Careers Continue

Saturday 1 September saw the grand re-launch of the Isle of Wight Connexions Centre. The occasion was marked with the launch of a series of creative careers workshops, the first being creative writing and healthy eating. Sessions that followed included cake decorating; carnival arts; beauty and stage make up, and creative hair. More workshops are planned for October and November too.

The new-look centre is certainly attracting more young people; on the Monday after the re-launch 50 young people who had never been to the centre before paid us a visit. We have broken our record for number of visitors to the centre on a Saturday too! Young people are now able to access a range of services covering everything from debt counselling and smoking cessation to substance misuse counselling and pregnancy testing. Connexions staff based at the centre also continue to support young people moving into education, employment or training. In August alone we provided advice to nearly 1000 young people about their options after school.

### Workshops confirmed:

6 October: Creative Woodwork

13 October: Floral Art

20 October: Creative Art

27 October: Jewellery Making

For more information and to book a place, phone the Connexions Centre on 525927 or email [junehockley@connexions-southcentral.org](mailto:junehockley@connexions-southcentral.org)



Live acoustic music was provided by talented duo from Platform One, Guy Page and Claydon Connor.



Jack Whitewood and Gemma Bayluon who attended the creative writing workshop on 1 September.



Michelle from Smart Training creates a smoothie.



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

Telephone: 01983 525927 Email: [infoiow@connexions-southcentral.org](mailto: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

# Happy Birthday Apprenticeships Online

Apprenticeships Online, the interactive website for young people, celebrated its first birthday in September.



The site, which was launched by Connexions in September 2006, has already exceeded targets. To date 3800 local apprenticeship opportunities have been advertised on the site, 1300 more

than Connexions had anticipated. Over 8000 young people have registered on the site and nearly 600 young people have been offered an apprenticeship. Visit

[www.apprenticeshipsonline.org](http://www.apprenticeshipsonline.org) for more details on Apprenticeships and how to apply. Our new Apprenticeship brochure is now available. For your copy, call the Connexions Centre on 525927.

## Let's talk about your Choices at 14+

'Let's talk about your options at 14+' is now available. The brochure details learning and training options for young people aged 14-19 on the Island. For your copy, call the Connexions Centre on 525927. You can also check out your options on the Island's online area prospectus. Visit [www.futures4me.com/iw](http://www.futures4me.com/iw)



For the chance to win £25 in high-street vouchers, tell us what you think of Choices 14+ by completing the feedback form at the back of the brochure.



## Another Connexions event to look forward to!

We are working with the Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce and the College to provide the biggest careers event on the Island in 2008.

The Learning and Guidance event will take place in February at Medina Leisure Centre and will showcase a variety of creative and new careers. Planning is still in the early stages but we aim to offer workshops, demonstrations, and advice and guidance on a variety of learning options, including the new Diplomas. With



exhibitors and organisations already expressing an interest to take part, the event promises to be a lively and fun day for all the family.

Watch this space for more information!

South Central Connexions working in partnership with:



Leading learning and skills

# Countdown for new-look

The countdown is fully underway for the largest housing development seen on the Island for many years. Here we look at the scheme planned for Pan at Newport, as well as some of the activities that have been breathing new vitality into the Pan community in recent years



PICTURED: Pan old and new – the red line shows the current boundary, the yellow shows the extent of the proposed expansion

APRIL 2009 has been earmarked for a start to be made on the biggest housing project the Island has seen for many years – an exemplar sustainable community at Pan created by the council and its partner Spectrum Housing Group (through Medina Housing Association).

Both the council and housing association will be working with Pan Neighbourhood Partnership to

deliver the development on land next to the existing community at Pan.

The project will create 800 new homes for Island residents, 240 of which will be affordable and low cost homes. These will be prioritised for people on the housing register and for those living on Pan.

The partners will work with the developer to ensure the needs of Island people are considered when marketing the homes for sale.

A sum of £11 million in Housing Corporation grant has been secured by the council and Spectrum to help build the homes.

In preparation for the project the council and Spectrum have been talking to the residents of Pan to find out what they think of the development and what community facilities they would like to see.

The highest priority residents identified was recreation facilities for the children and young people in the area – and in response to this a new multi-use games area is planned for the grounds of Downside Extended Middle School.

Discussions are also taking place with residents about ensuring the natural environment is retained as much as possible within the new development. As part of a “Walk and Talk” initiative 50 local people have volunteered to discuss the design of the development, including maximising the eco-friendly nature of the design.

Children from Downside Extended Middle School, meanwhile have joined the council and its partners on a “Walk and Talk”, leading to a design competition focusing on “what I see through my window”.

Once a developer is appointed for the project, they will become the fourth partner, and will work with the other partners to develop an integrated community between the current and the new Pan.

“This is an exciting project which will be a showcase for the Isle of Wight’s new housing policy and we are determined to get it right by listening to local residents’ views.”

*Councillor David Pugh, council leader*

“This development will not only have a profound affect on the lives of people living in Pan but will also have wide reaching implications for Newport residents living close to the area.”

*Fairlee ward councillor, Dawn Cousins*

## Key dates for the Pan development

- **Deadline for tender submission:** 29 November 2007
- **Presentation of proposals/interviews:** December 2007
- **Cabinet meeting to select a development partner:** 19 February 2008
- **Community consultation over planning application:** March – August 2008
- **Planning application:** August 2008
- **Planning application decision:** November 2008
- **Developer starts on site:** April 2009



# Pan

## Pan Neighbourhood Partnership



Residents in Pan have seen improvements to their quality of life, thanks to the work of the Pan Neighbourhood Partnership. The partnership board is resident-led, and its membership includes

representatives from the Island Strategic Partnership, the Isle of Wight Council, Medina Housing Association, Hampshire Constabulary, the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust, the Government Office for the South East, the councillor for Pan ward, local community group representatives, and business and faith representatives.

The aim of the board is to empower the local community and work with other organisations, to tackle local issues, improve local services and bring a better quality of life to Pan residents.

Priorities of the board include:

- to provide recreational facilities and activities for younger people;
- to make Pan a safer place;
- to build a stronger local community;
- to create the conditions to support an improvement in educational standards;
- to develop a health strategy and associated health programme;
- to improve the image of Pan;
- to influence the planned new housing development to enable the existing and new communities to become integrated.



Pan Neighbourhood Partnership staff work hard to put in place and support a wide range of projects in each of the priority areas.

The detail of this work can be illustrated by taking a closer look at work carried out in the top two priority areas:

### Providing recreational facilities and activities for younger people

A long-standing priority for Pan has been the need for recreational facilities and activities for young people.

A new multi-use games area (Muga) is planned for the grounds of Downside Extended Middle School, with consultation on design currently taking place.

Other recent initiatives supported, include:

- the Soap Box Derby (*pictured here*) – an exciting carting event that attracts young people and organisations such as the police and fire service.
- mini-moto club – a club with support from local parents, with membership now standing at 80 and a display team formed.
- fashion show – an event, organised by resident Helen Osbourne, with all generations represented on the catwalk, modelling clothes by Matalan, Bon Marche and Age Concern shops. More than 200 residents attended.
- youth workers – two youth workers based at Downside Extended Middle School, who also help run youth club evenings at the Isobel Centre.

PICTURED: Members of the Pan Neighbourhood Partnership team



### Making Pan a safer place

Strong working relationships have been established between the police, Pan Neighbourhood Partnership and Medina Housing Association. This approach has led to various initiatives (*listed below*) that have had a significant impact on perceptions of public safety in Pan:

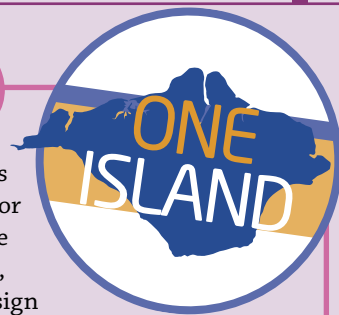
- Increased police presence.
- The allocation of a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for Pan.
- The work of the Pan community wardens.
- Improvements to, and extension of, the CCTV system.
- The setting up of the Ground Workers' Group to solve local problems.
- The setting up of multi-agency groups to tackle specific issues.
- Medina Housing Association's anti-social neighbour policy.
- The introduction of the Crimestoppers scheme.
- The youth workers.
- Increasing the amount of activities available for young people.

### Pan Pathfinder project leads the way

A recent *Mori* poll survey has shown that the work of the Pan Neighbourhood Partnership and its partners, made possible by government Pathfinder funding, is really making a difference to the quality of life of Pan residents.

A comparison with the previous survey, carried out in 2004, reveals some dramatic improvements:

- The level of satisfaction with the police service has increased by 25 per cent, from 39 per cent in 2004 to 64 per cent in 2007.
- 41 per cent of residents report that Pan has improved in the last three years.
- 88 per cent of residents are now satisfied with Pan as a place to live. The number of residents who feel that they can influence decisions by local organisations has increased from 24 per cent to 34 per cent.





# Representing eastern Wight

We continue our focus on how residents' affairs are represented in areas across the Island, with a special look at the eastern and north eastern part of the county\*

*\* With the exception of Ryde which was featured in a previous issue*

PICTURED: Bembridge Windmill  
OPPOSITE: (top to bottom) Wootton Bridge, St Helen's Green and Bembridge Harbour

FROM CREEKSIDE Wootton and Fishbourne through the countryside south of Ryde to Brading and around to the coastal locations of Bembridge, St Helens and Seaview, the eastern part of the Island contains some of the Island's most picturesque rural and seaside scenery.

In this feature we give details of the five Isle of Wight councillors who represent the eastern belt, as well as the parish and town councils for these areas\*.

(\* We include Fishbourne Parish Council and Havenstreet and Ashey Parish Council – although the Isle of Wight councillors for Binstead and Ashey were both separately featured in our Ryde area focus earlier this year.)

## Bembridge Parish Council

**Members:** Lady Sarah Pigot, David Woodford, Gillian Rogers (chairman), Mary Larkin, William Bartlett, Geoffrey Giles, Denise Grannum, Andrew Maley, John Elliott, Lorraine Whelan, Christine Coombe, Jason Moore.

**Parish clerk:** Liz Murray

**Tel:** 874160

**Email:** bembridgepc@btconnect.com

## Brading Town Council

**Members:** Louis Brand (mayor), Daniel Lamb, Marianne Sullivan, John Pewsey, Paul Morris, Julie Smith, Phillip Tuck, Tony Toogood.

**Parish clerk:** Rebecca Tuck

**Tel:** 401770

**Email:** townclerk@brading.gov.uk

**Website:** www.brading.gov.uk

## Fishbourne Parish Council

**Members:** Ronald Cawdell, Anthony Cooper, Thomas Denoon, Peter Johnson (chairman), Heather Mill, Christopher Walshe.

**Parish clerk:** Patrick de Peyer

**Tel:** 882560

**Email:** fishbournepc@btinternet.com

## Havenstreet and Ashey Parish Council

**Members:** Elizabeth Bell, David Goodey, Heidi Marshall (chairman), Malcolm Ross, Graham Wyatt, Kirstie Ferris.

**Parish clerk:** Rebecca Tuck

**Tel:** 402867

**Email:** rebeccatuck1@hotmail.co.uk

**Website:** www.havenstreetandasheypc.co.uk

## Nettlestone and Seaview Parish Council

**Members:** Diane Foxley, Dale Beasley, Sarah Doran, Janet Foreman (chairman), Peggy Jarman, David Thompson, Diana Tuson, Peter Tuson, Julie Shepherd, Reg Barry.

**Parish clerk:** Mike Parsley

**Tel:** 562257

**Email:** Michael.parsley@talktalk.net

## St Helens Parish Council

**Members:** Michael Anderson, Christopher Drewery, Jonathan Bacon, Abigail Parsons, Priscilla Williams (chairman), Lila Willers, David Cleaver, Michael Castle.

**Parish clerk:** Valentina Bailey

**Tel:** 857547

**Email:** valbailey@connectfree.co.uk

## Wootton Parish Council

**Members:** Kenneth Morris (chairman), Brian Reeves, Steve Porter, Harry Murphy, Keith Varcoe, Albert Laws, Edna Jacobs, Barry Abraham, Elizabeth Loughlin, Brian Ballard.

**Parish clerk:** Lynda Smith

**Tel:** 884555

**Email:** wbpcc@onwight.net

**Website:** www.woottonbridge.com



## Eastern Wight area councillors (Isle of Wight Council)

### Bembridge North

Lady Pigot  
Tel: 872732  
Email: [Lady.Pigot@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Lady.Pigot@iow.gov.uk)



### Bembridge South

Win McRobert  
Tel: 875677  
Email: [Win.McRobert@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Win.McRobert@iow.gov.uk)



### Brading and St Helens

Patrick Joyce  
Tel: 872098  
Email: [Patrick.Joyce@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Patrick.Joyce@iow.gov.uk)



### Seaview and Nettlestone

Diana Tuson  
Tel: 614401  
Email: [Diana.Tuson@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Diana.Tuson@iow.gov.uk)



### Wootton

Barry Abraham  
Tel: 883261  
Email: [Barry.Abraham@iow.gov.uk](mailto:Barry.Abraham@iow.gov.uk)



**50** Roman presence at Brading.

**80** Brading Roman villa site in existence.

**897** King Alfred's forces battle with Viking ships off Brading Haven.

**1087** Church of St Edmund, Wootton built.

**1340** A French raid gains ground at St Helens before being repulsed.

**1346** Edward III sets sail from St Helens to invade Normandy.

**1580** Nettlestone Manor built.

**1620** Ten-year-old Brading Haven dam is irretrievably breached.

**1643** Sir John Oglander of Nunwell arrested as a Royalist.

**1700** Bembridge windmill in operation.

**1735** Ashey Down seamark built.

**1759** Oyster fishery flourishing in Bembridge harbour.

**1765** Existing frontage of Nunwell House built.

**1801** Seaview harbour becomes major sea saltworks centre.

**1865** Bembridge fort built.

**1881** Seaview pier built.

**1882** Railway built linking Bembridge and Brading over completed embankment.



## Eastern connections

- Brading Roman villa (*pictured*) can be dated back to between AD 80 and AD 100, and particularly thrived during the prosperous years of the early fourth century AD. The site, rediscovered in 1880, has internationally-important mosaics, and is now housed in a magnificent new centre.
- St Helen's Duver was home until 1961 to the Royal Isle of Wight Golf Club. In its heyday, from the late 19th century to the 1930s, members ranged from the sons of Queen Victoria and other society figures, to actor David Niven (who had a family home in Bembridge). Over the years the club also boasted 11 international players. Isle of Wight-born Horace Rawlins, who won the first official US Open in 1895, developed his skills at St Helen's Duver.
- Bob Dylan topped the bill at the 1969 Isle of Wight Festival of Music, attended by an estimated 200,000 people at Woodside Bay, Wootton. Dylan stayed at Forelands Farm, Bembridge, along with Beatle George Harrison and his wife Patti. Other performers at Woodside for the festival from 29 to 31 August 1969, included The Who, Moody Blues, and Joe Cocker.





# Helping to make a real difference

The Supporting People programme provides vital help for some of the most vulnerable people on the Island. Here we look at how it is making a real difference...

"Scores of the Island's vulnerable adults and young people are given crucially-important help and advice by the Supporting People programme. This work helps protect many of our most marginalised residents."

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



**SUPPORTING PEOPLE** provides assistance for many of the most vulnerable members of the Island's community – assisting them with those every day skills that are the key to living independent lives.

This help can include guidance with tasks such as: money management, claiming the correct benefits, accessing help with housing, health issues, or even tackling problems with noisy or unruly neighbours – the type of problems that can be particularly difficult for the most in need.

The programme, administered by the council, works with a wide range of clients including older people, young and adult offenders, people with a mental health problem, people with learning disabilities and teenage parents. The support is delivered to around 1,800 clients by 30 organisations through 80 services across the Island.

Nationally, Supporting People was introduced by the government in 2003, with the aim of helping vulnerable people to live independently in their own homes.

The Supporting People team on the Island manages contracts with a range of providers who deliver services helping clients to claim benefits, learn domestic or social skills, obtain advice on home improvements, and budget effectively.

The team can also point the way to a range of alternative help – in conjunction with other agencies on the Island – to address issues such as fuel poverty and anti-social behaviour.

The programme is run in partnership between the council, the Isle of Wight NHS Primary Care Trust and the



Hampshire and Isle of Wight Probation Service.

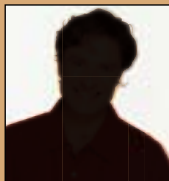
The government grant provided to run the programme on the Island this year (2007/2008) is £6.38 million – equivalent to £17,500 a day. Although the grant has decreased since 2003 from £7.18 million, the partnership, with the support and co-operation of providers, has maintained and in some cases increased the level of services on the Island.

Over the last year, there have been many improvements made, including the launch of new literature and web-based services to boost awareness of the programme.

The Supporting People partnership has commissioned a number of new or remodelled services since the start of the programme, one of which will be a handyman service by the end of 2007.

The partnership will also be reviewing the best ways to involve clients and workers in the future design and delivery of services.

## How Supporting People has helped some Islanders



### Case study – Mr X

Mr X suffers from multiple health problems, and has been reliant on both means-tested and disability benefits for a number of years.

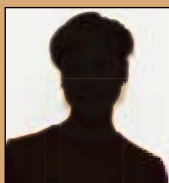
He was referred to Supporting People by the council's housing department because he had been living in his car for close to two weeks. It transpired he had been evicted from his housing association flat for non-payment of rent.

He was evicted simply because he failed to renew his housing benefit claim, then "buried his head in the sand" and failed to deal with any correspondence.

Supporting People were successful in getting his benefit backdated and discharging all his arrears.

The housing association then withdrew the warrant of eviction, and enabled him to re-occupy his property, and a support worker worked with him to address any underlying issues.

Mr X's mental health has now been stabilised, and he has a safe environment in which to live.

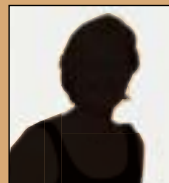


### Case study – Miss X

At the start of her support, Miss X was a 25 year old, pregnant single woman facing eviction. She has a history of severe depression and panic attacks. On referral she was in need of support

to secure and maintain accommodation. Assistance was needed to claim benefits, with budgeting, liaising with professionals and to gain confidence and independence within the community.

With support she secured temporary accommodation through the council and went on to permanent accommodation within five months of referral.



### Case study – Mrs Y

Mrs Y was referred to Supporting People for support with homelessness, debt management, claiming appropriate benefits and liaising with agencies. At the time she was living in bed and breakfast accommodation and facing the likelihood of being re-housed.

Supporting People helped to postpone the move until after the birth of her baby and with the help of the housing services team re-housed the family into more appropriate accommodation, where she remains.

She was also referred to Frontline for help managing her debts and then to the Citizens' Advice Bureau, which is currently liaising with her creditors.

If you want more information on the Supporting People programme, you should telephone 550477 or visit [www.iwight.com/supportingpeople](http://www.iwight.com/supportingpeople)

# How do we compare?

Ever wondered how the Isle of Wight Council rates when compared to its counterparts around the country? Here we look at special data that reveals how it is doing

EACH YEAR the Isle of Wight Council measures its performance against all the other unitary authorities in the country.

This is done through Best Value Performance Indicators that show how well the council is delivering its services for Island residents.

The council has to collect data for 169 indicators, and although the 2006/2007 results have not yet been audited (this will happen in January 2008), first impressions are encouraging.

Compared to the data for previous year (2005/2006), the number of Isle of Wight Council indicators in the top quarter nationally in 2006/2007 has risen from 36.8 per cent to 43.3 per cent. And the number of indicators in the bottom quarter has decreased from 23.6 per cent to 14.4 per cent.

This improvement in general performance will positively affect the council's Direction of Travel Statement from the Audit Commission. In 2006 this was "improving well".

Indicators where the council has performed exceptionally well, within the top 25 per cent of councils in the country, include:

- footpaths and other rights of way that were easy to use by members of the public, 97 per cent (top quarter 89.8 per cent-plus);
- household waste sent for composting, 21.39 per cent (top quarter 10.42 per cent-plus);
- waste that has been landfilled, 60.92 per cent (top quarter 62.68 per cent-minus);
- planning applications determined within statutory guidelines, 84.95 per cent of major, 94.55 per cent of minor and 97.74 per cent other (major top quarter 72.22 per cent-plus, minor top quarter 80.79 per cent-plus, other top quarter 89.21 per cent-plus);
- abandoned vehicles investigated within 24 hours of notification, 95.99 per cent (top quarter 95.78 per cent-plus);
- number of days taken to repair street lights, 2.39 (top quarter 3.72 minus);
- invoices paid to suppliers within 30 days, 96.64 per cent (top quarter 93.18 per cent-plus);
- council tax collected, 98.98 per cent (top quarter 97.63 per cent-plus).

The council also sets its own targets for 169 indicators every year to monitor how well it is performing.

The results of the locally set indicators for 2006/2007 confirm the council is moving in the right direction, with 69 per cent of those indicators having reached or exceeded their

"The latest figures show a significant number of the best value indicators for our services are heading in the right direction."

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

targets.

These indicators include:

- planning applications determined within targets, major 84.95 per cent (target 75 per cent), minor 94.55 per cent (target 85 per cent) and other 97.74 per cent (target 90 per cent);
- empty houses brought back into occupation or demolished, 56 (target 32);
- local bus journeys, 7,284,482 (target 6,129,000);
- people escaping unharmed from accidental fires in dwellings, 98 per cent (target 90 per cent).



PICTURED: Public rights of way and recycling are just two of the areas where the council has performed well





## Nature notes



Early autumn mornings are often damp, cool and misty with dew hanging heavy on the grass until there is enough warmth in the sun to allow it to evaporate. At this time of year spiders' webs are more visible, bejewelled by drops of dew, which sparkle in the low light. The extent and intricacy of these webs becomes apparent and we can see how far they stretch, suspended from overhanging tree branches to the leaves of shrubs below.

Every species of spider uses fine silken threads, produced from glands in their abdomen, for catching prey in various ways, though not all produce webs. These gossamer filaments have remarkable properties. The strand is a few thousandths of a millimetre thick – much finer than human hair. Its strength is comparable size-for-size with a nylon thread, but it is more elastic.

The simplest food traps are little more than fishing lines strung across the crevice where the spider is hiding. The familiar orb web of the garden spider may have the creature sitting near its centre or 'signal thread' leading to the cranny where the spider conceals itself. A passing insect touching this thread sets up vibrations, alerting the spider to dart out and secure its meal by wrapping it in more silk and stunning it by biting.

Other designs of webs look like funnels or hammocks, or a lacy mesh – the latter often appearing as an untidy tangle behind furniture! We may remove them without a second thought but spiders make good use of their resources; before building a new web they eat the old one and recycle the silk into the new structure.

Anne Marston,  
assistant ecology officer

## Protecting our coastline's long-term future



PICTURED:  
Seaview  
coastal  
defences

Studies are currently being carried out by the council's centre for the coastal environment at Ventnor to help plan policies for the Island's coastal defences for the next 100 years.

These strategic studies include:

- the North-East Coastal Defence Strategy Study – from the Shrape Breakwater at East Cowes to Culver Cliff (study completed in 2005), and possibly including further works at Seagrove Bay, Seaview, and beach management for Bembridge frontage;
- Sandown Bay and Undercliff Coastal Defence Strategy Study – the study has also been extended to include the Undercliff frontage from Monk's Bay, Bonchurch to Chale Terrace;
- West Wight Coastal Defence Strategy Study – along the south-west coast of the Island from Chale Terrace to the Needles and along the north-west coast from the Needles to the Shrape Breakwater, East Cowes; the study will integrate with management plans for the Western Yar and the River Medina;

- the Eastern Yar River and Coastal Defence Strategy Study – assessing flood risks and coastal erosion and flooding, including Bembridge Harbour.

By late 2008 the overall strategic management of the Island's coast will be provided through a document called the Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Round Two, which will be supported by the four strategy studies.

Senior coastal scientist, Claire Marriott, said: "This will provide the detail of precisely how the management of our coastal defences will be achieved over the next 100 years, in a technically sound, economically viable and environmentally sustainable way."

- The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) will provide a summary of the geology, geomorphology, coastal processes, land use, local economy, recreational issues, historic environment and natural environment around the whole coastline.

The Round Two SMP will provide a longer term view, over 100 years, than the previous plan, as well as a more comprehensive consideration of coastal evolution, climate change and sea level rises.

Further information is available by calling 857220 or from [www.coastalwight.co.uk](http://www.coastalwight.co.uk)



## Seasonal guide to wildlife in the garden

In October, when you are tidying the garden, try to leave some seed heads on lavender bushes. Goldfinches will feed on them later in the year when other food becomes scarce.

## ACTIVITIES

### Annual Pet Blessing Service

(28 October)  
A family worship service dedicated to all our pets (all will receive a blessing), coffee after, at Holy Trinity Church, Cowes, 9.45am.

### Sandown November 5 Carnival and Celebrations

(5 November)  
Parade assemblies at Grafton Street at 6pm, moving off at 6.30pm, featuring bands, floats, colourful costumes and hundreds of lanterns made in local schools, finishes on the Esplanade at about 7.15pm, with grand firework finale at 8pm, [www.sandowncarnival.com](http://www.sandowncarnival.com)

### RNLI Coffee Morning

(8 November)  
A coffee morning in aid of the RNLI at the

Island Sailing Club, Cowes, with cakes, book stalls, raffle and souvenirs, 10.30am to 12 noon.

### Newchurch Horticultural Society, Flower Demonstration

(12 November)  
A demonstration by Marlene Irving, at the pavilion, Watery Lane, Newchurch, 7.30pm, members free, visitors £1.50.

### Huge Hospice Quiz

(15 November)  
Major charity quiz in aid of the Earl Mountbatten Hospice, Newport, at Lower Hyde, Shanklin, 6.45pm, teams of four to register with Parlex, £20 per team, contact Ian Taylor of Parlex, tel: 526535.

### RNLI Wine Tasting

(22 November)  
Wine tasting and canapés in aid of the RNLI, at The Prospect, High Street, Cowes,



**Kekele will be performing at Quay Arts on 25 October**

7.30pm, tel: 291334 for reservations.

## CINEMA

### Dickens Before Sound

(8 November)  
A collection of films of Dickens' works made before the advent of sound in movies, Quay

Arts, Newport, 7.30pm, tickets £4, tel: box office 822490.

### 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.

harvesting on the foothills of Mount Etna, Rope Store Gallery, Quay Arts, Newport.

### 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.

### Zone Life - Life Zones

(1 November)  
An exhibition of acrylic paintings and collage created by members of the Learning Zone, a group for home educating families on the Island, at Ryde Library, library opening times.

### 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.

### 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

### Newchurch Male Voice Choir Wootton Concert

(19 October)  
Charity concert by Newchurch Male Voice Choir, at St Mark's Church, Station Road, Wootton, 7.30pm, proceeds to help with church funds.

### Marylebone Trio

(20 October)  
A mixed programme featuring works by Mozart and Beethoven, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £7/£6, tel: box office 822490.

### Kekele

(25 October)  
Rumba Congolaise music from the 60s, combining Cuban and African music, enchanting vocals and spellbinding guitar, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £12/£11, tel: box office 822490.

### Real Live presents Sam Brown

(26 October)  
The renowned vocalist

## 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)**

Please conform to the format shown. Entries are included at the editorial team's discretion.

**Deadline for the next issue: 22 October (23 November publication date).**

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](mailto:oneisland@iow.gov.uk) no later than 22 October 2007

## EXHIBITIONS

### East Weaves West, Basketry from Japan and Britain

(8 September – 10 November)  
A comprehensive insight into basketry on opposite sides of the world, Michael West Gallery, Quay Arts, Newport.

### Cowes at Play

(6-28 October)  
The history of past leisure activities in the town, including sports, musicals, scouts' events and carnivals, staged by Cowes Heritage, at Cowes Combined Clubs HQ, Bath Road, Cowes, 10am to 4pm daily, admission free.

### Alfredo Basile, Photography from Sicily

(6 October – 17 November)  
An Italian photographer passionate about his land and traditions, with images of workers



with Jools Holland's Rhythm and Blues Orchestra, The Venue, Ryde Theatre, doors open at 7.30pm, tickets £12.50, from Waterstones, Newport (cash only), box office tel: 568099, [www.rydetheatre.co.uk](http://www.rydetheatre.co.uk)

### Jill Crossland

(30 October)  
British pianist whose recordings include Bach's Goldberg Variations, Sts Thomas Church, Newport, 8pm, tickets £7/£6, tel: box office 822490.

### Orpheus Singers

(3 November)  
150 years' celebration concert, includes Otcenas (Our Father) by Janacek, Mass in D Major by Dvorak, and Songs of Love and Nature by Schubert, Brahms, Dvorak and Martinu, at Sts Thomas Church, Newport, 7pm, tickets £6, students £2, at the door or from choir members.

### Errol Linton's Blues Vibe

(3 November)  
Eclectic Brit blues with reggae and jazz, from Errol Linton, carrying the legacy of Little Walter and Sonny Boy Williamson into the 21st century, plus support from The Amen Boogie Blues Band, at The Venue, Ryde Theatre, 8pm, tickets £10/£12, tel: box office 568099.

### Kaz Simmons

(9 November)  
A performance of classy individual compositions on vocals and guitar, and breathing new life into jazz classics, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £10/£9, tel: box office 822490.

### Robert Mitchell and Omar Puente

(16 November)  
Brilliant pianist Robert Mitchell and Cuban violin virtuoso Omar Puente, who gave a celebrated performance at the Havana International Jazz Festival, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets

£12/£11, tel: box office 822490.

### 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.

## 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

### I am feeling depressed about hospitals; and The Norfolk Nurse Edith Cavell

(7 November)  
Two talks to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association, firstly Richard Smout on the Red Cross and medical care for troops on the Isle of Wight 1914 to 1918, and secondly Jane Keene's dramatised presentation of the story of war heroine nurse Edith Cavell (1865 to 1915), at Nodehill Middle School, Newport, 7.30pm, visitors welcome, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410.

### Klimpt and the Viennese Secession

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



### Gonzo Moose, You don't need to know that...

Comedy, drama, slapstick and puppetry at Quay Arts on 2 November

### 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.

association with the Rondo Theatre, Quay Arts, Newport, 8pm, tickets £10/£9, tel: box office 822490.

### The House of Frankenstein

(2-3, 7, 10 November)  
The Pepperpot Players present a comedy-

horror play, at Whitwell Village Hall (2-3 Nov) and Niton Village Hall (7, 10 Nov), 7.45pm.

### A Night with Novello

(7-10 November)  
The Island Savoyards present a new musical play featuring

the songs of Ivor Novello, along with a performance of Glibert and Sullivan's Trial by Jury, Shanklin Theatre, 7.30pm, Saturday matinee 2.30pm, tickets £10 from the box office, tel: 868000.

### Future issues:

Issue date	Listings period covered	Deadline for submission
23 November	23 November to 4 January	22 October
21 December	21 December to 14 March	26 November
29 February	29 February to 4 April	4 February

## THEATRE

### The Odd Couple

(18-20 October)  
Curtain Up Amateur Dramatic Society present a female version of the play by Neil Simon, at Totland Church Hall, 7.30pm, tickets in local shops.

### Gonzo Moose, You Don't Need to Know That...

(2 November)  
An exhilarating collision of comedy, drama, slapstick and puppetry inspired by Kafka's *The Trial*, presented in

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# ***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

***4.30pm 30 November 2007***

Don't forget you can now apply online at [www.eduwight.iow.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.eduwight.iow.gov.uk/admissions)

For help or advice, please call 823455, or email [school.admissions@iow.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@iow.gov.uk)

**Please note:** The admission round to high schools for September 2008 WILL NOT be affected by the council's proposals for possible changes in the organisation of schools. Whichever choice is made, pupils entering Year 9 in September 2008 WILL be able to complete their GCSE course on the same site, as will pupils entering Year 11 for A-levels.