

ONE Island

The community
magazine for
the Isle of Wight

Issue 38 December 2012

***We wish all our readers
a merry Christmas
and a happy 2013***



Inside:

**Council arrangements for the
festive season**

The Island's Olympic legacy

WELCOME

December edition of *One Island* magazine

Welcome to the December issue of *One Island*. In this edition we take a special look at several key projects designed to boost the economy and employment prospects on the Island. These include the council's successful pre-apprenticeship scheme, a major careers and jobs fair and significant progress with a

tidal energy test scheme off the south of the Island.

We also focus on a range of new developments at the Island's libraries – and to help you over the festive season, we feature a guide to the adjusted opening times for council and related services and facilities.

Wishing all our readers a happy Christmas and new year



Advertising in One Island

More than 39,000 copies of *One Island* are distributed throughout the Island for each edition.

The magazine is published as an insert in the Isle of Wight County Press – with additional copies available in libraries, post offices, help centres, doctors' surgeries and other key locations.

If you would like to advertise in *One Island*, please contact us for more information and a copy of our rate card: Tel: 821000;

Email: oneisland@iow.gov.uk

You can also download the rate card from iwight.com



How to contact us

If you have community news to share with other readers, we would like to hear from you. We also welcome your letters.

You can contact us by post, email or telephone.

Post One Island, Resident Information and Consultation Team, County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD

Email OnelIsland@iow.gov.uk

Telephone 821000

USEFUL CONTACTS

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

Fax: 823333

Email:

customer.services@iow.gov.uk

Website: www.iwight.com

TELEPHONE SERVICES

Contact centre: 821000

Monday to Friday: 8am to 6pm

Saturday: 9am to 1pm

We recommend you call the contact centre initially, where we aim to answer as many enquiries as possible at this first point of contact.

Popular numbers

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Building control	823580
Council tax	823901
Education	823455
Environmental health	823000
Housing benefits	823950
Leisure services	823828
Libraries	203880
Licensing	823159
Parking services	823714
Planning	823552
Refuse collection	823777
Registrars	823233
Roads and highways	823777
Tourism	813813
Trading standards	823396
Consumer Direct	0845 4040506

Community services

(Mon to Thur: 9am to 5pm, Fri: 9am to 4.30pm)

Adult services	823340
Adult first response*	814980
Children's services	525790
Children's first response*	814374
Housing	823040

*All initial enquiries and referrals

All urgent calls outside the above times 821105

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In an emergency dial 999

Fire and rescue control centre 525121

Out of hours:

Waste disposal 0800 3283851

Wightcare 821105

All other council services 821105

FACE TO FACE SERVICES

Newport Help Centre

County Hall, Newport PO30 1UD
Mon to Thur: 8.30am to 5pm
Fri: 8.30am to 4.30pm.

Ryde Help Centre

Tel: 812678
Ryde Library, 101 George Street, Ryde PO33 2JE. Mon, Tues, Fri: 9am to 5pm.

Sandown Help Centre

Council offices, Broadway, Sandown PO36 9EA.
Closed Tues.

West Wight Help Centre

Tel: 756140
Freshwater Library, 41 School Green Road, Freshwater PO40 9AP. Tues only.

Please ring 821000 to confirm opening times.

PARTNER CONTACTS

NHS Isle of Wight

Tel: (01983) 524081

Police Tel: 0845 45 45 45

Community Action Isle of Wight Tel: (01983) 524058

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are in public at County Hall. Call 823200 24 hours before a meeting to ensure it is going ahead.

Council (council chamber)

16 January (6pm)

27 February (6pm)

Council Tax Setting Committee

(subject to confirmation)

(council chamber)

4 March (9.30am)

Cabinet (council chamber)

8 January (6pm)

12 February (6pm)

12 March (6pm)

Planning Sub-committee

(council chamber)

18 December (4pm)

22 January (4pm)

19 February (4pm)

Regulatory Committee

(council chamber)

14 January (10am)

Licensing Sub-committee

(council chamber)

18 December (10am)

15 January (10am)

Audit Committee

(council chamber)

14 February (6pm)

Overview and Scrutiny Committee

(council chamber)

3 January (5pm)

7 February (5pm)

7 March (5pm)

Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

(council chamber)

5 February (5pm)

Economy and Environment Scrutiny Panel

(council chamber)

19 December (5pm)

6 February (5pm)

Health and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Panel

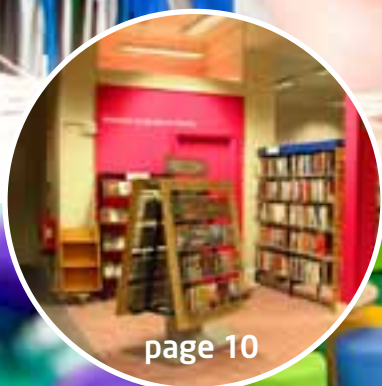
(council chamber)

4 February (5pm)

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One Island is a community magazine produced by the Isle of Wight Council with its key public sector partners – NHS Isle of Wight, Isle of Wight Police (Hampshire Constabulary) and Community Action Isle of Wight.



This magazine is available on request as an audiotape, in large print and online at www.iwight.com. For further details, please contact One Island on 821000.

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Interest mounts in major tidal energy test scheme

Significant interest is being expressed by national and international companies in Isle of Wight Council plans for a prototype and pre-commercial tidal energy scheme three kilometres off St Catherine's Point (pictured).

The Crown Estate recently approved a lease with the council to use an area of seabed off the south coast of the Island for the scheme, harnessing powerful tidal flows.

The agreement with The Crown Estate was a major step forward for the council-sponsored project, known as the Solent Ocean Energy Centre (SOEC).

SOEC will become a managed test facility generating 20 megawatts of power (enough to power more than 8,000 homes). It will also add to the UK's marine energy

infrastructure and enable tidal device developers from across the UK and further afield to test their turbines at full size and in arrays of devices.

It is hoped the facility, which should be constructed from 2015, will create/safeguard more than 600 direct and indirect full time jobs in the UK over its lifetime – at least 30 per cent of which would be on the Island.

The initial agreement with The Crown Estate is now helping to attract private sector investment into the project and will help the council to secure full project consents to allow for its construction.

The council has pledged £1 million to the project and has secured nearly £700,000 of European funding.



Second Island jobs fair to take place

Plans are being developed to stage a second 'Your future' careers and jobs fair on the Island – in autumn 2013 – to build on the success of this year's fair, held at the Isle of Wight College in November.

As with the 2012 event – attended by more than 500 young people – next year's fair will be designed to give career and training advice to Islanders aged between 14 and 24.

This year's event, organised by the council and the college, featured 45 employers and six universities as well as training providers and Job Centre Plus, which ran CV and interview skills workshops. There were also taster sessions for various job disciplines, ranging from cookery and interior design to electrical and plumbing.

Information was available about college and university courses, apprenticeships and job vacancies as well as all the support organisations available to help young people succeed in their career aspirations.

Among the major institutions and organisations attending were Oxford University, Southampton University and O2 – together with Isle of Wight businesses and organisations.

During National Apprenticeship Week next year (11 to 15 March) a new Island event is to be held to promote local apprenticeships. It will take place at Albert Cottage, East Cowes on 14 March and will feature employer briefings and opportunities for young people to meet employers and discuss apprenticeship options.



Getting ready to work

Throughout the year a special programme is run on the Island to help ensure young people are better prepared for work.

The Get Ready 2 Work (GR2W) initiative is run by the council in partnership with JobCentre Plus, the Isle of Wight College and UK Sailing Academy – and helps unemployed young people with CVs, application forms and interview skills. It particularly focuses on building confidence and working with others.

Those taking part can also achieve certification in First Aid at Work and Health and Safety Level 1 in the Workplace.

Young people who have taken part have progressed into further opportunities such as pre-apprenticeships and vocational training, and have said how the initiative has improved their motivation and communication skills.

The scheme also provides a weekly list of work and training job opportunities, which can be found at: iwight.com/choices (select the 'job vacancies' section).

Help during cold weather

As the winter bites, Island residents are being reminded of the help and information available about keeping warm – particularly for those in the worst of circumstances.

The council can offer details of the range of services available by contacting Wightcare on 821105. The council itself will be facilitating a night shelter at Downside Community and Learning Centre at Furrongs, Newport – and can offer help to people who are homeless and living on the streets, including the possible provision of emergency bed and breakfast accommodation for a limited period of time.

Other information is available from:

- **Age UK** Tel: (01983) 525282 or visit www.ageuk.org.uk/isleofwight
- **NHS Choices** Visit www.nhs.uk and search 'warm' or 'keeping warm'.
- **Warmahome project** Tel: (01983) 822282 or visit www.footprint-trust.co.uk

Look out for next highways PFI roadshows

A series of roadshows explaining the Island's £260 million highways private finance initiative (PFI) will be continuing over the coming months.

The next roadshows, staged by contractor Island Roads, will be in January (dates and venues to be confirmed) at Ryde, West Wight, Ventnor and Cowes.

The events have been scheduled for the six geographical areas into which the work will be divided. So far they have taken place at Newport and Sandown, featuring a mobile visitor centre for people to drop in and have a chat with the Island Roads team.

Island Roads is the company set up by Vinci Concessions, Meridiam Infrastructure and Ringway and is delivering the full scope of the project.

Work on the project – set to bring the Island's roads up to unprecedented standard – will begin, as scheduled, in April next year.

It is the largest project of its type ever undertaken on the Island – and



will see the upgrading, enhancing and maintenance of the Island's 803 kilometres of rural and urban roads, 767 kilometres of footways, 12,068 streetlights, 209 bridges and structures, together with cycleways, public car parks, signage, CCTV and street furniture.

The major works involved in the 25 year project – which includes a number of 'geotechnical' schemes to stabilise the highway on stretches such as the Military Road and the Undercliff – will take place in the first seven years.

New strategy to improve autism support



Island residents are being reminded of the opportunity to comment on the Isle of Wight Autism Strategy, which is due to be formally launched in April next year.

Around 1,500 children and adults living on the Island are estimated to have autism – and the local strategy is being developed to improve access to health and social care services, to suitable accommodation, work, education and training and support for carers.

The strategy complements national developments underpinned by the Autism Act 2009 and the National Autism Strategy of 2010 – and focuses on improving inclusion in community life and increasing community awareness.

The strategy's priorities were identified by people with autism as part of a survey, and the document is being developed by the council in partnership with the health, education and voluntary sectors and people with autism and their carers, all playing a key role in shaping it.

The full consultation report can be viewed at iwight.com

To comment on the strategy, or be kept up to date on its progress, please email: autismstrategy@iow.gov.uk

Alternatively you can write to: Ann O'Brien, Commissioning Lead – Adult Social Care, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD.

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E: bus.admissions@port.ac.uk
W: www.port.ac.uk/busandman

Prince's Trust helps young Islanders

Disadvantaged young people on the Isle of Wight are being reminded of the support they can access through youth charity, The Prince's Trust.

The charity supports 13 to 30-year-olds to get their lives back on track, and includes those who are unemployed or struggling at school.

Many of the young people helped are in or leaving care, facing issues such as homelessness or mental health problems, or they have been in trouble with the law.

The trust's programmes give vulnerable young people practical and financial support to stabilise their lives, and develop self-esteem and skills for work.

To find out more about the trust's work on



the Island, you can call the free helpline on 0800 842842 or visit www.princes-trust.org.uk

One young Island person to receive support from the trust was 25-year-old Peter Head (pictured), who was featured in *One Island* in 2011. Peter turned his life around to such an extent after living on the streets that he was a finalist in The Prince's Trust Celebrate Success Awards. Peter overcame homelessness and depression to gain qualifications and skills, including as a football coach.

The trust has also teamed up with Island-based skincare company Liz Earle for a campaign to tackle youth unemployment. The company mentored a homeless single young mother, Rebecca Taylor, to create a new beauty product. Earlier the trust had helped her set up her own beauty salon.

Christmas and new year refuse collection and recycling

Waste and recycling collections for Island homes will continue over the Christmas and new year period – but to ensure these collections can be provided for all Island residents there are some changes (see table below).

Normal collections will resume from Monday 7 January.

The changes, which will include some Saturday collections, mean the Forest Road household recycling centre near Newport will not be open to the public on Saturdays over Christmas and the new year, but will be open on Sundays.

Refuse normally collected on:	Will be collected on:
Monday 24 December	Saturday 22 December
Tuesday 25 December	Monday 24 December
Wednesday 26 December	Thursday 27 December
Thursday 27 December	Friday 28 December
Friday 28 December	Saturday 29 December
Monday 31 December	No change
Tuesday 1 January	Wednesday 2 January
Wednesday 2 January	Thursday 3 January
Thursday 3 January	Friday 4 January
Friday 4 January	Saturday 5 January

Arrangements during snow

If it should snow (or there is snow cover from a previous day) on your refuse/recycling collection day, your refuse will not be collected until your next usual

day for recycling and residual waste, or the following week for food waste – assuming that the snow has cleared by this time.

If your collection is disrupted by snow, please remove your rubbish from the kerbside and put it back within your property. Please refer to the collection arrangements and place the appropriate waste/recycling kerbside by 7am the following week.

Information will be available to update you on the service from the websites (see below), Facebook and local radio.

Christmas tree recycling

From Friday 28 December to Wednesday 9 January inclusive, at the following locations:

- Brighstone village car park.
- East Cowes Esplanade car park.
- Lake, New Road car park.
- Ryde, Waltzing Waters car park.
- Somerton, park and ride.
- Ventnor Botanic Garden car park.

Christmas trees can also be placed with garden waste at all household waste recycling centres.

Christmas card recycling

Christmas cards can be placed in your recycling wheelie bin or clear recycling bag for collection on the appropriate collection day.



Household waste recycling centres

Lynnbottom, near Newport

Open 7am to 7pm – seven days a week

Closed Christmas Day

Afton, Freshwater

9.30am to 4.30pm, unless otherwise stated

Open	Saturday 22 December	Sunday 23 December
	Saturday 29 December	Sunday 30 December
	Saturday 5 January	Sunday 6 January

Forest Road, Newport

9.30am to 4.30pm, unless otherwise stated

Open	Sunday 23 December	Sunday 30 December
	Sunday 6 January	
Closed	Saturday 22 December	Saturday 29 December
	Saturday 5 January	

Contact details

Isle of Wight Council

Tel: 823777

Website: www.iwight.com

Island Waste Services

Tel: 821234

Website: www.islandwaste.co.uk

Also visit the council's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/isleofwightcouncil



Friendship group goes from strength to strength

Pictured: (from left) Friendship group members Niviera Piper, Maresel Beale and Cecilia Shaw at a recent Culture Kitchen event

The culinary flavours of many nations have been enjoyed by Island schoolchildren recently – thanks to a group of local ladies called the Equals Friendship Group.

The group has been created to bring together women of different ethnic backgrounds living on the Island, with the intention of helping them access services important to their everyday lives.

Set up by the Equals Isle of Wight charity, the friendship group has assisted more than 80 women over the past three years – and one of its main spin-offs has been the creation of its 'Culture Kitchen' initiative. The group is also given funding support by the council, and guidance from

the council's equality and diversity section.

Group co-ordinator, Samantha Gilliam-Scott, explained: "The group was created to bring together women of different ethnicity with the aim of helping them with everyday issues like registering with a GP, accessing council services, or other areas they might find difficult to deal with on their own and to reduce social isolation.

"The success of the group has grown and grown and the Culture Kitchen initiative started about eight months ago because many of them love to cook. The membership has included women from Asia, South America and Europe, from countries ranging from Indonesia to Colombia, and India to Slovakia."

Samantha said the initiative developed after she spoke to the Isle of Wight College about the Culture Kitchen idea. The group learned to cook some English dishes at the college and then in return offered to provide their first Culture Kitchen event for a college staff training day.

"Since then the project has grown and we have started to offer the initiative to schools. We have already been to three schools, demonstrating cooking for small groups, featuring Indonesian, Korean and other Asian dishes. It has proved very popular with the children, and four of our Indonesian ladies even provide a dancing demonstration."

Samantha said the friendship group had made a real difference to its members' lives, and wouldn't have been possible without the additional funding support of organisations such as the Isle of Wight Community Safety Partnership, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Community Fund Co-operative and the European Social Fund.

If you would like to find out more about the Equals Friendship Group visit the website at www.equalsiw.org.uk. The main group is Cowes Friendship Group, but it attracts women from across the Island. The group also provides work-related training, from completing a CV to searching for a job.

A helping hand to staying independent



Pictured: The mock kitchen at the centre, where visitors can try out equipment

A special new centre designed to help people remain independent in their own homes as long as possible, has been officially opened in Newport.

The People Matter IW Independent Living Centre was opened by disabled sailor Geoff Holt MBE. Two open days were held to help raise awareness of the centre, which is based at Downside Community and

Learning Centre, the former school building on Pan.

Visitors to the centre will find a mock kitchen, bedroom and bathroom, each packed with a variety of equipment to help make life easier for those with disabilities or mobility issues.

There are also different forms of alarm and telecare systems, a variety of kitchen aids, a stairlift, a specialist bed, a bed hoist, a larger shower enclosure, a

mobile bath and much more.

Wheelchair users will find the rooms have moveable screens as walls, so you can replicate the dimensions of your rooms at home.

The centre is run by People Matter IW, an independent user-led organisation (currently applying for charity status) which has been working closely with the council, local businesses, services and organisations to create the facility.

Volunteers, most of who have personal experience of living with disabilities, are trained to support the centre's functions.

Terri Baker, manager of People Matter IW, said: "We have a lot of different aids and equipment for people to try out and are completely independent – we are not

selling anything, simply offering advice and support.

"Anyone is welcome to come and visit us – you don't need to be referred and we are happy to talk to both carers and those who have just realised they can't do everything the way they used to and need advice."

The centre also has advice leaflets on various subjects, an area for users to watch information DVDs and occupational therapy assistants for assessments on site.

People Matter IW has a number of service user sub-groups and special interest groups for people to share experiences and take part in consultations about service changes and developments.

• If you would like to contact the centre, please call 241494.

Highways PFI update

From Island Roads – a partnership between Vinci Concessions, Meridiam Infrastructure and Ringway



From April 2013 we will be delivering the Island's highways private finance initiative (PFI) – the scheme to bring the Island's road network up to an unprecedented standard.

Here we look at our plans to keep Island residents informed, and explain how residents can raise issues with Island Roads



Mobile visitor centre

To help us explain more about the PFI, its benefits and the impact it will have once work starts next year, we have commissioned a mobile visitor centre.

You may have seen this vehicle outside some of the locations where we have been holding information roadshows.

We have held two of these sessions so far and a further four will take place in the new year – supported by the visitor centre.

Paul Herbert, Island Roads service director, said: "Good communication with the Island community will be essential as we plan for and begin the huge project to upgrade the Island's highways and associated services.

"Hopefully the creation of the visitor centre at our new headquarters and our mobile visitor centre in the meantime will demonstrate just how keen we are to work with the local community in making the most of this once in a lifetime engineering project."

A central location for Island Roads HQ



Island Roads is currently building new premises in Daish Way, Newport, which will be its headquarters throughout the 25-year project.

The premises (due to open in March next year) are being built by Island company Stoneham Construction, in line with Island Roads aim of using the PFI project to stimulate the local economy.

As well as being the headquarters for Island Roads, the building will also feature a permanent visitor centre, giving residents and businesses the chance to find out more about the scheme.

The building is being built to a high eco-friendly standard with many 'green' characteristics, including solar panels, water harvesting and carbon-efficient lighting and heating.

Involving local business

The highways PFI has been planned to bring as much benefit as possible to the Island's economy.

Central to this is the involvement of local businesses, labour and supplies in delivering the improvements to the road network.

Special 'Meet the Buyer' events were held in November to put Island Roads in touch with potential business partners – resulting in contacts with around 200 local companies. Many of these links will be developed over the coming weeks and months.

More information

For more details about Island Roads, including the roadshows, please visit the website: www.islandroads.com or email: info@islandroads.com

A brighter future for Harvey



In 2011 the council launched a £100,000 pre-apprenticeship scheme to help 50 young people aged 16 to 19 onto the employment ladder. Here we learn how the scheme has made a big difference for young Islander Harvey Dobson

Isle of Wight ethical fashion company Rapanui and its newest employee Harvey Dobson (pictured) are both benefiting from the council's pre-apprenticeship scheme.

The project provides an allowance to the young person for a six-month period, with a hope that the skills and training acquired in this initial period may lead to a full apprenticeship and even full-time employment.

And that's how it has worked out for former Carisbrooke High pupil Harvey, 19.

He had left a college course that wasn't for him and signed up for Job Seekers' Allowance (JSA), which he used to help teach himself web-design skills. This led to a successful work experience placement at Rapanui at Sandown, where he honed his new skills.

After this, Harvey inquired about a full-time job and, though impressed with his work, Rapanui could not offer him further work immediately.

"But then, around the same time, I discovered from a letter from the Participation

Team that Smart Training and Recruitment were providing pre-apprenticeships that were funded by the council for six months," he said.

"I took this information to Rob and Mart Drake-Knight at Rapanui and it was confirmed I could rejoin the company on a pre-apprenticeship."

Harvey is now undertaking a full IT Level 3 National Vocational Qualification as part of what has developed into a full apprenticeship at Rapanui.

"A year on, I manage the company's website, search engine optimisation and Internet marketing in addition to fixing any problems with internal systems – I even send most newsletters. The work here is consistently challenging.

"Without the pre-apprenticeship scheme I could have still been on Job Seekers' Allowance. The scheme not only gave my employer a six-month gap to help gather the finances to take me on, it also gave me six months to prove my worth."

Rob Drake-Knight said: "Harvey is an integral part

of the Rapanui team and has really established himself in a fast moving company. He worked hard during his pre-apprenticeship and earned himself a job managing some key marketing strategies. As the company grows he will manage our IT department."

Gill Rogers, director of business development at Smart Training and Recruitment, added: "We are very happy with the progress Harvey is making at Rapanui. He is one of many young people currently undertaking a pre-apprenticeship with Smart, and is proof that if you work hard and are determined and enthusiastic, it does produce results."

- Due to the initial success of the council's scheme in converting pre-apprenticeships to full apprenticeships, a further 21 opportunities have been approved for funding.

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YOUR MODERN LIBRARY IN TOWN, AT HOME OR ON THE MOVE

The Island's council-run and community libraries are offering a range of new services as part of their ongoing modernisation. Here we take a look at the latest developments...

Self-service kiosks in four more council libraries

Self-service kiosks have been installed in the council-run libraries at Sandown, Freshwater, Ventnor and Cowes – following on from the success of similar kiosks at Newport and Ryde libraries.

It means the kiosks are now available in all six council libraries – helping to free up staff time to deal with general enquiries, develop events and activities, and give advice in areas such as using the library computers.

As part of the installation work, the large old-style library counters have been removed and replaced with smaller desks – giving more space for display and promoting services.

As well as recording the loan and return of items, the kiosks can also be used to

pay personal council bills – including council tax, parking fines, care bills, music tuition fees and allotment fees, using the 'mycommunity' facility.

All you need to do is bring in your invoice, select the invoice type from the short menu and enter the invoice number. Bill payments are made via debit or credit cards using the chip and pin facilities.

The growing work of friends' groups

Each of the libraries at Sandown, Freshwater, Ventnor and Cowes now also has a friends' or supporters' group, helping to promote the libraries, put on a range of activities, and raise funds to support improvements.

There are plans to develop similar groups at Newport and Ryde and to also provide support for the Island's music



Pictured: The newly-refurbished Sandown Library

library, housed in Newport and Ventnor libraries.

If you would like to become involved in a friends' group you are invited to contact staff in the relevant library.

Learning new skills

A new online service has been added to the growing list of services which can be accessed from home or at the six council libraries and the five community libraries, using their free internet provision.

Called Universal Class, it provides library customers with access to more than 500 online courses. These range from art and craft and psychology courses to business and computer courses.

On each course you are supported by an online tutor and can communicate with other students doing the same course.

The courses are free to use with your library card, which can be obtained from your local library. Once you have a library card, follow the link from the council's library website, then register on Universal

Class, select your course and get going.

Free e-magazines

Also now available at all council and community libraries is a new service giving free online access to many magazines, covering activities from sports and fitness to science and crafts. The service is also available via your home computer, tablet or smartphone.

To access the service, follow the link from the council's library website, then register and follow the instructions. All you need is your library card.



Pictured: One of the self-service kiosks in operation



COUNCIL SERVICES OVER CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR

Most of the council's operations will remain open until 4pm, Mon 24 Dec. After closing for the Christmas/new year period they will then reopen on Wed 2 Jan. There will, however, be special arrangements for certain services.

Help centres – Newport, Ryde, Sandown, Freshwater

All Isle of Wight Council help centre offices close at 4pm on Mon 24 Dec. County Hall and Sandown Help Centre reopen at 8.30am on Wed 2 Jan. The help centre in Ryde Library reopens at 9am on Fri 4 Jan and Freshwater Help Centre reopens at 9.30am on Tues 8 Jan.

Revenues, benefits, parking services, Blue Badges and customer account services

Isle of Wight Council offices, Broadway, Sandown: office closes 4pm, Mon 24 Dec, reopens 8.30am, Wed 2 Jan. Online applications remain available for council tax/housing benefit and Blue Badges. Automated payment system available 24 hours a day, tel: 0207 1381970 or pay online at www.iwight.com

Highways emergencies

Flooding, fallen trees, traffic lights not working etc – tel: 821105.

Severe weather (snow or exceptional rainfall) – the highways emergency control room will be set up – tel: 823777. Follow us on twitter at twitter.com/iwight or find us on facebook at www.facebook.com/isleofwightcouncil for updates.

Council buildings or land

For emergencies involving council-owned buildings, contact Wightcare, tel: 821105.

Libraries

Council-run libraries (Cowes, Freshwater, Newport, Ryde, Sandown, Ventnor) close 4pm Mon 24 Dec. Reopen Wed 2 Jan.

Adult social care

Offices close 4pm, Mon 24 Dec. Reopen Wed 2 Jan.

Adult social care duty service (based at St Mary's Hospital) open for emergencies only on 27, 28 and 31 Dec, tel: 534227. The hospital social work team

(adult services) will operate on a duty service basis on the same days. Outside of these times urgent calls should be directed to Wightcare, tel: 821105.

Children's services

Offices close at 4pm Mon 24 Dec, reopen Wed 2 Jan. All services for children will be covered from the St James' Centre, 4-5 St James' Street, Newport on 27, 28 and 31 Dec (during office hours), tel: 814374 or 814370. Outside of these times urgent calls should be directed to Wightcare, tel: 821105.

Isle of Wight Crematorium

No cremations or burials 25 to 26 Dec or 1 Jan (the grounds, chapel and Book of Remembrance Room will be open to the public between 2pm and 4pm on these days, weekends and holiday dates).

All cremation papers should be delivered to the crematorium by noon on the working day before the cremation.

Burials will take place on all other days at the usual times. Burial forms should be delivered to the cemetery office two clear working days prior to each burial.

Register office

Closes at 4pm, 24 Dec. Opens Thur 27, Fri 28 Dec and Mon 31 Dec from 9am to 4pm (by appointment only). Reopens Wed 2 Jan. To register a death between 24 Dec and 2 Jan, tel: 823233.

Housing

On-call arrangements for emergencies via Wightcare, tel: 821105.

Leisure services facilities

The Heights Leisure Centre in Sandown, Medina Leisure Centre and Medina Theatre in Newport and Westridge Squash and Tone Zone in Ryde will all have seasonally-adjusted opening hours over the Christmas and new year holiday between Sat 22 Dec and Wed 2 Jan.

Full details of opening times will be available in all centres or on the website www.iwight.com/leisure or by calling the venues direct: The Heights 405594, Medina Leisure Centre 523767, Medina Theatre 527020, Westridge Squash and Tone Zone 823883.

DEVELOPING THE

2012 will be long remembered for the many magical sporting moments from the London Olympic and Paralympic Games. Here we take a look at some Isle of Wight projects and initiatives which are building on the games' legacy

Club grants build on success of London 2012

Following the success of the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics, the council's sports development unit launched a special 'Grow Your Club' grants programme.

So far 15 sports clubs and organisations have benefited from grants of between £200 and £1,000 under the scheme – ranging from the Isle of Wight Ice Dance and Figure Skating Club and Solent Netball Club to Queensway Gymnastics and the Isle of Wight Table Tennis Association.

The grants are intended to go towards building a legacy within the clubs and helping them to grow.

The council secured external funding through the Big Lottery Fund for the programme, and has been working in partnership with the NHS and Community Action Isle of Wight to allocate the grants.

The sports unit is now accepting applications for the second round of funding, again for grants ranging between

£200 and £1,000.

To apply, you should email: sports.unit@iow.gov.uk (to request an application form), or telephone 823818. You can also apply online at www.iowight.com and then search 'Sports Unit' in the search box.

Isle of Wight Talented Athlete Scheme

Continuing with the Olympic legacy the council is keen to support the Island's individual sportsmen and women through the Isle of Wight Talented Athlete Scheme.

The sports unit is able to offer the following assistance for a limited period:

- Grants of between £200 and £400.
- Discounted Wightlink travel.
- Island travel support with Southern Vectis.
- Free access to council leisure centres.

A variety of factors will influence the level of support provided to an athlete. These include rankings which are at a level of



top ten county, top 20 regional, national and international rankings, national and international competition results (for individual sports) and selection for a national development programme or membership of a national team (for team sports).

- Applications will be accepted from 30 November to 31 December 2012.
- Applicable to Isle of Wight residents.

Applications require evidence from national governing bodies (NGBs). Evidence can include results from an NGB's website, letters of invitation into county, regional or national squads or a letter of support from your NGB.

For a list of supported sports and recognised governing bodies under the scheme, visit www.sportengland.org/about_us.aspx

To apply, email: sports.unit@iow.gov.uk (to request an application form), or telephone 823818.



Pictured: Island sports clubs celebrate their 'Grow Your Club' grants

OLYMPIC LEGACY



Scratch cards raise awareness

As part of a drive to increase physical activity on the Island in 2012 and beyond, the NHS Isle of Wight public health team ran an innovative campaign.

A total of 30,000 'Get the Isle of Wight Moving' scratch cards were distributed across the Island to pubs, workplaces, youth clubs, dentists, GP surgeries, leisure centres, churches etc – designed to raise awareness about the recommended levels of physical activity.

The scratch cards allowed people to measure their physical activity against

A scratch card titled 'GET THE IW MOVING FOR 2012'. It features a map of the Isle of Wight and a circular logo that says 'Scratch off one panel in each row, total up your score and turn over...'. The card has a yellow background with red and black text. It asks 'HOW ACTIVE ARE YOU?' and 'In your job or daytime activity are you mostly...'. It then lists activities: Physical exercise, Cycling, Brisk walking, and Housework / Childcare / Gardening. For each activity, it asks 'During the last week, how many hours did you spend doing the following...' and provides a table with four columns: Mostly sitting, Mostly standing, Physical effort, and Very physical / Heavy manual. The table has four rows corresponding to the activities, with options: None, Some, but less than 1, 1-3, and 3 or more.

recommended levels for activities ranging from brisk walking and housework to cycling.

The cards also gave helpful contact details for health trainers, Healthy Living pharmacies and leisure centres.

New Tone Zone gym now open at Westridge

The new Tone Zone gym is now open at Westridge in Ryde (pictured above), giving Island residents the chance to build on the sporting and fitness enthusiasm generated by the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The light and airy 40-station Tone Zone gym is equipped by Pulse Fitness, one of the UK's largest fitness solutions providers. The stylish and functional range of cardiovascular and resistance equipment has the latest self-powered wireless technology to ensure it is environmentally responsible.

Each station has a 15ins LCD screen with a full range of Freeview channels combined with iPod connectivity. All the new equipment has been designed to cater for less able-bodied users and will increase customer accessibility to the gym.

At the heart of the gym is the Pulse Smart Centre – all gym users will have a Smart Card to replace their existing One Cards. The Smart Card will increase customers' contact with instructors, who can then respond to individual needs. Customers will benefit from a bespoke programme and will be able to easily monitor their own workout and progress.

Westridge is also now the centre for squash leagues and coaching. The eight state-of-the-art squash courts have competition floors and benefit from a first-floor viewing gallery. There are now longer opening hours at Westridge, which is also open on Sundays from 9am to 1pm.

To get the most from your fitness regime, the One Card membership is excellent value for money, compared with similar gym membership schemes on the mainland and other local

fitness providers. For example, a Gold One Card (giving full gym membership), is available from £34.50 a month by direct debit (terms and conditions apply). You can read more about the benefits of One Card membership on iweight.com/leisure. For more information, please contact Westridge Squash and Tone Zone gym on 823883 or email: Westridge@iow.gov.uk

Coming early in 2013 - a new One Card option

The council is introducing a new annual contract option for Gold One Card memberships early in 2013.

In addition to being able to join at each of the council's facilities, you'll also be able to take out your new annual contract membership online.

The Gold One Card gives you unlimited access to activities at each of the three council-managed leisure centres – The Heights in Sandown, Medina in Newport and Westridge in Ryde. You can use your card for the gym, swimming, activity classes, the health suite and racquet sports.

The new annual contract membership will be the most cost-effective way to get the most from the leisure facilities, which are currently undergoing a £6.8 million refurbishment. Existing customers are already enjoying the new state-of-the-art gyms at The Heights and Westridge, as well as the refurbished pools and new studio at the Heights.

**No joining fee. No One Journey induction fee.
Less than £30 per month.**

Look out for details in the new year. If you would like us to notify you when this option is available, just email leisure@iow.gov.uk to be added to our mailing list.

Recycling for the Isle of Wight

Almost a year has passed since the new domestic waste recycling arrangements were introduced on the Island at the end of January 2012. Here we highlight how Island residents have played their part in ensuring the success of the new collections – and give an update on what happens to your recycled waste



In 2011 a decision was made by the council to change the waste collection arrangements for the Island, to increase the level of recycling collected from households at the kerbside.

The reasons behind the changes were both environmental and financial, reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill.

The change has resulted in a significant increase in the amount

of recycling undertaken. Under the voluntary black box scheme, waste for recycling collected from households averaged about 80 tonnes a week. Under the new scheme this has increased to about 250 tonnes a week. While there has been a slight reduction in recycling through the household waste recycling centres, this was anticipated and overall there is still a significant increase in recycling.

How your waste is recycled

Glass

Glass is sorted and graded and forwarded for re-processing to make glass products such as jars and bottles.



Newspapers and magazines

All types of newspaper and magazine are recycled to be made into paper sheets. As the fibres become shorter this material is used to make items such as egg cartons and other similar packaging products.



Steel cans

Steel cans should be put in with recyclable waste, however if they are inadvertently placed in black bag waste they can still be removed by the use of magnets.

The cans are separated by magnets, crushed and sent for recycling.

Steel cans are 100 per cent recyclable and could end up in a new bicycle, paper clip or even as part of a new car.

Recycling one tonne of steel saves 80 per cent of the carbon dioxide emissions produced compared to the equivalent manufacture of one tonne of steel from iron ore.



Aluminium cans

Cans are collected from the kerbside but may also be deposited in the local 'bring back' sites across the Island. They are sorted at the recycling facility in Southampton and crushed before being baled and sent for recycling.

Recycling an aluminium can only takes five per cent of the energy compared to the primary manufacture of a can and produces only five per cent of the carbon dioxide emissions.

Aluminium cans may be recycled indefinitely without losing any of their properties.

Plastics

Plastic containers are separated using high speed scanning equipment to separate the plastic from other materials. The items are then sent on for further sorting by type; they are then ground down and used to re-make plastic packaging and other items such as garden furniture and plastic sacks.

Cardboard

Cardboard is separated and used in the same way as paper. It is pulped and remade into card or other packaging materials. It is kept separate as it has not been bleached like white paper and would discolour paper products if mixed.



Food waste

Food waste is collected weekly in the food caddies and can be diverted to one of several uses.

It may be taken to the Resource Recovery Facility in Forest Road, Newport where it is added to black bag waste and processed into fuel for the gasification plant. This burns the waste under a controlled process, turning it into electricity for the National Grid.

Food waste is also sent to an anaerobic digestion plant on the mainland where it is processed and produces both energy and useful by-products.

You may sometimes see food waste being placed in the refuse collection lorry with black bags. This will only occur once the food pods on the vehicle are full.



Top 10 recycling tips

Do ensure you put your recycling out in the correct week.

Do ensure your waste is out by 7am on the day of collection.

Do rinse out cans etc, where possible, before placing them in the recycling.

Do flatten boxes and cardboard where possible; they can also be placed out separately for collection.

Do recycle old toys etc, and take these to a charity shop.

Don't use black bags for your recycling; this includes placing them in wheelie bins.

Don't place your waste out too early; it can be left out after 7pm on the day before collection.

Don't put unrecyclable items in the recycling as this can lead to an entire load of items being rejected and returned.

Don't throw away old phones; they can be donated to charities for reuse.

Don't automatically buy disposable nappies, try cloth nappies instead; more details are available on the waste website (*see below*).

More information about how your waste is recycled can be obtained from:

Isle of Wight Council

Tel: (01983) 823777

Website: www.iwight.com/waste

Island Waste Services

Tel: (01983) 821234

Website: www.islandwaste.com



Don't let **fire** ruin your **festive cheer** this Christmas



Christmas dinner, wrapping presents and decorating your home – there's lots to think about this Christmas. But one thing the Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service and the 'Fire Kills' campaign are urging Island residents to put top of their Christmas lists this year is fire safety.

Fire statistics show that in December, 20 people a day are either killed or injured in accidental fires in the home in England. Although fire safety is important at every time of year, the extra distractions of Christmas make it especially important.

Trevor Moyce, community prevention and protection manager, said: "Christmas is a time when extra fire hazards are introduced to the home, such as fairy lights, candles and decorations. The 'Fire Kills' Christmas tree video shows how quickly a fire can spread.

"We are urging you to think about fire safety ahead of the Christmas period – ensure you buy British Standard fairy lights, place candles in suitable holders and away from curtains, and never leave cooking unattended."

For more information visit www.iwight.com/fire



Top tips for a safe festive season:

Ensure you have a working smoke alarm installed on all levels of your home. A working alarm can give you the vital time needed to escape in a fire. Test your smoke alarms regularly and never remove batteries to power presents.

Check on older relatives and neighbours this Christmas to ensure their safety as they are at greater risk from fire.

Never leave cooking unattended The majority of fires start in the kitchen. Avoid cooking while under the influence of alcohol and always turn off kitchen appliances when you have finished cooking.

Never leave burning candles unattended Keep candles out of the reach of children, and away from decorations, cards and wrapping paper, fires, lights and heaters.

Ensure you switch off fairy lights and unplug them before you go to bed, or leave the house. Check your Christmas tree lights conform to the British Standard (BS EN 60598).

Make sure everyone in your home knows what to do in a fire In the event of fire: get out, stay out and call 999.



The footage here shows how a Christmas tree fire can spread through a room in less than a minute

01:00

HAVE YOUR SAY, JOIN TODAY!

The Isle of Wight NHS Trust is applying to become an NHS foundation trust by April 2014.

We believe that becoming an NHS foundation trust will bring important benefits to the Island and the patients we serve.

The change will help us to become more innovative and efficient and provide even better services to the public.

As an NHS foundation trust, we will have a membership and a council of governors – which means the public, carers and staff will be able to shape the organisation and have even more of an influence in the way it is run.

Our consultation document explains the benefits of becoming an NHS foundation



trust. It also shares our plans for the next five years, our governance and membership proposals, and lets you know how you can get involved with your local provider of ambulance, community, hospital and mental health services.

We welcome your views. They will help shape the future

of the trust.

We also invite you to become a member, and possibly a governor of our trust.

Your views on our proposals will form part of our application to become an NHS foundation trust.

Please have your say by 11 January 2013 by:

• **filling in the form at the**

end of the consultation document or online at www.iow.nhs.uk/ft;

- **emailing us at FTconsultation@iow.nhs.uk with comments or to request the document;**
- **writing to us at: FREEPOST RTAL-URKZ-GSHK, NHS Foundation Trust Consultation, Isle of Wight NHS Trust, South Block, St Mary's Hospital, NEWPORT, Isle of Wight PO30 5TG;**
- **phoning us on (01983) 822099, ext: 6175.**

You can apply to become a member of the trust by completing the form in the consultation document or join online at www.iow.nhs.uk/ft



About the Isle of Wight NHS Trust

The Isle of Wight NHS Trust is the only fully integrated provider of NHS hospital, community, mental health and ambulance services in England, supplying a wide range of services to residents and visitors.

Between October 2006 and March 2012, the services within the trust were managed as a part of the Isle of Wight Primary Care Trust (PCT).

The new NHS trust was established in April 2012, following the separation of the provision of services from the commissioning of services – which had previously all been within the one organisation.

We employ almost 2,700 full-time equivalent staff, and in 2012/2013 our income will be around £160 million.

We operate from one main site, St Mary's Hospital, which also hosts the Sevenacres mental health unit, the Island's ambulance station and acts as the base for many other services. The trust also provides services

from around 25 other NHS and non-NHS sites across the Island.

Despite the Island's small size and isolation, our services perform well against national standards.

Where it is not possible for us to deliver a quality service on our own, we work in partnership with other organisations.

Where can I learn more?

The next meeting as part of the consultation process will be held on: **17 December (7pm) at the Riverside Centre, The Quay, Newport.**

If you are a community group, school or college, or local employer that will be holding a meeting during the consultation period, and would like us to come and speak to your group about our plans, please contact us. We would be happy to come to talk.

Do you agree with our plans?

Our NHS foundation trust application includes a five-year business plan. This describes our vision for the trust and health services in the local area. It also outlines our objectives and how we will achieve them.

We are proposing four main areas of service development:

- To continue to redesign services to



develop a fully integrated community, acute hospital, ambulance and mental health service. This will enable us to reduce admissions, reduce hospital length of stay and provide more care closer to where patients live.

- To align our integrated services with the three GP localities being established by the Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), increasing the proportion of care delivered locally, including in nursing homes.
- To integrate across health and social care. We will integrate health and social care delivery through partnerships with the local authority and the third (voluntary) sector.
- To improve our sustainability and increase our clinical resilience, developing partnerships to maintain accessible, safe and effective secondary care services on the Island. Acute hospital and mental health services cannot provide care in isolation. We will grow existing partnerships and establish new ones, and explore alternative models of delivery.

Staff and volunteers honoured at NHS awards



More than 400 guests enjoyed an evening of celebration at the NHS Isle of Wight Awards at Medina Theatre, Newport. Teams and individuals working for the trust and its partners were recognised for their commitment to introducing new ways of working to ensure the best possible care for patients.

Special recognition was given to the volunteers who won

the Chairman's Award for overall winner for the Volunteer Service Project and Support. Individual and team awards were also presented to NHS staff who go above and beyond the call of duty during the course of their daily work. Full details of all the winners can be found on the NHS Isle of Wight website: www.iow.nhs.uk/awards



Give a child a home

Can you take the first step and make a big difference to a child's life?

As part of the national Give a Child a Home campaign more people are being encouraged to foster and adopt.

Last month was National Adoption Week, which focused on the need to offer children a loving and secure family home.

To find out about adoption on the Isle of Wight you should contact the council's adoption team* on **525790** or visit **www.iwight.com/adoption**


Other information is available at www.giveachildahome.co.uk and www.baaf.org.uk

Don't forget – adoption is a positive way of improving a child's life. Why not play your part in making a difference?



**Adoptions are arranged by an adoption agency that is legally permitted to arrange adoptions – the Isle of Wight Council, as a local authority, acts as an adoption agency.*



 **Top Mops would like to wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our customers and to introduce our services to potential new clients who want to clean up their premises following the Christmas celebrations.**



We are the Island's largest independent cleaning company and keen to deliver a 'local service for local people'.

Why spend hours picking pine needles out of your carpets when our professional team will be only too pleased to do it for you.

We clean medical establishments to CQC standards and deliver caretaking and cleaning services to many of the Island's schools. Give us a ring if you would like to know more!

We provide a bespoke quote for each client and all quotes are issued under no obligation. Just call Top Mops Ltd and we will do the rest.



 **Tel: (01983) 400202 Email: info@topmops.net**
www.topmops.net 

DINOSAUR ISLE INTERACTIVE DINOSAUR MUSEUM



Christmas Gift Sale 8 to 23 December 2012

Need inspiration in looking for that 'special' Christmas gift?

- View our fantastic range of dinosaur toys and games, minerals, jewellery and books. Dinosaur sleeping bag, puzzles, crystal necklace – you can find it all here.
- Gifts from only 40p to £800.
- Free entry to the gift shop.
- Open 10am to 3pm daily.



**At least
30% off all
stock!**

DINOSAURISLE.COM

Culver Parade, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 8QA Tel: (01983) 404344



A new school for Ventnor



Pictured: The new St Francis Primary School at Ventnor



Pictured: The open-air teaching area in the middle of the school also features a climbing wall; and (left) the open-plan library that forms the heart of the school

The start of next year will see the beginning of an exciting new era at Ventnor – with the unveiling of St Francis Primary School on the former Ventnor Middle School site.

Pupils are due to start at the new £6 million school in the new year, following the handover from the building contractors and final fitting out in December.

St Francis is one of two completed new-build primary schools as part of a programme to improve facilities and raise education standards for current and future generations of Island schoolchildren. The building work programme has varied from extensions and upgrades to entirely new schools.

The other completed new-build project was Haylands Primary School on the former Swanmore Middle School playing field site in Ryde, which was opened in September.

St Francis Primary School has been built by contractor Willmott Dixon Construction, the national firm which has been the council's framework partner for the overall project – supported by many



Pictured and above: The new classrooms are colour coded by year group; and (below) the new school hall



Island-based contractors.

Stuart Love, director for economy and the environment, said: "Ventnor and the Island can be very proud of the new St Francis Primary School – an excellent facility which will serve many future generations of schoolchildren as well as the wider community.

"All those who have worked on the project have made an excellent contribution towards what is an outstanding school facility."

Praise for community bus volunteers



National recognition has been paid to the Island's community bus scheme, now in its second year of operation.

The scheme, a partnership arrangement between bus firm Southern Vectis, community groups and the council, recently received two commendations in the National Municipal Journal Awards 2012 and was shortlisted in the 2012 National Transport Awards.

At both awards there was particular praise for the communities and volunteers that have helped make the scheme workable.

The scheme was developed in April

2011, with the council contracting vehicles from Southern Vectis – and offering community groups the opportunity to provide drivers to deliver socially desirable but non-commercially viable bus services in their areas. There are now nine routes in operation.

The council's manager for highways and transport, Peter Hayward, said: "By the nature of the routes, these services would not be delivered in the absence of the initiative and are a lifeline for many residents living in these areas. The services are also designed to link to the wider Southern Vectis network offering

opportunities for onward travel."

The initial one year scheme was jointly funded by the council and the Department of Transport's community transport grant – and following its initial success, the council made a commitment to provide support until March 2013.

Seven of the routes operate through funding from the council as part of its partnership arrangement with Southern Vectis. In turn, Southern Vectis provides buses at set times and days (outside the school lift), inclusive of fuel, insurance and associated costs.

The bus firm also works with community groups to register routes, train volunteer drivers, undertakes publicity in conjunction with wider network marketing and provides a telephone service for 'demand responsive' routes.

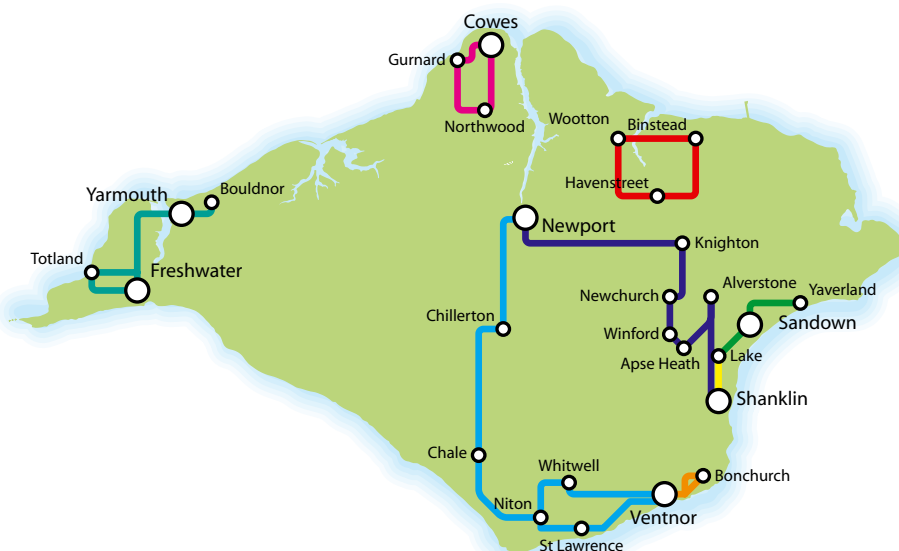
The community groups then provide suitable volunteer drivers; propose routes and timetables; and agree to promote services within their local community.

The FYT bus and Route 31 (*see panel*) are operated directly by community groups with their own community vehicles and drivers with council support.

Peter Hayward added: "At a time when bus routes are being lost nationally, this scheme has helped to maintain current levels of service and also provide some extra routes. Without the volunteers these routes would not be in operation."

The Island's community bus routes

- **Route 6** Newport, Chillerton, Chale, Blackgang Chine, Niton, Whitwell, Ventnor.
- **Route 22** Lake and Shanklin.
- **Route 23** Newport, Knighton, Newchurch, Alverstone, Shanklin.
- **Route 24** Yaverland, Perowne Way and Lake.
- **Route 32** Cowes, Gurnard and Northwood.
- **Route 34** Wootton, Binstead and Havenstreet.
- **FYT Bus** Freshwater, Totland, Yarmouth and Bouldnor.
- **Route 31** Ventnor.
- Dial a Bus** Demand responsive.



ACTIVITIES

Fellowship lunch

(18 December)
At Holy Trinity Church, Ryde, 12 noon.

EXHIBITIONS

Open Studio

(29 March – 1 April)
Exhibition of original paintings, including landscapes, abstracts, dogs and birds, opportunity to chat with artist, at Sercial, Madeira Road, Seaview, 10am to 4pm.

FAIRS & SHOWS

Book, postcard, stamp and ephemera fair

(2 March)
A fair with dealers selling books, postcards, stamps etc, Parish Centre, Town Lane, Newport, 10am to 3pm, admission 20p.

MEETINGS

Isle of Wight branch of the British Cactus and Succulent Society

(monthly)
Meeting on the second Saturday each month, Church Close Community Centre, Wootton, 7pm to 10pm.

Vectis branch of the Submariners' Association

(monthly)
Meeting on the fourth Wednesday each month, Camp Hill Prison Officers' Club, Newport, 7.30pm.

Isle of Wight Orchid Society

(monthly)
Meeting on the third Monday each month, Riverside Centre, Newport, 7.30pm.

Sandown Bay Diabetes Support Group

(monthly)

Meeting on the third Thursday each month, informative talks by medical professionals and discussions on matters relating to diabetes, Methodist Church Hall, York Road, Sandown, 7.30pm, contact Sharon Merrick, tel: 400336.

Ventnor Diabetes Support Group

(monthly)
Meeting on the second Wednesday every other month, at Ventnor Baptist Church, 7pm, next meeting 14 November, for more details contact Beryl, tel: 856467, email: brylstwrt@aol.com

British Airways' Retired Staff Association

(monthly)
Meeting on the third Wednesday each month, coffee morning, the White Lion, Arreton, 11am.

Voxpop rock and pop choir

(monthly)
Meeting each Wednesday, new singers welcome, no auditions or need to read music, songs from 50s to 90s, at parish rooms, Town Lane, Newport, 7.30pm to 9.30pm, visit www.voxpopchoir.co.uk

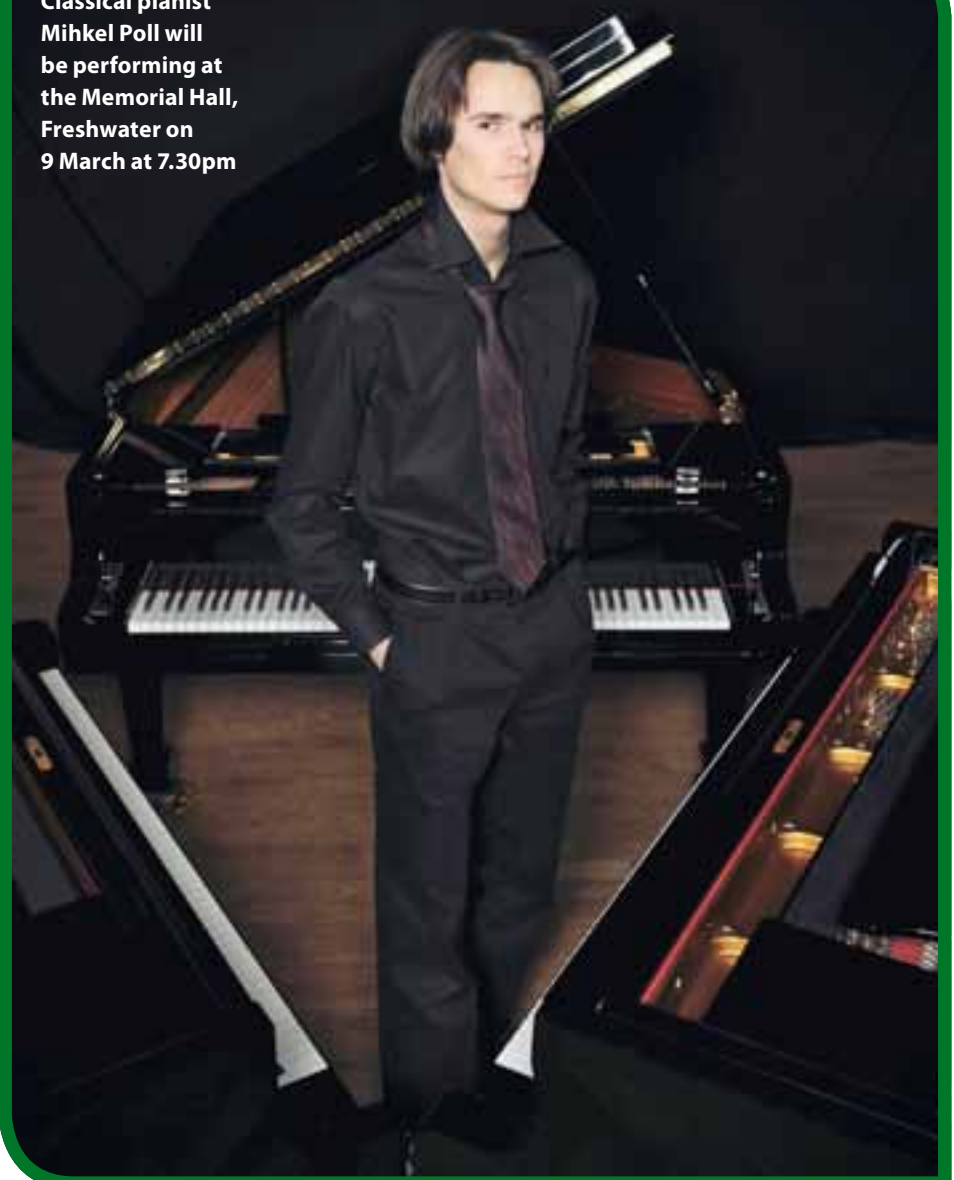
Island Concert Band

(monthly)
Rehearsal on the first Thursday each month, Newport Scout Hut, 7.30pm, new players welcome from 21 years and over, call Rachel or Robin Tweddle for more details, tel: 297970 or 07769 651106.

National Federation of the Blind UK

(monthly)
Meeting of the Island

Classical pianist Mihkel Poll will be performing at the Memorial Hall, Freshwater on 9 March at 7.30pm



branch on the last Saturday each month, Riverside Centre, Newport, 10.30am.

Action on Hearing Loss

(monthly)
Hear to Meet coffee mornings, a chance to share experiences, aimed at those who are deaf or hard of hearing, all welcome, at Salvation Army Hall, Newport (second Monday, 11am to 12.30pm), St Michael's Church, Ryde (third Wednesday, 10.30am to 12 noon), West Wight Community Centre, Freshwater (second Tuesday, 11am to 12.30pm).

Royal Naval Association

(monthly)
Meeting on the first Tuesday, for ex-members of the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, WRNS and RFA, Simeon Arms, Ryde, 7.30pm.

MUSIC

Newchurch Male Voice Choir Christmas concert

(21 December)
With invited special guests, All Saints' Church, Newchurch, 7.30pm, proceeds to Sandown and Shanklin Lifeboat, contact Barry Leahy, tel: 564637.

Suzanne Thorn and Daniel King Smith

(12 January)
West Wight Arts Association presents oboist Suzanne Thorn and pianist Daniel King Smith, performing Bach, Poulenc and Saint-Saens, Memorial Hall, Freshwater, 7.30pm, tickets from Totland Parish Council office or tel: 756028 or email: totlandparish@googlemail.com

Susanna Hurrell and Tom Primrose

(9 February)
West Wight Arts Association presents soprano Susanna Hurrell and pianist Tom Primrose,

performing Schubert, Mozart and Strauss, Memorial Hall, Freshwater, 7.30pm, tickets from Totland Parish Council office or tel: 756028 or email: totlandparish@googlemail.com

Mihkel Poll

(9 March)
West Wight Arts Association presents pianist Mihkel Poll, performing Enescu, Ligeti, Bartok and Mozart, Memorial Hall, Freshwater, 7.30pm, tickets from Totland Parish Council office or tel: 756028 or email: totlandparish@googlemail.com

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Advent carol service

(23 December)
Carols and readings for all the family, followed by mince pies and punch, All Saints' Church, Godshell, 7pm.

Christmas Eve sung mass

(24 December)
A service for all the family finishing at midnight, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor, 11pm.

Midnight mass

(24 December)
An annual service for all the family, All Saints' Church, Godshell, midnight.

Sung mass for Christmas morning

(25 December)
A celebration for all ages to welcome Christ – the newborn king, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor, 9.30am.

Christmas Day Eucharist

(25 December)
Welcoming the birth of Christ, All Saints' Church, Godshell, 11am.

Nine lessons and carols

(30 December)
A service of carols and readings for everyone, followed by seasonal refreshments, Langbridge Chapel, Lower Newchurch, 3pm.

Ash Wednesday service

(13 February)
Holy Communion, St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor, 9.30am.

Evening prayer for the first Sunday in Lent

(17 February)
A service according to the Book of Common Prayer, with hymns followed by light refreshments, Langbridge Chapel, Lower Newchurch, 4pm.

TALKS

The Entente Cordiale goes to war – British attitudes to fighting alongside the French

(16 January)
A talk to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association by Professor Adrian Smith, University of Southampton, at the Riverside Centre, Newport, 7.30pm, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410, visitors welcome.

London's changing skyline: Its past, present and future

(17 January)
Vectis Decorative and Fine Arts Society presents an illustrated lecture by Anthea Streeter tracing the early history of London's architecture, Medina Theatre, Newport, 8pm, www.vectisdfas.org.uk

War, society and the state in early modern Europe

Celebrate Christmas at St Alban the Martyr Church, Upper Ventnor and All Saints' Church, Godshell (see under 'Religious services')

(14 February)
A talk to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association by Frank Tullett, fellow of history at the University of Reading, Sixth Form Campus (Orchard Street entrance), Newport, 7.35pm, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410, visitors welcome.

Secret beauty: Hidden messages in pictorial composition

(21 February)
Vectis Decorative and Fine Arts Society presents an illustrated lecture by Richard Box explaining how artists use shape, line and colour to express themselves, Medina Theatre, Newport, 8pm, www.vectisdfas.org.uk

Bevin Boys – directed in the mines during the Second World War

(14 March)
A talk to the Isle of Wight branch of the Historical Association by Dr

Anne Kneif, archivist to the Meopham Historical Society, Sixth Form Campus (Orchard Street entrance), Newport, 7.35pm, contact Terry Blunden, tel: 524410, visitors welcome.

Legend and lustre: Jim Thompson and Thai silk

(21 March)
Vectis Decorative and Fine Arts Society presents an illustrated lecture by Denise Haywood on Jim Thompson and how he reinvented the Thai silk industry, his art collection, and his mysterious disappearance in the Cameron Highlands, Medina Theatre, Newport, 8pm, www.vectisdfas.org.uk

THEATRE

Jack and the Beanstalk

(13-15 December)
New Strolling Players present a traditional pantomime, Memorial Hall, Freshwater, 7.30pm

(plus matinee on 15 Dec, 2pm), tickets adult £6, children £3, family (two adults and two children) £15, from The Cabin, Freshwater, tel: 752956 or 754654.

The Prisoner of Carisbrooke

(17-19 January)
Bonchurch Theatre Company presents a play about King Charles I time as a prisoner on the Isle of Wight, at Ventnor Baptist Church (17 Jan) and Brading Roman Villa (18 and 19 Jan), all performances start at 7.30pm, tickets £8 (concessions £6), book early, tel: 730930.

Sleeping Beauty

(16-17, 23 February)
The Wight Strollers present a family pantomime, Medina Theatre, Newport, 2.30pm and 7.30pm on 16 and 23 February, 2.30pm only on 17 February, tickets £7.50 adults, £6.50 pensioners, £5.50 children.

These listings are provided free, as a public information service.

Details must be submitted either by: **filling out this form, or emailing your details to oneisland@iow.gov.uk**

Please conform to the format shown. Entries are included at the editorial team's discretion. Next scheduled edition: 15 March (listings for period 15 March to 30 June).

Title of event/activity:

Date:

Brief description:

Venue:

Time:

Contact name:

Telephone:

Please return (by 15 February) to: **Time & Place, One Island, Resident Information and Consultation Team, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight PO30 1UD or email to oneisland@iow.gov.uk**

