

# Purbeck in Trust



Newsletter of the  
Purbeck Association of the National Trust

Issue no. 73 March 2025



Join us on a cruise on the River Exe in May  
See page 11

Founded in 1987 to promote and prosper the work of the National Trust  
[www.purbecknt.org.uk](http://www.purbecknt.org.uk)

The inside cover of the Newsletter has not been reproduced here as it contains the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of Committee members.

If you have lost your copy of the Newsletter and want to get in touch, then go to the 'Contact Us' page of our website

## **CONTENTS**

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b>Membership News</b>      | <b>2</b> |
| <b>The Chairman Writes</b>  | <b>3</b> |
| <b>AGM April 2025</b>       | <b>4</b> |
| <b>Insurance</b>            | <b>5</b> |
| <b>Planning your visits</b> | <b>6</b> |

### **OUTINGS and SOCIALS**

|                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Spring Lunch, March</b>            | <b>8</b>  |
| <b>Afternoon Tea Blue Pool, April</b> | <b>10</b> |
| <b>River Cruise Exmouth, May</b>      | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Hatchlands Park, June</b>          | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Lunchtime Quiz, July</b>           | <b>13</b> |
| <b>Talks</b>                          | <b>14</b> |

### **ADVANCE NOTICE**

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Pallington Lakes, September</b> | <b>15</b> |
| <b>Overnight Break, December</b>   | <b>16</b> |

## Membership News

Welcome to **Ann Popperwell, Carol & Paul Davis and Nicola Rance** who have joined us since the last Newsletter was issued. We hope you get a chance to enjoy your membership over the coming months.

It's that time again. Unless you joined after the start of this year, your membership will be due for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> April. We're repeating our normal system. If you pay by Standing Order you will find an orange slip reminding you of this, and you don't need to take any further action. If you normally pay by cheque, you'll find the standard renewal notice. This year the renewal notices should be posted to Les Wright, our Chairman. This is because I'm stepping down as Membership Secretary after several years in the job.

Please think about paying by BACS or by Standing Order – it makes life so much easier for us, especially now that we have no local branches of Barclays. If you pay by BACS transfer, then please let Les know once you've made the transfer so that we know what payments to expect on our bank statements. You can do this by phone or email. Les's contact details are on the inside front and back covers.

BACS details are: **Account name:** Purbeck Association of the National Trust

**Sort code:** 20-68-79 **Account number:** 90830127.

If you're paying us by BACS for the first time, please note that you need to put in our full name. This is part of security measures introduced by banks. If you're paying by cheque, it's still OK to just put PANT as the payee.

If you'd like to pay by Standing Order for the first time, then contact Les and he'll send you a form.

**David Cole** Membership Secretary

\*\*\*\*\*

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank David for his service as Membership Secretary over the last 12 years, and also as Vice-Chairman for six years. David has been a pleasure to work with, and was always the calm voice of reason and experience at meetings. We won't lose him entirely, as he will continue as a Committee member and helping at our talks.



**Les Wright** Chairman

## The Chairman Writes



*A quick artist's impression of a couple of us at our regular committee meetings, as we discuss the response to our appeals for help*

We've already been running without a Newsletter Editor for the last couple of issues. We're now short of a Membership Secretary (see opposite).

Because some of us on the main committee 'double-up', doing more than one role, we also struggle to reach the minimum number of committee members required by our constitution.

Once again, I'm appealing for help with running PANT. Don't let us go the way of other Supporter Groups, which have closed, not for want of members, but for want of people willing to help with the work..

\*\*\*\*\*

You'll notice that we have fewer outings planned in the coming months. There are a couple of reasons for this. Firstly, we draw up plans for the Spring Newsletter during the Autumn of the previous year. For this issue we've found that venues have been reluctant to give us prices so far ahead. This may be because they're waiting to assess the full effect of the Autumn budget on their operations, but whatever the reasons, it makes it very difficult for us to plan. We've also found that coach prices have risen steeply.

We do hope that you'll continue to support the events that we're running, and that we can soon get back to more of the outings that we know you enjoy.

**Les Wright** Chairman

**Purbeck Association of the National Trust  
36th Annual General Meeting**

**Notice is hereby given that the above meeting will be held in  
All Saints Church Hall, Ulwell Road, Swanage  
on Tuesday 22nd April 2025 at 2.30pm**

**AGENDA**

**1. Apologies for absence**

**2. Minutes of the 35th AGM on 18th April 2024**

*Copies available at the meeting*

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes**

**4. Chairman's Report**

**5. Submission of Annual Accounts and Honorary Treasurer's Report**

**6. Election of an Independent Examiner of the Accounts**

**7. Election of Officers and Committee Members**

*David Cole, Ken Morgan, Keith Southern, Margaret Tyrer, Sophia Wright and Les Wright have all completed at least five terms on the Committee and are willing to be considered for re-election for a further twelve months .*

**8. Any Other Business**

*Members must inform the Honorary Secretary in writing **by 8th April 2025** if they wish to raise any matters under Item 8 of the Agenda*

At the conclusion of the AGM business we will serve tea and cakes and Gen Crisford from the National Trust will provide an update on the beavers at Little Sea and plans for the Purbeck Beaver Project.

In accordance with our Constitution, the present Officers and Committee Members retire but, if eligible, may offer themselves for re-election. Using the form in the insert any Member may nominate another Member (with their prior agreement) to serve on the Committee. These forms must be received by the Honorary Secretary no later than 8th April 2025. It is hoped that all members will give their help to maintain and strengthen the work of the Association.

**Keith Southern** Honorary Secretary

## INSURANCE

The National Trust provides insurance coverage for supporter groups like **PANT**, for activities they undertake for the benefit of the NT. Here is a reminder of the exact details.

1. **Public Liability** covers all participants, regardless of whether they are NT members, volunteers or members of the public in any activity the group undertakes. It applies whether or not the group is at a NT property. However, people can make a claim only if it is proved that PANT is legally liable.
2. **Personal Accident** cover is discretionary. It is restricted to members undertaking voluntary activity for the NT e.g. Committee members, event organisers, newsletter deliverers. The upper age limit for this cover is 90. However, the cover applies only if loss of earnings can be demonstrated so is unlikely to be relevant for most PANT members. Any costs incurred due to an accident while on supporter group trips or activities are covered under the Public Liability section.
3. More details can be found in a document entitled '*Key facts regarding insurance arrangements for Supporter Groups*' which is posted on the PANT website under 'Short Breaks'.

**Keith Southern** Honorary Secretary



*Windfall apples at Killerton House on our visit last October.*

## PLANNING YOUR VISITS

**Insurance** Please note that the third party Indemnity Insurance Policy does not cover members over the age of **90** years for Personal Accident. Members, and those over this age, participate in Association activities at their own risk.

**Cost etc.** The price of outings includes: travel by coach, driver's gratuity and entrance fee (if any) to the venue. If bringing a guest, let us know if they are a member of PANT/NT as non-members and PANT-only members pay **full admission** charge to NT properties. **Bring your NT card with you on outings.**

**Bookings** are made on a first come, first served basis and cannot be dealt with over the phone. Places will be offered strictly in accordance with the date the booking is **received** by the organiser. Friends or family are very welcome but if an outing is over-subscribed, members take precedence.

A **reservation** list is kept for over-subscribed outings so, if you need to cancel for any reason, please do not offer your place to anyone else. Let the organiser know so that the place may be offered to the next person on the waiting list.

When making your booking(s), please send your **booking form(s)** together with a separate cheque and SAE for each booking to the organiser of each event. Their address is on the inside of the front cover.

Please make **cheques** payable to **PANT**. Receipts will be issued only for holiday deposit cheques. If you are booking **more than 6 months ahead**, please do not date your cheque. It will be dated shortly before passing the cheque to the Treasurer 2/3 weeks before the outing takes place.

**Cancellations** If you need to cancel, **providing it is more than four weeks** before an outing, a full refund less £5 administration fee will be given. After that, a refund will be due only if the seats can be passed to another person. Tickets will be issued two weeks beforehand. If an event is cancelled, you will be told and your cheque returned.

**There will be separate cancellation deadlines for Holidays and Short Breaks as conditions imposed by hotels etc. will vary. These will be detailed on the booking forms.**



## **Assistance**

Outings may involve considerable walking and stair climbing so members with mobility difficulties should seek guidance from the organiser before booking. Group volunteers leading the visit will not be able to spend time with an individual attendee, but every effort will be made to make sure that everyone has an enjoyable outing.

**Please note:** the wearing of seat belts on coaches is now a legal requirement and is compulsory. Do please observe this as the coach operator may be subject to penalties if this is not complied with.

### **Emergency Contact**

The National Trust advise us that we should ask all members who attend our events, to carry some form of personal identification and details of someone who may be contacted in an emergency.

This is a wise precaution and we ask members to adopt this measure as standard practice. This is especially important if a single member is travelling or taking part.

Although we do not like to think of upsetting incidents occurring during an enjoyable day out, we must take sensible precautions.

### **Departure Time for Outings**

***Please be at pick-up 5 minutes before departure time.***

**Swanage**      **Ballard Stores – departure time as shown on the ticket**

**Victoria Avenue Car Park + 5 mins from the start**

**Corfe Castle**    **Methodist Church + 15 mins from the start**

**Wareham**      **Red Lion bus stop + 25 mins from the start**

**Railway Station (bus stop north side) +30 mins from the start**

The departure times for holidays will differ, as we need to allow time for loading luggage onto the coach—participants will be given exact details.

## MARCH

### SPRING LUNCH

Friday 21 March 12.30 for 1pm

Cost: Members: 2 courses £36 3 courses £40

Non-Member Supplement £3



*Welcome to Spring at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club with our annual lunch.  
Hopefully, the day will be bright and sunny and we may enjoy the views  
across Studland and Poole Harbour.*

*You will be greeted with a glass of fruit cup or, if you prefer, you can purchase  
a glass of something more stimulating at the bar.*

*There will be a raffle, but no table quiz!*



# Menu

***Please make your selections for a two or three course lunch.***

## **Starters**

**A** Chicken Liver Pate with toasted bread and homemade chutney (GFA)

**B** Smoked Chilli Avocado on Ciabatta Croute topped with Smoked Salmon (DF, GFA)

**C** Tempura Vegetables with Salad and Gyoza with a sweet chilli dipping sauce (V, DF)

## **Mains**

**D** Slow cooked Feather Blade of Beef with Diane Sauce (DFA)

**E** Grilled Fillet of Sea Bream with Lemon Herb and Prawn butter (GF, DFA)

**F** Roast Chicken Supreme with a Tarragon Chasseur Sauce (DF, GF)

**G** Goats Cheese and Red Onion Chutney Filo Parcel on Roasted Root Vegetables (V)

## **Desserts**

**H** Apple and Cinnamon Crumble with Custard (V, DFA)

**J** Dark Chocolate and Orange Mousse with Sable Biscuits (V, GF)

**K** Classic Vanilla Crème Brûlée (V,GF)

***Coffee, Tea and Mints to be served afterwards***

*V = vegetarian*

*DF = dairy-free*

*GF = gluten-free*

*DFA = dairy-free version available on request*

*GFA = gluten-free version available on request*

*Please note any dietary restrictions, allergies or requests for gluten- or dairy-free choices on the booking form*

**Organiser: Jill Benwell**

**Closing date 8 March**



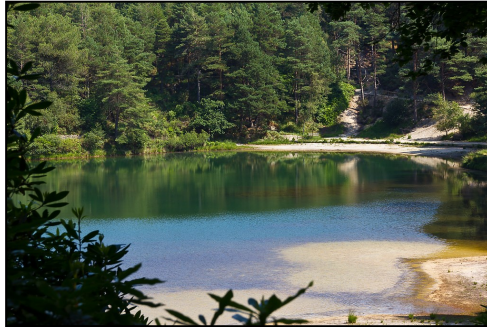
## APRIL

### AFTERNOON TEA AT THE BLUE POOL, FURZEBROOK

**Tuesday 29 April. Tea served at 3pm**

Cost: Members: Afternoon Tea £19 + £3 Non-Members

Members: Cream Tea: £12 + £3 Non-Members



Come along to The Blue Pool and join us for either a Cream Tea (scones, jam, cream and tea or coffee) or push the boat out with a full Afternoon Tea (a Cream Tea plus sandwiches and cakes). We'll try to meet all dietary requirements (see booking form). We'll have our own room in their café, with waiter service.

As well as a gratuity for staff and a small amount for PANT, the price includes entry to The Blue Pool which is normally £9.50. You can come early to have a walk around or stay after you've eaten. Tea will be served at 3pm and closing time is 5.30pm.

At this time of year, you should see plenty of colour from the rhododendrons and azaleas in the grounds. You can see the many recent additions including sculptures and of course the rope bridge.

If you need a lift to get there, or can offer a lift, please indicate this on the booking form and we'll try to match people up.

**Organiser: Les Wright**

**Closing date 10 April**

## MAY

### RIVER EXE CRUISE

**Tuesday 20 May**

Cost: Members £45

Non Members £48

Depart Swanage 9.00am

Depart Exmouth 4.30pm



Today we will be taking a trip along the coast to Exmouth in Devon. There will be a short comfort break en route.

At Exmouth we will be dropped off at The Strand. This is in the town centre with plenty of eating places and shops etc for you to explore or stretch your legs and go for a walk along by the sea on the Promenade.

You will be picked up at 1.30pm and taken to The Marina to arrive at 1.45pm where you will be embarking for your river trip which departs at 2pm.

The cruise will go up the River Exe to Topsham, and will then start its return journey to Exmouth. The voyage will last two hours and fifteen minutes and during this time you will be served a cream tea (included in the cost).

The boat has wet weather provision - just in case!!!!

Upon arrival back at Exmouth at about 4.15pm the coach will be waiting for our return journey.

**Organiser: Margaret Tyrer**

**Closing date 18 April**



## JUNE

### HATCHLANDS PARK

**Wednesday 11 June**

Cost Members £30

Non Members £33

Depart Swanage 8.30am

Depart Hatchlands 4pm

**Non NT Members will have to pay an entrance fee at Hatchlands**



This Georgian house is situated just north-east of Guildford and is home to some of Robert Adam's earliest work. It houses a wonderful collection of paintings and a world class collection of musical instruments brought together by the tenant Alec Cobbe. You can pick up an audio guide for just £2 from the house entrance; the basic guide lasts around 45 minutes.

Only six downstairs rooms are open to the public.

The Kitchen Café is at the top of the cobbled courtyard close to the house, in which were originally the kitchens. It provides snacks, cakes and bakes, hot sausage rolls, pasties and toasted sourdough sandwiches plus a full range of hot and cold drinks to eat in or takeaway and picnic in the grounds. The Coach House Café is situated in the lower cobbled courtyard, where Lord Rendel's carriages were once kept.

Spanning 422 acres the parkland at Hatchlands is a wonderful spot to enjoy the great outdoors. You'll find many picnic options all over the park. Picnic areas are cow-free zones, so you can enjoy your food in peace. Pick up a map on arrival and look for the areas marked with a picnic table.

**Organiser: Jill Benwell**

**Closing date: 21 May**

## JULY

### LUNCHTIME QUIZ - STOBOROUGH VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday 8 July 12 for 12.30pm

Cost: Members £15

Non Members £18

This will be a light-hearted quiz to test your knowledge and stretch your memories.

And now pop.  
Which came  
first, Tizer  
or Tango?



We'll start with a ploughman's lunch with cheese or paté. Tea, coffee and fruit juice will be available, but feel free to bring your own beer, wine etc. (but remember to bring your own bottle opener and/or corkscrew if you're going to need one).

There will be a couple of table rounds to complete while you're having lunch, just to fill in any gaps in the conversation. Once lunch is out of the way we'll have as many rounds as we can fit in before we finish around 3pm.

A small (not very serious) prize will be awarded to the winning table, and another to the table with the lowest score.

You're welcome to come as a group, but if you want to come on your own, we'll sort you out into a team with other people.

**NB SERIOUS QUIZZERS NEED NOT APPLY!**

**Organiser: Jill Benwell**

**Closing date 24 June**

## TALKS

**Time: 2.30pm. Arrive early.**

### VENUES

**Wareham. Carey Hall, Mistover Road, BH20 4BY** which has its own car park. Leave the station roundabout on Bere Road, turn immediately left onto Carey Road. Mistover Road is, after about 200 yds, the first road on the right. The entrance to the Hall is between houses about 70 yds up on the right hand side.

**Swanage. All Saints Hall, Ulwell Rd. BH19 1LL.** Some parking is available plus plenty of local roads to use if needed. It's also on the number 50 bus route.

After the Talk we hold a raffle and serve tea & biscuits, usually finishing at about 4pm.

### SPEAKERS 2025

**Thursday 20 March (Wareham)** - Local polymath **Richard Wirdnam's** Talk about **Edward Thomas** is lively and amusing, drawing on his wide knowledge of poems and poetic devices. He is an expert on both Jane Austen and Thomas Hardy and has edited publications for schools and societies about various aspects of literature study.

**Tuesday 22 April (Swanage)** - **AGM** After the formal business (details on p 4) Gen Crisford of the National Trust will provide an update on the beavers at Little Sea and plans for the Purbeck Beaver Project.

**Thursday 18 September (Wareham)** - **Painting Desert Towns; Shekhawati's Murals. Ilay Cooper**, well known Dorset author, will be speaking about his time working with the Indian National Trust to document wall paintings. This reveals just how diverse the wall paintings are. Ilay is an authority on the subject and has written a book about his adventures working on them which he will bring to the Talk for those very early Christmas presents!

**Tuesday 21 October (Swanage)** - **Peter Sills from the Mining Museum.** We have all heard of the Swanage Railway – of which Peter Sills is Chairman - but how many of us know much about the Mining Museum that houses some fascinating facts about and artefacts of Purbeck's industrial past? It will be wonderful to learn more from Peter who is a 'mine' of information.

We hope you enjoy these. Details of later talks will be in the next Newsletter.

**Sophia Wright, Talks Secretary**



## ADVANCE NOTICE FOR YOUR DIARY

### SEPTEMBER

#### BRUNCH AT PALLINGTON LAKES

We're planning a chance to meet up and socialise over lunch or brunch at *Sculpture by the Lakes*. This 26-acre combination of lakes, botanic garden and sculpture park has become a popular destination. Acquired in 2007 by sculptor Simon Gudgeon, it is now one of only eight recognised botanic gardens in the UK.



We'll have our own room for our meal. Afterwards (or before if you're early) you can visit *The Store* where there are hundreds of wonderful hand-crafted items. You can also visit *The Gallery* which has an ever-changing collection of the work of international artists exhibiting sculpture, paintings and handmade prints in one of the largest exhibition spaces in Dorset. If you want to go round the lakes and see the gardens and the highly regarded collection of sculptures, then you'll need to pay for entry.

It's not economic to arrange coach transport for this, so we're asking you to make your own way there.

At the time of writing we haven't been able to finalise the arrangements. Full details and booking forms will be in the next Newsletter.

**Organiser: Janice Tait**

## ADVANCE NOTICE FOR YOUR DIARY

### Overnight Stay Friday 5th to Saturday 6th December

We plan to return to Federation House, near Leatherhead, where we had such an enjoyable stay in December 2023. At the moment all our plans are provisional, as it's difficult to make firm bookings so far ahead, but this is what we hope we will be doing:

| December '25 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| M            | Tu | W  | Th | F  | Sa | Su |
| 1            | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8            | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15           | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22           | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29           | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |

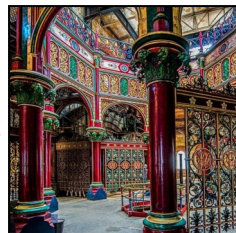
#### Friday 5th December



Travel to Waddesdon. This is one of the National Trust's finest properties. It's a French Renaissance-style chateau with an extensive art collection, landscaped gardens, aviary and woodland playground. Dinner at our hotel.

#### Saturday 6th December

After breakfast we travel to Crossness Pumping Station. Known as *The Cathedral of the Marshes* it demonstrates the genius of one of the greatest Victorian civil engineers. In its own way the interior decoration is a match for any of our great houses. We have a guided tour, which includes tea, coffee etc. It may seem an odd destination, but a local WI group have told us that it was a great visit.



As usual the cost will include travel, dinner, bed and breakfast, entry fees and gratuities. Non-National Trust members will have to pay entry fees to Waddesdon. Full details and booking forms will be in the next Newsletter. Contact me if you have any queries.

**Margaret Tyrer**



The inside cover of the Newsletter has not been reproduced here as it contains the names, addresses, phone numbers and email addresses of Committee members.

If you have lost your copy of the Newsletter and want to get in touch, then go to the 'Contact Us' page of our website

# DIARY 2025

|   |     |             |                                 |
|---|-----|-------------|---------------------------------|
| March 20 <sup>th</sup>                    | p14 | Talk        | Wareham                         |
| March 21 <sup>st</sup>                    | p8  | Social      | Spring Lunch                    |
| April 22 <sup>nd</sup>                    | p4  | AGM         | Swanage                         |
| April 29 <sup>th</sup>                    | p10 | Social      | Blue Pool Afternoon Tea         |
| May 20 <sup>th</sup>                      | p11 | Visit       | River Cruise                    |
| June 11 <sup>th</sup>                     | p12 | Visit       | Hatchlands Park                 |
| July 8 <sup>th</sup>                      | p13 | Social      | Lunchtime Quiz                  |
| September 18 <sup>th</sup>                | p14 | Talk        | Wareham                         |
| October 21 <sup>st</sup>                  | p14 | Talk        | Swanage                         |
| September tbc                             | p15 | Social      | Brunch at Pallington Lakes      |
| December 5 <sup>th</sup> /6 <sup>th</sup> | p16 | Short Break | Full details in next Newsletter |