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After a long, hot summer, September has arrived with promises of a bright, new academic year.

I love it as the weather starts to cool and the first signs of autumn show themselves. This month is a great one for Isle of Wight walks and Sunday lunches. The walk we're sharing this month passes some great local pubs to grab a meal and a drink after your stroll.

It's also the month of the much-awaited Tour of Britain, when the Isle of Wight hosts the last leg of the UK's most prestigious cycle race. There's more details on page 16.

If cycling's not your thing, there's plenty of other events to add to your diary in this month's Entertainment Guide.

Have a great month.

Amy Shephard

Editor amy.shephard@iwbeacon.com







Walking the Island: The Medina Estuary

The Entertainment Guide

History: Restoration of WWII Spitfire

16-17 Tour of Britain

18-21 News from Your Area

29 Gardening: The Changing Seasons with Alan Titchmarsh

31 Spot the Difference Competition





IW Beacon Media Centre, 8-10 Dodnor Park, Newport, PO30 5XE











You can aim high and achieve your goals with help from the Isle of Wight College

Students come to the college from all over the Island, attracted by the college's exceptional facilities which can't be found anywhere else on the Isle of Wight. The college offers a wide range of courses which will help you to develop valuable technical and vocational skills to progress to university or jump straight into the workplace. Any route you decide to take with us can lead to an enjoyable, successful and well-paid career.

In coming years the facilities are set to improve further with incredible business connections, higher education and digital innovation as a key focus.

We are here for you at any time to explain more about:

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- Distance Learning
- Adult Learning
- Short Courses and Employer Training
- International opportunities
- University Centre Isle of Wight

Prospective students can also find out about the range of bursaries and financial assistance available as well as the college's vast range of enrichment such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, subsidised international travel and use of on site facilities such as the salons and college gym.



YOU CAN STILL APPLY FOR THIS SEPTEMBER!





18th October: Open evening 12th November: Open day

6th December: Adult skills open evening

28th January: Open day 6th - 10th March: Open week

MORE DETAILS AND TIMES: IWCOLLEGE.AC.UK







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For menus and more information please visit characterinns.co.uk



designed to keep the while that's okay with me, it is the adults who seem to find this baked treat particularly irresistible.

If I can find a tub of edible disco glitter in one of my cupboards, I sprinkle some on while the marshmallow is still sticky, but it has a certain pearly, luminescent appeal as it is.

It's also beautiful cut into squares. Alternatively, you could turn this into more of a pickable pud, by cutting the slab into teeny-tiny squares

INGREDIENTS

45g butter 300g mini marshmallows 180g rice krispies Edible glitter or sprinkles (optional)

METHOD

Melt the butter in a large, heavy-based saucepan over a low heat.

 $2^{\rm Add\ the\ marshmallows}$ and cook gently until they are completely melted and blended, stirring constantly.

and immediately add the cereal, mixing lightly until well coated.

Press the finates.
greased 32cmx23cm tin /13x9" pan; you may have to put on vinyl CSI gloves and press it down into the corners, as it will be very sticky. Flatten the top and then scatter over the edible glitter or sprinkles, if so inclined.

5 Let the marshmallow crispy squares cool completely in the tin and then cut them into 24 squares. 3



Start your career by gaining new skills and qualifications. With our industryexperienced tutors and smaller class sizes, we're the Island's friendliest college. We have a wide range of one-year courses from September at our Riverbank Campus in Newport. And if you need to, you can also take Maths & English GCSE.

Or start work now with a workplace Apprenticeship

At HTP we work with great employers on the Island and across the South. We have a long track record of placing young people in real jobs, with high levels of success. Talk to us today and we can build a training programme that gets you started in the world of work - with real wages and no tuition fees.

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his circular walk along the River Medina can be joined at any point along the route. We're starting at Newport Quay and heading towards East Cowes.

Walk along the riverside, through Seaclose Park, which plays host to the Isle of Wight Festival each year. Follow the cycle track, through the wooden archway.

As you walk along the river, you may notice wading birds

As you walk

along the river,

and waterfowl including black tailed godwits, redshank, grey herons and little egret.

Continue to walk until you reach The Breeze

steamer built in 1937 which

hotel and a disco back in the 1970s-80s.

Another piece of (slightly more modern) history...the Spice Bus is also located here outside The Breeze. The tour bus used in the 1997 Spice Girls movie can now be hired for overnight stays through Airbnb.

Here you'll need to cross over the water to continue along the cycle track towards The Folly Inn. You'll walk along the riverbank and cross

> over a little bridge until you reach The Folly.

Walk a little way up Folly Lane and take a left to that leads round

Once you reach Cowes, turn left into Bridge Road, and left again into Pelham Road. Follow South Road round to join Arctic Road, which will

lead you to the Cowes Cycle Track. Join the cycle track and walk along the route until you reach Newport's Riverway Industrial Estate.

Under this leafy walkway, you may spot the Isle of Wight's native red squirrels up in the trees.

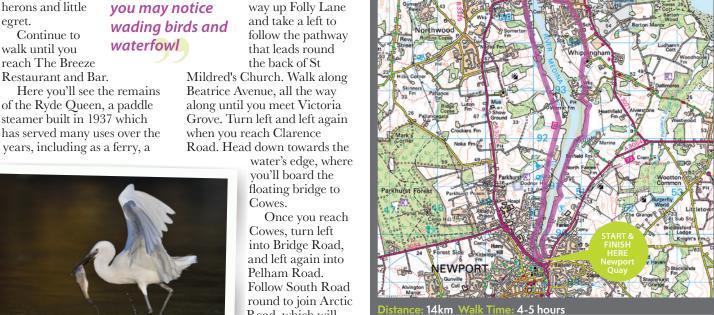
COWES

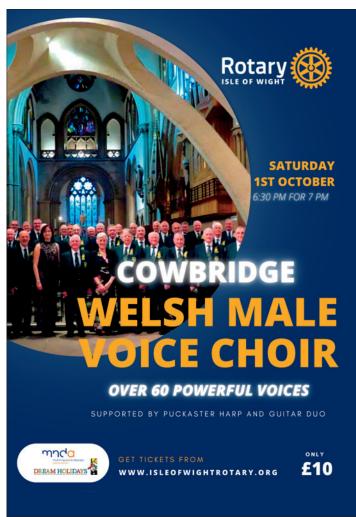
Walk along the pathway, keeping the river on your left until you reach The Bargeman's Rest on Newport Quay, opposite where you started.

The walk should take around 4-5 hours (not including any picnic/pub stops!). 3

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Roads











Entertainment GUII

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On Saturday explore inspiring workshops & talks, yoga & movement, meditation & mindfulness, holistic therapies, a wellbeing marketplace and the Feel Good Glitter Party in the evening. On Sunday enjoy the slower pace of life with restorative yoga, breath and sound healing sessions. Join for the Saturday, or for the full weekend — the choice is yours.

www.awakeningfestival.co.uk



THE ISLE **OF WIGHT GIN FESTIVAL**

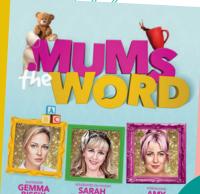
The Isle of Wight Gin Festival returns to Quay Arts, Newport on September 24th and 25th with a whole variety of small batch gins

There will be live music all

weekend and a huge raffle in aid of The Wight Brainy Bunch. There will be talks from visiting distillers plus Gin & Tonic Cupcakes!

Call 01983 822490 or visit www.quavarts.org





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Whether it's leaving the house without your bra, crying in the supermarket aisles for no reason or secretly thinking you had given birth to E.T, you won't feel alone when listening to these women portray the 'beauty' of bringing new life into the world... or forgetting

where they left it.

1ST OCTOBER 7.30PM MEDINA THEATRE NEWPORT

An uplifting, honest heart-warming show that will have you both roaring with laughter and reaching for the

1ST OCTOBER

Call 01983 823884 or visit www.medinatheatre.co.uk

BEYOND THE WEST END: A JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE

Beyond the West End takes you on a musical journey through life, featuring songs from the likes of Queen and Tina Turner and smash hit musicals Mamma Mia and Dirty Dancing.

The most entertaining variety show on the Island, packed full of showstopping songs, colourful costumes and a live band, there is something for everyone.

Book now for a fast, fun and fantastic night out. You're guaranteed to have the 'Time of your Life'.

Call the Box Office on 01983 868000 or visit www.shanklintheatre.com



COWBRIDGE WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR



Isle of Wight Rotary welcomes Cowbridge Welsh Male Voice Choir to **Newport Minster** for a fundraising

concert supporting MND IOW and Dream Holidays, granting wishes and holidays to children with Cystic Fibrosis.

The choir have performed in the USA, Canada and across Europe. Their repertoire is very varied, performing pop and rock ballads as well as the more traditional choral numbers.



has sung the Welsh National Anthem at a France V Wales Rugby Union Match.

Local duo Puckaster, complete the line up, an interesting mix of Harp and Guitar who will complement the roof lifting choral performance to follow.

Tickets just £10 each. See isleofwightrotary.org for details. www.isleofwightrotary.org



10TH

SEPTEMBER

7.30PM SHANKLIN

JACK UP THE 60S ITH THE ZOOTS

THEATRE A chance to escape to the sixties! Returning by very popular demand, Jack Up Events are turning back the clock to the most defining decade in music and are bringing the good times to Shanklin Theatre with a very special 'Jack Up The 60s' evening featuring multi-talented 5-piece band THE ZOOTS.

This is THE 60s show that's wowing audiences around the world, selling out venues from the London Palladium to Old Trafford.

THE ZOOTS are here to make your whole family bop to the iconic '60s beats that everybody loves - with legendary numbers by The Beatles, The Stones, The Monkees, The Beach Boys, The Kinks, The Four Seasons and

This show is packed full of wall to wall hits and accompanied by stunning visual effects ensuring an impressive and authentic journey of discovery... or a trip down memory lane!

Discover why national critics call The Zoots "impossible not to like!" Tickets £24. Visit www.shanklintheatre.com

WHAT'S ON THIS AUTUMN AT THE APOLLO THEATRE

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To book www.apollo-theatre.org.uk or call 01983 210010 and leave a message.







ore than 80 years ago, fuselage frames and system components were supplied for Spitfire AA810 from GKN's facility in East Cowes, under the name J Samuel White (which was acquired by GKN Aerospace).

GKN has been a UK industrial champion for more than 260 years and during the 1930s and 1940s, 1,000

Spitfire AA810

was launched

Restoration Ltd

in 2018 with the

aim of returning

Alastair 'Sandy'

Gunn's historic

aircraft to flight

Spitfires rolled off its Hadley Castle production line, near Telford. It also made Spitfire components at its East Cowes facility, just seven miles from Sandown Airport, where Spitfire AA810 is being restored today. GKN Aerospace's

£500,000 donation will support the restoration of its fuselage structure, as well as the wing spars, leading edges and the wing ribs. GKN Aerospace apprentices in Bristol and here on the Isle of Wight will also be directly involved in the project,

working on the machined components of the storied aircraft.

Once restored to flight in 2024, the aircraft will be used by the Sandy Gunn Aerospace Careers Programme to promote engineering careers and inspire future generations into the aerospace industry.

Spitfire AA810 is known as Sandy's Spitfire, after its last pilot and engineer Alastair Sandy Gunn, who died in

1944. The charity operates in his name offering free engineering careers advice to school pupils all over the United Kingdom. Sandy's Spitfire is unique given its history and its role as a super long-range photographic aircraft during

WWII. It also has the highest operational hours of any surviving Mk1 Spitfire and is the earliest surviving unarmed military reconnaissance aircraft in existence.

Spitfire AA810 Restoration Ltd was launched in 2018 with the aim of returning



Cottish pilot, Alastair Donald Mackintosh 'Sandy' Gunn was taken prisoner after he bailed out of his Spitfire before it crashed.

Gunn was on a photo reconnaissance mission of the German naval bases in Norway when his plane was shot down.

He was soon captured by German forces and questioned over a period of three weeks, before being taken to a prison camp in Poland.

Two years later on March 24th 1944, Gunn was one of 76 men who escaped from Stalag Luft III camp, in the now famous 'Great Escape'.

However, just one hour after his escape, Gunn was recaptured, along with 72 others. He was one of 50 who were executed following their escape. He was just 24 years old.

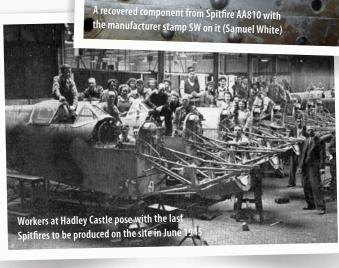
Gunn's plane — the Spitfire AA810 now being restored on the Island — was found in 2018 near the Norwegian village of Surnadal and returned to the UK.

Alastair 'Sandy' Gunn's historic aircraft to flight. The associated charitable education arm - the Sandy Gunn Aerospace Careers Programme - was launched a year later in 2019, just before the Covid-19 pandemic hit. This year, the education programme will reach out to almost 100 schools around the UK via a series of roadshows and presentations. With the support of digital education platforms and the launch of a new careers network aimed at bringing students and industry face-to-face, the outreach programme will reach more than 500,000 young people by the end of

John Pritchard, President Civil Airframe GKN Aerospace, said: "GKN Aerospace's history is entwined with this remarkable story, having originally made components for this aircraft more than 80 years ago. We are extremely proud of our heritage and the pioneering spirit of our industry, and Spitfire AA810 captures that perfectly. What excites me most, however, is what it can do for the future. With our own apprentices working on this aircraft, and through the charity's outreach to schools, we can inspire the next generation of aerospace engineers. By doing so, this restoration project can help us shape the future of flight."

Tony Hoskins and Dr Michael Smith, co-directors of Spitfire Restoration Ltd and co-trustees of the Sandy Gunn Aerospace Careers Programme Charity, said: "Given their shared history, GKN Aerospace is the ideal partner in this

iconic project and educational programme which, together, revives the past and inspires the future. We are delighted to welcome them to this exciting collaboration that we firmly believe will be extremely beneficial all round – from the young people concerned, to the UK aerospace industry, economy and wider society."



Once completed the aircraft will make a return flight to Norway, and will attend air shows in Wanaka, New Zealand, and Oshkosh, in the USA. The aircraft is expected to be based with the Shuttleworth Collection at Old Warden airfield, near Bedford, where it will be available to the public. 3





Nettlestone & Seaview Parish Council

Brian Jennings – Clerk. 2 Harrow Cottages, Nettlestone Hill, Seaview. PO34 5DU

③ 07464 894216 ☑ clerk@nettlestoneandseaview-pc.gov.uk www.nettlestoneandseaview-pc.gov.uk

PIER ROAD DINGHY PARK FENCE

It has been particularly challenging for the Parish Council's trusted suppliers to be able to resource and provide (at a stable cost) the materials needed to replace the fence in place at the Pier Road Dinghy Park – this has been caused by a mixture of supply chain issues and the extraordinary price inflation for raw materials the council is currently experiencing. With this is mind, the council is pleased to share the news that Attrill's Fencing will be replacing the entire fence at the dinghy park in the autumn. The council first resolved to replace the fence in 2020 so the completion of the project will be most welcome.

SANDLANDS ALLOTMENT

As the summer months pass by, it is a reminder that September sees the start of the new annual season at the allotments and with it there is a tendency for a small



number of plots to be released by their current tenants – if you would like to get added to the waiting list for a plot, please contact the Clerk (details above) who will be happy to add you to the list.

Mountbatten

TOUR OF BRITAIN

The council are starting to receive details — from the Isle of Wight Council and race organisers — of the Tour of Britain cycle race that will be taking place on the 11th September. There will be disruption to roads all over the Island – the Parish Council will publish details on its website as they are received, and residents are encouraged to look at the Isle of Wight Council site for up-to-date details – they have created a page with all the details here: www.iow.gov.uk/Council/ OtherServices/Tour-of-Britain/

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

 Check our website to keep abreast of the latest meeting details: wwwnettlestoneandseaview-pc.gov.uk/ meetings/

All are welcome to attend!



Celebrate with us

Join us to mark our anniversary with a special Afternoon Tea and live music, celebrating 45 years of hospice care for our communities

Everyone is welcome

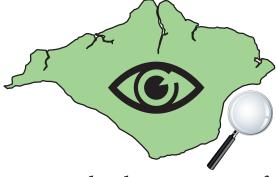
Thursday 13 October 2.30pm – 4.30pm

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Memories of Visiting the Isle of Wight as a Child

83-year-old Anna Shepherd remembers fondly her first trip to the Isle of Wight as a child. She was just 10 years old and considered it a great adventure.

ore than seven decades later, Anna recalls her visit, travelling from Poole to Yarmouth.

"When I was ten years of age I found myself sharing a beautiful white bell tent with two other families in the New Forest

"On the second day, our guardian angel, Michael, said what would you like to do tomorrow. I said 'I want to see the sea!' Michael said in that case we have all to get up early in the morning. It will be a mystery tour.

"The next day, early in the morning, we all scrambled on to the truck and headed out of the forest towards Bournemouth. He drove us down to Poole where at the quayside a boat was waiting for us. We did not set sail as it had no sails but a very good engine. It was quite close to the water but luckily we did not need to use oars either. We headed out to sea, not to Brownsea Island nor a desert island, but eventually arrived at Yarmouth on the Isle of

'Michael marshalled us all into a double decker bus and we headed off towards The Needles and Alum Bay. There were chair lifts to take us to the foot of the cliff. We saw the multi-coloured

sands in the cliffs. Fellow camper Naomi donned her swimming costume and went swimming. I did a little paddling. I was more interested in exploring and looking for caves. I found a

"After some time, Michael herded us back to the top of the cliff and we caught a bus back to Yarmouth. There we had lunch at The Bugle Inn.

"What would you like to do next?" asked Michael. "I'd love to see a castle," I said.

"Can we go to Carisbrooke Castle" said family-friend Klim.

"Í'm afraid that is too far for today," said Michael, "but there is a castle right here."

"After lunch we went seeking the hidden castle and sure enough, we found it tucked away.

"It had very thick walls and cavernous looking rooms and battlements. From the roof we could watch the ferry coming in just by the walls.

"Soon we had to reembark upon our sturdy boat and headed for Poole and the New Forest.

"The weather had been perfect all day and that evening there was a red sky – a real 'Shepherd's Delight'." 🕒





Shanklin Town Council

Town Clerk RFO: Ms S. Janeway LL.B (Hons) CiLCA MSLCC, 65 Landguard Road Shanklin Isle of Wight PO37 7JX 🕓 01983 865101 🔯 shanklintowncouncil@hotmail.com 🕡 www.shanklintowncouncil.co.uk



Town Mayor's address

Councillor Chris Quirk, Shanklin Town Mayor

As we come to the end of the peak tourism season it is worth looking back

at some of the events that have once again contributed to making summer in Shanklin

Pier to Pier Swim: Although Shanklin Pier is now a distant memory an Island swim club keeps up the tradition of the swim from adjacent to Sandown Pier to Shanklin Rowing Club, adjacent to the pier apron of the former Shanklin Pier lost in a storm in 1987. The race attracted nearly 200 participants, and I was delighted to be invited to award the prizes to the class winners.

Now in its 68th year, the Pier2Pier Sea Swim Isle of Wight is a 1.8 mile open water event organised by the Isle of Wight Marlins Swim Club, under the auspices of the British Long Distance Swimming Association (BLDSA).

Shanklin Carnival: Shanklin Carnival involves a week of activities which in addition to the

Main Carnival Parade and the Illuminated Carnival Parade has activities including a Children's Carnival



Procession, a Car Treasure Hund, a Pedestrian Treasure Hunt and a Pier to Pier walk. Both the Main Carnival and the Illuminated Carnival processions provided a wonderful array of bands, floats and dancers and both were extremely well attended by crowds along the route. The Shanklin Illuminated Carnival was the first illuminated carnival of the season.

Well done to Denyse Larner and her team for organising this year's Carnival, an event with its origins in Victorian Times.

Shanklin Beach Regatta: On 10th August this year Shanklin Regatta celebrated 170

years of operations (apart from the 2 years we missed due to COVID). Over this time the event has been and continues to be supported by locals; it is a free day of great entertainment and fun, and of course, not forgetting our visitors to the Island, staying here in Shanklin and beyond.

Our thanks to the organising committee, the businesses that offer their support, and the members of Shanklin Rotary who provide manpower on the day of the event.

Big Mead Pond: The historic carp pond at Big Mead has now been dredged, the retaining walls repointed, the Island cleared of brambles and replanted, and the feed to the pond from the spring has now been re-established and the pond is now slowly filling up. One the pods has stabilised the carp will be returned. We should recognise the work of Cllr Adrian Whittacker and the team of volunteers that he established to carry out much of the work. Our thanks also to the Isle of Wight Council for shared the cost of dredging the pond with Shanklin Town Council.



Give siblings the life they deserve

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Welcome to Adopt South

Right now, we have toddlers, siblings and children with disabilities who need a family of their own to be loved and cherished.

The Regional Adoption Agency for Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton Local Authorities









ISLAND STORY

t will be the first time the iconic race would have been hosted on the Island and one of the largest sporting events to ever be held here.

The Tour of Britain starts in Aberdeenshire on Sunday 4 September and over eight days, 19 of the world's top teams and 100 pro riders, will work their way down, arriving in Ryde on Sunday September 11.

Stage 8, the final leg of the race, spans 150km and passes through a wide range of the Island's towns and villages. After starting in Ryde — between 11am-12pm - the race will pass through the main towns and villages of Bembridge, Sandown, Rookley, Shorwell, Mottistone, Freshwater, Yarmouth, Shalfleet, Cowes, Newport, Godshill, Shanklin, Ventnor, Niton to finish at the National Trust's The Needles Battery around 3.30pm.

The race will be televised live on ITV4 in the UK and shown in over 150 countries worldwide, via Eurosport and the Global Cycling Network. A one-hour highlights show will also be broadcast each evening.

On the day and in the build-up to the race, Islanders are being encouraged to get involved and help to host an Island-wide festival of cycling, sport, and celebration! There are plenty of ways to show support; from reusing union jack bunting from the Jubilee celebrations or Isle of Wight Day to dressing your property, shop fronts and windows. Or dig out that old bike, decorate it, hang it high or leave it down low just make it stand out for the cameras.

Cafes, bars and restaurants could have some fun with a special cycling themed

Last month, Visit IOW and the IW Council also launched an Island-wide Land Art competition. The tradition of creating land art masterpieces along the route has long been the practice at the Tour of Britain, as well as other cycle races around the world including the Tour de France.

Winning entries could collect a £50 Wight Gift card voucher for their efforts, encouraging individuals, businesses, schools, land-owners and communities to create something spectacular for spectators



This month the Isle of Wight hosts the final stage of the UK's most prestigious cycle race, the Tour of Britain.

- and the television cameras to look out for whilst they are following the peloton.

Mountbatten will be the official charity of the final stage of this year's Tour of Britain, working alongside the tour organisers to maximise opportunities to promote its brand and services over the race weekend and raise the profile of the charity which relies heavily on public support to deliver its services.

Mountbatten joins GKN Aerospace,

Wightlink, Red Funnel and South Western Railways as partners of the Tour of Britain Isle of Wight stage, alongside Isle of Wight Council and Visit Isle of Wight.

As part of the traffic management plans for the event, Ryde seafront will be closed for a period as will Military Road at Chale.

Organisers say the closures will be in place at the start and finish points on each road.

While the event will be broadcast live to a global audience, thousands of Islanders will also get the chance to see the event on their own doorsteps — quite literally in many cases.

An approximate guide of race timings has been published. It shows the event is expected to start between 11am-11.45am in Ryde.

Riders will then embark on the 150-kilometre route to the Needles.

The estimated timings – which are subject to change - are available via www. iow.gov.uk/Council/OtherServices/Tourof-Britain/Route/.

Now that race organisers have confirmed the start time and also estimates of when the riders will reach race milestones, the council has published details of the rolling road closures that will







be in place to facilitate the race.

The rolling road closures – which should last for a maximum period of between 30 minutes and an hour – are explained in a video which can be viewed here www.tourofbritain.co.uk/race/road-

Some residents will also be asked to remove their cars from the route so the race can pass safely.

Organisers are promising it will be "the toughest ending" to the Tour of Britain in modern history.

Councillor Phil Jordan, Cabinet member for highways and infrastructure, said: "Seeing these detailed timings really starts to bring home the excitement of the Island staging such a prestigious international sporting event.

"We are however asking Island residents to play their part in ensuring the course is safe and looks the part for the cameras who will be beaming live pictures of the raceand the Island – across the world."

In order to reduce traffic on the roads during the race, Islanders are being encouraged to spectate locally if they can. If journeys are necessary then they should, if possible, be timed to avoid the short rolling road closures on the day.

There are two online channels created where residents can find out more about the event. These are via the council website www.iow.gov.uk/tourofbritain and Facebook Tour of Britain Resident Info.

Organisers are promising it will be "the toughest ending" to the Tour of Britain in modern history. 3

TFAMS 2022

The 18 teams competing in the Tour of Britain 2022 are:



Bardiani CSF Faizanè



Bingoal Pauwels Sauces WB (Belgium)



BORA - hansgrohe (Germany)



Caja Rural - Seguros RGA (Spain)



Global 6 Cycling (New Zealand)



Great Britain Cycling Team (Great Britain)



Human Powered Health (USA)



INEOS Grenadiers (Great Britain)



Israel - Premier Tech (Israel)



Movistar Team (Spain)



Ribble Weldtite Pro Cycling (Great Britain)



Saint Piran (Great Britain)



Sport Vlaanderen – Baloise (Belgium)



Team DSM (Netherlands)



Team Qhubeka (Italy)



TRINITY Racing (Great Britain)



Uno-X Pro Cycling Team (Norway)



Wiv SunGod (Great Britain) Eighteen of the world's leading teams, including home fan favourites INEOS Grenadiers, will compete in this year's Tour

They will be one of five UCI WorldTeams who will take the start in the 18th edition on the UK's most prestigious race, which begins in Aberdeen on Sunday 4 September and culminates with what promises to be a spectacular finale on the Isle of Wight eight stages later.

BORA – hansgrohe, Israel – Premier Tech, Movistar Team and Team DSM will join INEOS Grenadiers at the race six weeks on from competing in the Tour de France, the world's biggest cycle race.

INEOS Grenadiers will look to go one better than the 2021 Tour, in which young British star Ethan Hayter placed second overall.

While Movistar (lining up for their ninth consecutive participation), Team DSM (who first competed in the race in 2006) and Israel – Premier Tech (third start in as many editions) are regulars at the Tour, BORA -Hansgrohe will return to the race for the first time since 2014.

Three months after their women's team competed in their first edition of the Women's Tour, the Tour of Britain's sister race, Uno-X Pro Cycling Team will make their debut in the ÚK's leading men's cycling event. The event will also welcome the Bingoal Pauwels Sauces WB team from Belgium for the first time.

Having impressed in 2021, most notably when Robin Carpenter became the first American to win a stage of the race, Human Powered Health will return to the Tour in September. They will be joined by Bardiani CSF Faizanè, competing in their 10th edition of the race; Sport Vlaanderen – Baloise, whose involvement with the Tour stretches back to the first modern edition in 2004; and Caja Rural - Seguros RGA, returning for their third start.

The participation of six teams – a Great British national squad, the country's four leading domestic squads (Ribble Weldtite Pro Cycling, Saint Piran, TRINITY Racing and Wiv SunGod) and Team Qhubeka – was previously announced.

The 2022 race starts in Aberdeen city centre and finishes eight days later here on the Isle of Wight. Along the way riders will tackle stages in the Scottish Borders, North East England, North Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Gloucestershire and

ITV4 will continue to broadcast live flagto-flag coverage of every stage and nightly highlights show, allowing fans in the UK to watch wherever they are. The race will also be shown in over 150 countries worldwide, thanks to the event's partnerships with Eurosport and the Global Cycling Network.

Last year's star-studded race was won by Belgian rider Wout Van Aert (Team Jumbo Visma), with reigning world road race champion Julian Alaphilippe finishing third overall.



NEWS FROM

SANDOWN SOUTH

by Cllr Ian Ward

VOLUNTEERS WANTED - DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A QUALIFIED BUS DRIVER? WE CAN TRAIN YOU FOR FREE!: IW Community Bus needs more Volunteer Drivers so if you can spare approximately 6 hours per week, physically fit, have a clean car driving licence and would like to serve our community please give us a ring at the number below. We do not have an age limitation for volunteers, so if you are bored in retirement or have time on your hands, why not come and join us! SANDOWN SOUTH BUILDINGS UPDATE: Ocean Hotel - The status of the legal action by the IW Council and the police has been challenged by the 'owners' of the Ocean Hotel as they are now denying that they own the hotel Phoenix Commercial Property Developments (PCPD) say they only purchased have the freehold reversion to the site in 122 years' time, not the hotel building. The IW Council and the police are now

considering their next steps.

WHITE CORNER BUILDING: A
Section 215 Order which was enacted against the building has not been complied with by the owners, so the IW Council has now started to pursue legal action

KEBAB SHOP: Good news, work has now restarted on the site after a pause in the redevelopment waiting for an amendment to the original planning approval. The significant work can be seen at the back of the building in Town Lane. HIGH STREET REGENERATION TASK FORCE - FIRST MEETING FEEDBACK: In my report last month, I said that Sandown High Street had been selected to receive help from a government sponsored group named the High Street Regeneration Task Force (HRTF). I am incredibly pleased that we had been selected to get this help. Well, our first meeting took place at the end of July, and I must say I was disappointed. I felt that there was little representation from the members of our business community. I have written to the Director of Regeneration expressing my concerns; I just hope he takes note of them. We should get a report back from the HRTF officers soon so I will be extremely interested in their initial thoughts about regenerating our High Street.

403193/07772559093 ian.ward@iow.gov.uk



Medicines Delivered to the Isle of Wight by Drone

By Tom Lawrence

The Isle of Wight has welcomed its first drone flight delivering prescription medicines.

In a UK First, Boots has successfully delivered prescriptions from Portsmouth to the Isle of Wight via uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs) — or drones as they are more commonly known.

The flight departed from the

British Army's Baker Barracks on Thorney Island near Portsmouth and arrived at St. Mary's Hospital on the Isle of

The medicines were then collected by Boots and transported to their various pharmacies across the island.

A test flight last month made Boots the first community pharmacy in the UK to transport such goods by drone.

The high street pharmacy is now assessing the potential for using drones for more consistent delivery.

Rich Corbridge, Chief Information Officer at Boots, said: "Drones have huge potential in

the delivery of medicines and it is incredibly exciting to be the first community pharmacy in the UK to transport them in this way. An island location like the Isle of Wight seemed like a sensible place to start a trial of drones and their value to the delivery of medicines to more remote locations is very

"In this trial, we will be looking at how much time we can save, as well as how we can incorporate drones into our medicines supply chain to create economic efficiencies too. We want to prepare now for the wider use of this technology in the future."

Medical drone start up Apian helped facilitate the flight.

The company is working with the NHS to deliver supplies across the Solent and is trialling drone flights with the aim to speed up delivery and access to chemotherapy for cancer patients.

Max Coppin, Chief Operating Officer at Apian, said: "Not only can drones deliver medicine to hospitals but we are particularly excited about our partnership with Boots as it demonstrates drones can also help bring care closer to communities. Whilst faster and more reliable than ground transportation they bring with

them additional environmental benefits and offer a more sustainable solution for delivery."

The airspace used for the flight was subject to permission from the Civil Aviation Authority.



Fire Service Launches First Isle of Wight Fire Cadets

The first Isle of Wight Fire Cadet unit is set to launch at Sandown Fire Station this month.

Run by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service (HIWFRS), the programme will

give those aged between 13 and 17 the chance to gain essential social, life and wellbeing skills, including a BTEC Level 2 qualification.

Fire Cadets is perfect for young people looking to have fun while taking part in firefighting drills and first aid training. They'll also get to use real firefighting equipment.

As well as having the chance to make new friends, learn teamwork skills and improve health, fitness and wellbeing, the cadets also practice interview skills to help them with future applications and CVs.

HIWFRS is also looking to recruit volunteer Fire Cadet instructors from the local community to support the new cadets on their journey, helping them to fulfil their potential and playing a part in building stronger and healthier communities.

Fire Cadet manager Melanie Walker-O'Hare said: "As a service we are incredibly proud of our Fire Cadets programme and are thrilled to be launching our first ever unit



on the Isle of Wight.

"Our existing Fire Cadet units in Ringwood, Rushmoor, and Southsea run so well thanks to our dedicated team of volunteers. To make the Sandown Fire Cadets a success, we are looking for enthusiastic volunteers who want to make a difference in their community to offer their time, commitment and

'If you want to become a role model for young people and help them to achieve their full potential, we'd love to hear from you."

Sandown Fire Cadets will meet on Mondays during school term time, 6.30pm-

If you know any young people who might be interested in joining, contact the HIWFRS Fire Cadets team to find out more. Full training and uniform will be provided for instructors.

Visit hantsfire.gov.uk/ community, apply on the website or email fire.cadets @hantsfire.gov.uk to find out more.



What a summer, we are having the best weather I can remember since 1976, and I hope you are all enjoying it. The Island is certainly very busy with tourists, which is good for our local economy.

HEDGES & VEGITATION: I have been to see

several residents about overgrown hedges, weeds, and trees. There is certainly a balance to be had between allowing growth for natural habitat, against the safety of cars and pedestrians. One example of this is the turning roundabout in Hildyards Crescent, that was excessively overgrown with weeds. I want to thank Island Roads for the speedy and efficient way they dealt with

COPSE MEAD: Works have now begun at Copse Mead. Unfortunately, no local grazier came forward with sheep to cut down the grass, so the grass cutting regime remained as before. But work is now underway to widen the paths ahead of an autumn cutting plan which will include some of the bramble and scrub. Wider paths will also serve as fire breaks should the intense heat return. Cutting around the boundary will also happen to try and limit the encroachment on neighbouring properties.

Sadly, the Ranger Team working there are hampered by the amount of dog mess they keep finding. Could I politely ask that all dog walkers respect the area and use the dog bins provided.

FAIRWAY JUNCTION: This continues to be a big concern that needs some action. I have chased again for police data on reported incidents at the junction, before having a further meeting with the Council and Island Roads. In the meantime, can I remind everyone of the need to report to the police any accidents or near misses, as that will really help make the case for actions to be taken even stronger.

REVETMENT: As I am sure many of you agree the revetment is great to walk along, and with such wonderful weather has very busy over recent weeks. My concern is the number of cyclists, and users of E-scooters who race along there, dodging in and out of pedestrians. This is a shared path I know, but more care and attention is needed to avoid any potential accidents.

CEMETERY ROAD: I am pleased that at last Cemetery Road has been resurfaced as it was in a desperate state. There was a delay in the repainting of the double yellow lines, but that too is now completed.

SANDOWN & LAKE YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB: The club continues to grow for the benefit of our local young people, and I am very pleased that they have now acquired a further pitch at the bottom of the old Sandham Middle School site, on a long lease from the IW Council. I, and the Parish Council are trying to help and support the incredibly hard-working volunteers as much as we can, as well as looking around for any much-needed longer term funding

3 07719174690 paul.brading@iow.gov.uk



Royal Hampshire Regiment Reunion

The Army's Royal Hampshire Regiment are set to reunite for the fifth time this month.

All ex or serving Tigers and partners are invited to join the reunion at the Royal British Legion

Club in Shanklin on Saturday, 17 September.

From 7.30pm until late, there will be entertainment and a raffle. The kitchen will also be open for food.



NEWS FROM

SANDOWN NORTH

by Cllr Debbie Andre

With the final stage of the Tour of Britain cycle race now coming to our beautiful Island on Sep 11th, the IW Council has released more important information to help residents prepare for the occasion.

Organisers require roads to be free of cars to ensure the safety of riders. Here are the arrangements for Yaverland and Sandown:

Sandown Road to Yaverland Road - No onstreet parking allowed

Yaverland Road to Culver Parade - No onstreet parking allowed

Culver Parade to Avenue Road - All parking bays and limited waiting suspended. No on-street parking allowed in this area, residents should make alternative arrangements from 6pm on Saturday 10 September until road re-opens on Sunday 11 September. Free parking is available for residents at Fort Street car park.

Avenue Road to Morton Common All parking bays and limited waiting suspended, No on-street parking allowed in this area, residents should make alternative arrangements from 6pm on Saturday 10 September until road reopens on Sunday 11 September Free parking is available for residents at Fort Street car park.

Residents will be required to remove their car from the road if they live along the route. This will need to be done by 6pm the previous night (Saturday September

10) with parking restrictions remaining in place until the following day.

Cars left on the course will need to be removed in the interests of safety and will be relocated to a safe place nearby. Residents will then need to ring the IW Council to establish the vehicle location.

Our children and young people start a new academic year this month. With the massive hike in the cost of living and most of us, struggling to stay out of debt, how do residents feel about the need for school uniforms? There is no statutory guidance from government on a school's uniform policy. Any such decision rests with the board of governors of the school. It's only Britain, Malta and Ireland where state schools routinely adopt school uniform. Please let me know your thoughts on this.

I hold my Councillor surgeries monthly on the first Saturday of the month from 11am to midday at Brown's, but on the other Saturday mornings, I will be coming round the streets in my ward to introduce myself personally. However, do please get in touch directly if you would like to arrange a meeting either face to face, or virtually. Also, Cllr Heather Humby holds her weekly surgery every Thursday at 11am at Sandown Library and is also available on 402024 or heatherhumby@ sandowntowncouncil.gov.uk

3 07948 757977 debbieandre4sandown@gmail.com

New 'Borrow Box' Filled with Toys Arrives on Ryde Beach

Ryde Town Council and Network Ryde have installed a 'Borrow Box', filled with toys on Ryde beach.

The objectives are to cut down on plastic waste, provide enriching play opportunities for children and to help parents to 'travel light' to the beach.

Ryde Town Councillor Karen Lucioni came up with the idea for a borrow box, which would allow toys to be reused and kept out of landfill. The free access to toys on the beach also allows parents to have a cost-effective day out with their children.

Ryde Town Council Clerk Lisa Dyer said: "Over the course of the summer many children's toys such as buckets and spades are discarded on the beach each evening. Until now they have been binned, some after only being used for one day. It seemed such a waste.



"We are trying to cut down on the amount of plastic that ends up in landfill and this seemed like a perfect solution."

The box was built by Thom and decorated by Jo, two members of the RTC/Network Ryde team, using recycled

Ryde Mayor Michael Lilley said: "I am ever so excited by the 'Borrow Box' scheme. I will go through my shed to find old buckets and spades to donate. It is a simple idea to recycle plastic that will enable every child to build a sandcastle if they wish."

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PRE-BOOKED APPOINTMENTS ONLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

Bakery and Pizza Restaurant Planned for Wootton



By Louise Hill LDR

From the smell of clean clothes to the smell of fresh bread — a former launderette in Wootton is set for a new slice of life.

Plans have been unveiled to transform the washing facility on Wootton High Street, next to Mediterranean restaurant Cibo, into a bakery and pizza restaurant.

The application has been made to the Isle of Wight Council by Paula White, to bring the empty commercial building back into use.

In documents submitted in favour of the application, planning agent Andrew White said no other food products but bread and pizza would be cooked on the premises.

Internally, the current plant room would be converted into a kitchen with preparation and washing-up areas and an electric oven.

The former launderette area could be laid out as a restaurant, with seats for 20 customers, but also a sales area for bread.

The front of the building would undergo a makeover but marry up with the existing Cibo frontage — with matching timber framing and vertical timber board cladding.

The agent said the proposal would complement the existing range of services available in the village and add to the vitality and vibrancy in Wootton.

It is thought the bakery and pizza restaurant would create four jobs.

You can view the application, 22/01378/FUL, on the council's planning register. Comments can be submitted until September 12.

'Relatively New' Wootton GP Surgery Set For Demolition

By Louise Hill LDR

A 'sub-standard' GP surgery in Wootton — that is only eight years old — will have to be knocked down and rebuilt.

Issues have recently been found in Medina Healthcare's Wootton branch, on Brannon Way, a letter to patients has revealed.

James Davies, the practice's business manager, said surveys have shown the building has cracking and movement evident, to the extent it will need to be rebuilt.

He said it obviously came as a shock, given the relatively young age of the building but was pleased to say the landlord of their building, Assura, was already working hard to bring about the rebuild as quickly as due process allowed.

However, during the demolition and rebuilding phase, the practice will have to move out, transferring services somewhere else.

Plans were unveiled last month after planning permission was sought by Assura to temporarily transform the former NatWest Bank building on the Riverway estate,



Newport, into a surgery.

Mr Davies has confirmed Medina Healthcare will move into the fully refurbished building, if planning permission is approved, so it can provide patients with the services they expect from their practice.

The new Wootton surgery would be an 'essentially like-forlike replacement'.

The current building is still safe for staff and patients to use, Medina says, but they need to ensure that remains the case.

Mr Davies said there is still work to be done before arrangements are finalised, although it is envisaged the move to the NatWest building will take place early to mid next year.

It is thought the practice will be based on the Riverway for around three years although that could change, depending on the progress of the new build.





NEWS FROM

SHANKLIN SOUTH AND CENTRAL

by Cllr Chris Quirk & Cllr Michael Beston

(PAVEMENTS) PROGRAMME: continuing with their programme of footway improvement works around the Island working closely with the IW Council to accommodate works in advance, where possible, by WightFibre with their roll out of superfast fibre broadband across the Island. Footway improvement works in the local area include the following locations:

- Eastcliff Road, Shanklin
- Luccombe Road, Shanklin
- Florence Road, Shanklin

Other accessibility works: IR's work to make pavements more accessible to all pedestrians by installing tactile, dropped kerb crossing points is continuing. To date, 83 of the 90 sites identified have been completed. The other remaining scheme at Lovett Way will be completed by the end of September. You can keep up with all the Island Road news on their website: www. islandroads.com/news/ or use Twitter as an additional means of receiving information: @IslandRoads

SHANKLIN MAIN CARNIVAL 3RD AUGUST: As Trustees of Shanklin Theatre, we were both honoured to take part in the Main Carnival procession with The Friends of the Theatre. The dedicated group of 18 volunteers who were involved on the evening all looked rather dapper in their theatre and bathing suit costumes. The hand embroidered 'Wish You Were Here at Shanklin Theatre' banner looked superb being ceremonially carried by the lead volunteers. Thanks go to the two Peters from the Vectis Historic Vehicle Club for stepping in at the last minute to supply a beautiful MG Roadster called 'Millie' and a 1934 Leal two seater open top tourer to escort Chris - The Shanklin Town Mayor around the procession route. Thanks also to the Shanklin Town Councillors involved and to the Shanklin Carnival Team for making it all happen this year!

TOUR OF BRITAIN FINAL STAGE -SUNDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER: The stage 8 of the Tour of Britain Cycle Race will take place on the Isle of Wight starting at Ryde and finishing at The Needles. Cyclists should remain fairly bunched up on the whole route and will arrive in Shanklin Town approximately between 1.35pm-2.06pm on 11th September. Cyclists will be travelling up Victoria Avenue towards the Old Village turning right at the traffic lights in the High Street before heading out towards Cowleaze and Ventnor on route to The Needles. The whole race will be televised live on ITV4 in the UK and around the world by Eurosport and the Global Cycling Network (GCN). A onehour highlights show will also be shown each evening. Organisers require roads to be free of cars to ensure the safety of riders who will be reaching speeds of around 40mph on sections of the course. A full list of the affected roads - along with details of alternative arrangements in areas where alternative parking has been made available - has now been made available and can be viewed at: www.iow.gov.uk/documentlibrary/view/ resident-parking-info The organisers encourage businesses to join them to host this Island-wide festival of cycling, sport, and celebration! Although Shanklin Theatre is not quite on the route of the tour, our volunteers will be involved, waving placards and flags from the footpaths encouraging cyclists along the way. We hope to see you there. More information here: www.tourofbritain.

07802 705831

chris.quirk@iow.gov.uk

3 07885 644426

michael.beston@iow.gov.uk

Car Parking Charges Rise



By Louise Hill LDR

Islanders and visitors will now have to pay 10p more an hour to park in long and short-stay car parks as well as on-street parking places.

The increase, which has been in force since the end of August, sees the tariffs in shortstay car parks rise up to 30p with the most expensive fee for parking between two and three hours now at £5.40.

In the more than 40 longstay car parks across the Island, the most expensive fee has risen by f, 1 — from f, 9 to f, 10 — to park your vehicle between six and ten hours.

The charge to park on Newport High Street, and other short-stay on-street parking areas in the town and in Cowes, will now cost between f, 1.10 and f, 4.20 to stay from 30 minutes to up to two hours.

Long-stay on-street parking areas in Cowes, Ryde, Sandown, Shanklin, Ventnor and Yarmouth has seen tariffs rise by up to 80p with the charge to park for between six and eight hours now costing

A new charge has also been introduced for heavy commercial, public service and passenger carrying vehicles who intend to park somewhere for 14 to 24 hours, costing £20.

Other tariffs for such large vehicles will change by up to £,1.40.

The Isle of Wight Council approved the price increases in February as part of the Alliance Administration's 2022/23 budget and hoped, at the time, to make an extra £,98,900.





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We offer this option for families who would like to take advantage of savings that mainland crematoriums offer.

Can I get help with the costs?

Yes, if you are in receipt of benefits you may be entitled to a payment of up to £1,000 from the Department of Work and Pensions, so we advise contacting them to enquire.

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Whereas mainland providers often courier the ashes back, we provide a more personal service by hand delivering them to you at your home, or you can come in and collect them at either of our offices. We are locals and understand our local community.

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Dealing with Negligence Within the NHS

The current Health and Social Care Committee Chairman, Jeremy Hunt, refers to the system as being a failing NHS negligence system rather than referring to a failing NHS which requires change.

n view of the vast majority of lawyers representing Claimants who have suffered an injury due to negligent medical treatment received at the hands of the NHS, the NHS and those representing them are responsible for delays and unnecessary escalating legal costs being incurred when they continue to deny negligence, even though ultimately they accept responsibility at a point several years after the event. There is a human cost to this behaviour which has not necessarily taken into account by Jeremy Hunt. He has stated recently that in his view the way forward is a major reform of the way such claims are handled.

According to this committee the current system is too expensive and the way forward would be for an independent body to be set up to adjudicate on cases. In essence doing away with the need to prove fault against the NHS but also disposing of the manner in which the courts currently decide such cases. Other countries such as New Zealand and Sweden, where a similar scheme to the one proposed operates, have spent half of what is being spent by the NHS currently.

AVMA, the Action for Victims of Medical Accidents, a charity have accused MPs of headline grabbing. In particular the committee is focusing its attention on legal costs rather than preventing future harm and ensuring lessons are learnt by the NHS and those who represent them. A vast amount of legal costs funded by the taxpayer for both sides could be

avoided if earlier admissions were made by the NHS, resulting in less payments out from the public purse. There should be a willingness to admit fault (where justified) and to make a settlement as well as learning from mistakes, rather than for Ministers and those in charge of the NHS to continuously and erroneously place blame on the shoulders of lawyers who are fighting to achieve justice for those injured through no fault of their own.

The NHS is a marvellous body providing an invaluable service. However to suggest that they should be above the law calls into question the rule of law and the right of all to have access to justice. The courts have been charged with the obligation of righting those wrongs; to suggest such access to justice be denied risks a loss of faith in members of Parliament, the Judiciary and the Justice System and the fabric of our society.

The legal duty placed on the medical profession not to cause harm is in essence being called into question as is the right to obtain proper compensation when harm has been caused. If it is envisaged that compensation will only be paid in accordance with a limited tariff system, then it is highly likely such awards would be a lot lower than those which an injured party could expect to receive currently from a court. The suggestion of an independent adjudicator could result in lower payments being made to deserving Claimants as well as denying legal costs, leaving a Claimant not only to recover lower amounts of compensation, but also

to have to pay for legal costs themselves if they wish to challenge the decision of a Government body/adjudicator.

The proposal is to prevent Claimants the right to claim for costs of future treatment on a private basis but to expect Claimants to rely on an overstretched NHS for future needed medical treatment. To give an example of how vastly different this proposed system would operate is to look at what is currently happening in Japan where such a system operates. In a cerebral palsy case where a child is injured for life due to negligence during delivery only £195,000 lump sum is payable along with £8,000per annum for a maximum of 20 years. In the UK such claims command awards of several millions of pounds to cater for an injured person's care needs. Quite clearly any awards under the system proposed will fall short of what will be needed by an injured party to cater for their ongoing needs.

It is essential for the rule of law not to be compromised as a result of attempts being made to restrict payments out by the NHS. The law is complex, and rightly so. It is designed to achieve parity or justice between the parties. The role of the courts has been to achieve this intention. To call into question the system is calling into question the role of the judicial system. No Government and no statutory body is above the law. That is the basis on which a legal system should operate. Suggesting otherwise will lead to a loss of trust in those in charge. 3



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lanchard Fields is a brand-new development in the heart of Brighstone with a mixture of housing priority given to those who have a connection to the parish of Brighstone - which includes Brook, Limerstone, Hulverstone and Mottistone.

Available are two semidetached three-bedroom houses and two, two-bedroom terraced houses that will be built to a very high standard by local builders DN Associates.

The village of Brighstone is popular for its thatched cottages, village pub and local

Several large events are hosted in the village each year including the Brighstone Show, Art Exhibitions and the Brighstone Christmas Tree Festival. The entire parish lies within an area of outstanding natural beauty and its coastline is designated as Heritage Coast and Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The development has been very popular, with the over 55s housing and open market housing all reserved. Hose Rhodes Dickson are now pleased to be marketing four shared ownership properties for Vectis Housing Association an independent reputable Island housing provider with over 400 homes in their

portfolio across the Isle of Wight, which is continuing to expand.

The internal finishes are completed to a high standard, the kitchens are fitted with a range of wall and base units along with a stainless-steel sink and benefit from free standing appliances such as oven with hob, washing machine and fridge/freezer, making the move to your new home that little bit less stressful. The lounge looks out onto the rear garden with a door that leads out for alfresco dining. The garden will be laid to lawn with a small patio area, side access and a shed is provided.

The bathrooms will have contemporary white sanitary ware, a heated towel rail, extractor fan and downlights with a vinyl flooring supplied. Flooring can be chosen up to a specified amount with an allocated flooring provider which can be confirmed when you reserve your new home, please note that flooring is already provided in the kitchen and wet areas.

Vectis Housing contribute to the Island's housing by providing affordable rental, social rental and shared ownership homes while supporting their tenants and local communities along the

Shared ownership is a



great way of getting on to the property ladder by purchasing less than the full market value of a property, you then pay a rent on the remaining share to the housing provider. Each shared ownership scheme differs and has its own criteria

Blanchard Fields is currently available to those with a local connection as well as a housing need. The properties can only be purchased to a maximum of 80% ownership this keeps affordable housing in the area allowing the same opportunities to others in the future. There are specific lenders who offer shared ownership mortgages.

Hose Rhodes Dickson can put you in touch with mortgage advisors with extensive knowledge in this area to offer advice. The properties are offered on a 125-year lease with a small service charge payable

to Vectis Housing Association. With the provider promoting affordable housing the cost is always less than it would be if the property was purchased at full market value.

The heating on this development is Calor Gas and this is via a combination boiler. The Calor Gas tanks are located underground near the meadow area on this development. Not only do you have a brand-new home in a wonderful location you have peace of mind knowing that the properties come with an LABC Warranty of up to 10 years.

Contact Louisa in Hose Rhodes Dickson New Homes today for further information on how you can apply for a shared ownership property on this development. 3

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the changing seasons, and why he ventures out into his garden in any weather.

Greenfingers... The Alan Titchmarsh Column

've been talking to a number of people over these summer months and it's always a pleasure. Naturally, it feels like the part of the year where we all come out and celebrate what it is to have a space that is all ours – we all share in the successes and, okay, some of the failures too!

Yet what's interesting is the fact the longer the summer goes on, the more the chat seems to evolve to become nervy and negative. There is an unspoken devil in the air, and it goes by the name of winter, where gardeners all across the UK dread not just the hibernation of some of the creatures in their garden, but their own removal or withdrawal from service as

the skies grow darker and rain threatens.

Of course, I can see why so many of us sink into this mindset of what is effectively a subconscious filling of time before things start to pick up again in early spring. Though as I have said on many occasions, there are still so many plants that flourish across the winter months that we can take real pleasure from, so I would be firm in encouraging people to look at winter as a lot more than just a time when we feel like stepping off the gardening carousel.

Certainly, my routine in those quieter months never changes. Whether rain, hail, sleet or snow, I will always potter around the garden. Okay, so in the winter months it's a lot more difficult to sit still in a garden anyway, but just getting out there, soaking up the air and feeling the natural goodness

around you, is really inspiring.



I get mucky every day when I'm at home, and if I've got a day of work or filming that will take me away from the house, I'll always make sure I step out and spend some peaceful time alone before I leave – it sort of sets me up for the day.

What I will say about late autumn and winter in the garden is its arrival follows much the same school of thought as going out in the rain - namely that it makes you appreciate the summer, or the sunshine, all the more.

As people, we are so used to conflict and contrast, and embracing that only serves to highlight the good stuff when it comes round.

Mostly, what I tell people about their gardens is that the most special feeling you can have will never be whether or not you can produce some floral spray of colour and texture; nor will it be if your water feature resembles something like the Victoria Falls.

Ultimately, what it's all about is being out there, and believing you are making a difference. I've always thought however tiny a patch of ground you have, if you look after it well when you shuffle off your mortal coil you've paid your rent for your life on Earth.

To leave that space just a little bit better than how it was previously is a very special thing, and no wintry rainstorm should stop us from wanting to achieve









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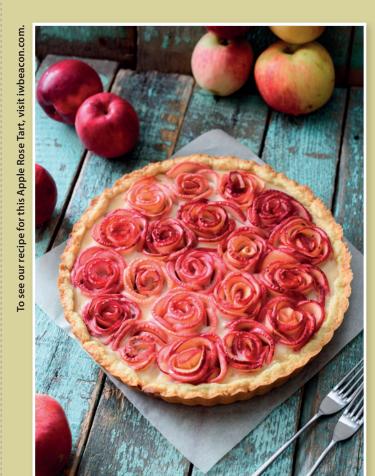


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