

Spring Edition 2022

Welcome from the Mayor of Cowes

My first 8 months as Mayor has inevitably been overshadowed by the ever-present threat of Covid-19. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all front-line workers, NHS staff, bin men, delivery drivers, carers, etc. who have worked tirelessly to try and keep everything running as smoothly as possible. I particularly want to thank those members of the public who helped the vulnerable and elderly by volunteering their time to deliver food and prescriptions. It just shows what a great community we live in.



Sadly, many functions that I would normally attend as Mayor had to be cancelled, but in 2022, we hopefully will start to see a light at the end of the tunnel, and I look forward to getting out and about and meeting as many people as possible.

One of the good things to have come out of 2021 was the adoption of the Cowes & Northwood Place Plan. This document gives the Council a great foundation to start building on many positive aspects that benefit the whole of the Cowes community and I look forward to working in partnership with other Cowes stakeholders such as the Cowes Business Association, Cowes Harbour Commission, Cowes Yacht Haven, Northwood House etc.

After months of Zoom meetings, the monthly Cowes Town Council meetings are now almost back to normal and I remind everyone that you are more than welcome to attend and to even ask questions of your Council. Thank you to all my fellow Councillors and our Town Clerks for all the time and effort they put in. I wish you all a happy and prosperous 2022.

Councillor Paul Bertie, Mayor of Cowes

Finance Committee Report

The finances of the Town Council are sound and are within the budget parameters. The budget for 2022-2023 has had a modest increase of £5,454 to £319,794 which represents an increase of approximately £1.29 for a Band D property for the year.

The expenditure of the Town Council falls into two categories: Discretionary and Non-Discretionary, which is basically what we have to pay ie rent and salaries and expenditure that the Council have discretion over, including Cowes Library "£22,000", Dog & litter bin emptying, toilet cleaning & maintenance, Christmas lights and grass cutting for Northwood Park, Northwood Recreation Ground and other areas in Cowes.

The Finance Committee has reviewed its discretionary expenditure and made some minor changes in the 2022-2023 budget while still maintaining our level of support for the Library, litter bins and grounds maintenance for Northwood Park.

Cowes Town Council have given grants and support to the following organisations and bodies:

- Cowes Area Explorer Unit
- Cowes Heritage and Community Group
- Cowes Open Bowls Tournament
- Friends of Northwood Cemetery
- IW Music, Dance and Drama Festival
- Moorgreen Road Allotment Society
- Mornington Woods Volunteer Group
- St Mary's Church - for repairs to the Gravestones
- Victim Support

The Finance Committee has tended to give grants to those applications that support and are part of the Cowes community rather than requests for specific items. The grants budget has been reduced by £5,000 to £15,000 for 2022-2023. Additionally, Cowes Town Council have created a new budget item which is for the Town's "Place Plan" and promotion. This new heading, with a budget of £12,000, hopefully will be used to help with any event or project that brings business to or promotes Cowes as a destination.

Planning and Licensing Committee Report

The function of this committee is to inspect planning and licensing applications, advising the appropriate departments of the IW Council whether we support an application or oppose them. We can only oppose planning applications following national planning guidance, although we can suggest areas of concern. If the application is acceptable there is no need for comment.

While other committees make recommendations to be ratified at a full Town Council meeting, the Planning and Licensing Committee has delegated powers to make decisions.

The Committee's role is purely advisory, the final decision is made by the IW Council.



Projects Committee Report



The Projects Committee is a sub-Committee of Cowes Town Council and is responsible for identifying and managing projects which are designed to improve the amenities within the town.

Current projects being considered include the enhancement of The Cut area; creation of a new information board commemorating the story of the Ark and the Dove; and working in partnership with Moorgreen Road Allotment Society to improve the woodland area at Moorgreen Road to create a recreational space that can be used by the community.

Please contact the Town Clerk if you have a project in Cowes which you would like Councillors to consider.

Place Plan for Cowes and Northwood

The Place Plan for Cowes and Northwood was completed in 2021, however, its promotion was hampered by Covid-19 restrictions. We look forward to working in partnership with local businesses and organisations to shape positive change for Cowes and Northwood.



Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)



The Town Council is working in partnership with Gurnard and Northwood Parish Councils on an area-wide LCWIP. People Powered CIC have been commissioned to develop the plan and we hope that you have put your views forward to suggest improvements for cycling and walking routes or raise issues of concern. The plan is due to be completed by the end of March 2022; once completed, areas for improvement can be prioritised and funding sought.

New Co-opted Councillor

The Town Council has co-opted Cllr Michael Paler to Cowes Medina Ward and looks forward to working with Michael for the benefit of the residents of Cowes.



Community Litter Pick

Is there an area of our town that needs a tidy up? Are you willing to give up your time to assist? Please let us know of any problem areas and we will arrange a community litter pick.

Community Day

Are you looking for an opportunity to get involved in local groups and organisations who work to support our Community? Come along to find out more about what they do and other emerging projects that might need your helping hands. All welcome.

For more information please contact: Kay Smith, Community Resilience Co-ordinator,
email: ksmith@actioniw.org.uk



The poster is for a 'Community Day' event. At the top left is the Isle of Wight Volunteer Centre logo, which features a stylized tree with hands as leaves. The text 'Isle of Wight Volunteer Centre' is in a bold, sans-serif font. Below this, 'Community Day' is written in a large, light blue font, followed by 'IOW Community Club' in a smaller, dark blue font. The date and time, 'Saturday 19th March 2022' and '11 - 3pm', are in a bold, dark blue font. The main body of text describes the event as an opportunity to find out about local groups in Cowes, Northwood & Gurnard and how to get involved. It ends with 'All Welcome!'. The poster is decorated with clusters of colorful dots (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) in the top right, middle left, and middle right. At the bottom, there are three logos: 'Community Action Isle of Wight' on the left, 'Isle of Wight Community Club' in the center, and a QR code on the right with the text 'Register on the IOW Volunteer Database for all things Volunteering! www.iowvolunteer.org'.

Isle of Wight Volunteer Centre

Community Day
IOW Community Club
Saturday 19th March 2022
11 - 3pm

An opportunity to find out about local groups that support the community of Cowes, Northwood & Gurnard and how you can get involved in a range of opportunities that help them make things happen
All Welcome!

Community Action Isle of Wight

Isle of Wight Community Club

Register on the IOW Volunteer Database for all things Volunteering!
www.iowvolunteer.org

Defibrillators



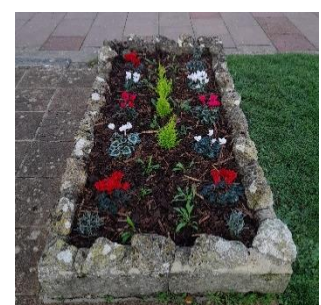
A defibrillator is a potentially life-saving device that gives a high energy electric shock to the heart through the chest wall to someone who is in cardiac arrest. They are safe and easy to use and will only administer an electric shock if it is needed. Cowes Town Council worked closely with the IW Ambulance Service to ensure Cowes has a good coverage of defibrillators available for community use but we need local businesses' help to keep the details we hold up to date.

If your business has a defibrillator that is available for community use, please contact the Town Council with details of the unit.

Winter planting

We have provided seasonal colourful displays in the town's planters, which is a great way to keep the town looking bright and welcoming through the cold, dark months. The plants are supplied and maintained by Care in the Garden.

The IW Council provided funding for planting of the planters on Princes Green and we have received a number of compliments from members of the public.



Free Parking* at Northwood House Car Park for mainland NHS hospital appointments



There are limited* parking permits available for free parking in Northwood House Car Park for Island residents attending NHS mainland hospital appointments. The scheme has been extended by Northwood House Charitable Trust Co. Ltd. until the end of December 2022 (**excluding August**). The Town Council thanks the Trust for continuing the scheme to assist patients travelling to the mainland for treatment.

NHS Parking Scheme permits must be pre-booked by calling the Town Council's office on 01983 209022 or visiting during office hours: 9.30am – 12 Noon, Monday to Friday. Permits will only be issued upon receipt of proof of appointment and must be collected prior to the date of use from the Town Council's Office.

Further details are available on our website:

<https://www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk/wp/homepage/nhs-parking-scheme/>

Knowing how debilitating chemotherapy and operations leave you, it is the least we can do for Island residents. We have received a number of thanks from those benefiting from the scheme.

**Limited to four spaces per day, first come first served.*

National Tree Week 2021 - Saturday 27th November to Sunday 5th December

The Cowes Town Council Tree Wardens were grateful to Northwood House Charitable Trust Company Ltd for once again giving approval for dressing a tree in the Park. They only needed to know which one. This year we chose the Austrian Pine, *Pinus nigra ssp. nigra*, its low sweeping branches providing easy access for the dressing, which was carried out on Sunday 28th November; three information boards were also placed around the tree, showing the importance of trees in our neighbourhood, nationally and globally. The dressing was removed on Sunday 5th December.



The Council wishes to convey its thanks to volunteer Tree Wardens Paul Taylor and Karen Graves for their help in making the project possible.

Coronavirus update

For up to date information on testing, vaccinations, support and guidance, visit the Island's dedicated



Webpage: <https://keeptheislandsafe.org/>

Other sources of help

Community Action IOW - For help with: Business Support; Mental Health; Benefits and Money; Domestic Abuse; Faith; Transport; Families; Activities to do at home.

Phone: 01983 524058

<https://www.communityactionisleofwight.org.uk/>

<https://crisis.communityactionisleofwight.org.uk/>



COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

Vacancies for Cowes, Northwood and Gurnard

Community Speedwatch is coordinated by Hampshire Police in partnership with your local council and other agencies. We are looking for volunteers aged over 17 to join the team to help deal with the issues of vehicles speeding in the local communities.

If you are interested and can spare just a few hours a month, please send an email to:

holly.deacon.17798@hampshire.pnn.police.uk

We have more information available about Community Speedwatch on the Hampshire Constabulary website.



The Advocacy People - a leading advocacy charity - are here to support the local community. They help people to make a complaint about an NHS service, or service paid for by the NHS, and get answers to their questions. Their self-help Factsheets can guide people through making their own complaint. An Independent Health Complaints Advocate can offer different levels of support, working with individuals from the beginning or at any stage of their complaint. The service is available on the Isle of Wight and it is free, independent, and confidential. Why not listen to local advocate, Cherie Gallin, explain how it all works in our podcast <https://youtu.be/TY6l2XP8bs8>

For more information and to get in touch, visit their website: www.theadvocacypeople.org.uk or call: 0330 440 9000;
email: info@theadvocacypeople.org.uk;
text: 80800 start message with PEOPLE; or write to
PO Box 375, Hastings, East Sussex, TN34 9HU.

the
advocacy
people

Independent support when you don't feel able to speak up or you don't feel listened to



You have the right to free, independent and confidential support.

The Advocacy People can help if you or someone you know is struggling to be heard when decisions are being made about health or social care.

For more information visit our website

www.theadvocacypeople.org.uk

or contact us on the details below.

Call us on 0330 440 9000 or email us on info@theadvocacypeople.org.uk

Isle of Wight Foodbank



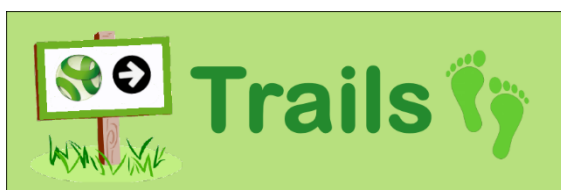
Local helpline - Please call 01983 823 898 to speak to Citizens Advice Isle of Wight, a referral partner of Isle of Wight Foodbank, who will be able to issue you with a food bank voucher if necessary.

Or alternatively call the free national helpline. If you are in financial crisis and live in England or Wales, please call 0808 2082138 for free (open Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm) to talk confidentially with a trained Citizens Advice adviser.

They can help address your crises and provide support to maximise your income, help you navigate the benefits system, and identify any additional grants you could be entitled to. If needed, they'll issue you with a voucher so you can get an emergency food parcel from your local food bank.

<https://isleofwight.foodbank.org.uk/>

Northwood Park Tree Trail



Our Tree Wardens have created an interesting tree trail around Northwood Park. The Park has some 50 notable trees. Using a TiCL App #TreeTrail can help visitors explore and learn about the trees in a park or town, without the need for any printed map or physical signage. Sightseers

can walk around the area and find out what the people who value the trees there have to say about them.

For more information about tree trails: <https://treecouncil.org.uk/tree-trial/>

Download the App via App Store or Google Play:

<https://itunes.apple.com/app/TiCL/id493381343>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=me.ticl.ticl>

Free of charge personal support for bereaved people provided by trained volunteers.

Tel: 01983 523030

Email: IsleofWightBranch@cruse.org.uk

Website: www.cruse.org.uk

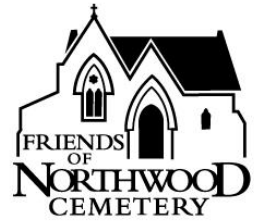
 **Cruse
Bereavement
Care**
Somewhere to turn when someone dies

COWES BLITZ 4/5th May 1942 - 80th Anniversary of the Air Raid on Cowes



On the evening of 4th/5th May 1942 the blitz on Cowes took place with the loss of 31 lives on the west side of the Medina and 56 on the east.

2022 marks the 80th anniversary of the attack and on **Saturday 7th May** the **Friends of Northwood Cemetery**, in conjunction with the **Friends of the ORP Blyskawica Society** are planning an exhibition in the Chapels remembering the events of that night and at **4.00pm**, a short rededication ceremony of the restored Civilian War Memorial will take place in the Cemetery.



The **Friends of Northwood Cemetery** are endeavouring to locate both members of those families who were lost on that fateful night and relatives of the crews of the *ORP Blyskawica* and the *French Chasseurs* to encourage them to join us during the day when the Chapels will be open and at the rededication ceremony later in the afternoon.

The family names listed below are those as shown on the communal war grave; those in **bold type** were killed during that night's two raids on Cowes.

Arthur Edward Barnes aged 36 of 36 Arctic Road and his wife **Florence Blanche Gertrude Barnes** (nee Scrase) daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.G. Scrase, of 26 Bridge Road, Cowes.

Ellen Hope Biddlecombe aged 60, of "St. Margaret's", Pallance Road, Northwood. She was born in Fritham Nr. Lyndhurst, Hampshire.

Isabella Elizabeth Burchell the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Cole, of "Crathie", Baring Road and the wife of Sidney Frank Burchell and living at "Comrie", 9, Ward Avenue, Cowes.

George Henry Cole, JP, aged 60, (father of Isabella Elizabeth Cole). He was living at "Crathie", Baring Road Cowes with wife **Elizabeth Cole**, (nee Thomson).

Elizabeth Ann Cosh aged 75. She was living at "St. Kilda", Pallance Road, Northwood and was the widow of William Cosh. She was born in Horsebridge Hill.

George Edmund Crouch aged 47 of 76 Tennyson Road was the husband of Mabel Crouch, (nee Gregory).

Sidney Gilbert Downer aged 32 of "St. Kilda", Pallance Road, Northwood. He was born in Calbourne and had two sisters. His father was Wilfred Sidney Downer and his mother Emily Cosh. He was killed at "St. Kilda" along with Elizabeth Ann Cosh, (previously referred to). **Emily Downer** (nee Cosh), aged 53, was the wife of William Downer and the mother of Sidney Gilbert Downer. Her father was the late William Cosh the father of Elizabeth Ann Cosh.

Frank Gustar was born in Cowes and died, aged 39 and lived at 26 Medina View, Mill Hill Road, Cowes. He was fatally injured at 16 Medina View, Cowes. His father John Gustar died in 1958. His wife was **May Gustar**, (nee Crawford). Their children were **Alan John Gustar** aged 9 and **Sarah Elizabeth Gustar** aged 5.

Gwendoline Elizabeth Louisa Hughes aged 4 of 19 Medina View, Mill Hill Road was the daughter of William John and Olive Louisa Hughes, (nee Tutton).

George Henry Ince aged 43 of 74 High Street, Cowes was the husband of Dorothy May Ince, (nee Leahy).

Charles Marshall aged 42 of 20 Medina View, Mill Hill Road was the son of Donald Marshall & Mrs. Dora Jane Marshall, (nee Pilcher), of 13 St. Andrew's Street and was the husband of C. "Minnie" Marshall, (nee Greenen).

Emma Jane Moucher, was the wife of George Mark James Moucher aged 57 of Mill Hill Road and was the daughter of Herbert James Ford and Martha Louisa Ford, (nee Harley), of Porchfield.

David Sutherland Pearson lived at 38 Arctic Road, aged 63. He was the husband of Eveline Pearson, (nee Smith). He was born in Finsbury Park, London.

Reginald Howard Pidgeon aged 54, was fatally injured at 51 Arctic Road. He was born in Portsmouth and was married Harriett Kitty Stevens.

William Reeves aged 75. Lived at 18 Milton Road, Cowes. His wife was Laura Agnes, born in Bromley by Bow, London, and was 66 at the time of his death and died in 1954.

John Henry George Sturmey, born in Whippingham, aged 64, lived at 34 Arctic Road. He and his wife Barbara, who came from Southsea, were ropemakers.

Arthur John Tutton, aged 62, of 19 Medina View, Mill Hill Road was married to Annie Louisa May Abrahams who was born in Beaulieu and died in 1964. Arthur Tutton was the grandfather of Gwendoline Hughes, aged four, who died at that address.

William John Varney, a "boatbuilder", born in Portsmouth was aged 53 and lived at 35 Arctic Road. His wife was **Sarah Louisa Varney**, (nee Ward), aged 50. Their daughter **Patricia 'Betty' Varney** was aged 22. **Ellen Varney** (nee Perkins) aged 82, was the mother of William John Varney.

Harold Fellows aged 53 of 2 Bernard Road was the husband of Hilda Sarah Fellows, (nee Black). He was recorded working as a "general printer".

Patrick Barnwell aged 29 lived at "Normania", MoorGreen, Cowes. He was the son of Patrick and Julia Barnwell, of Lough Brown, Newbridge, Co. Kildare, Irish Republic and was the husband of Gertrude Barnwell.

Frederick William White aged 24, in the Home Guard, of 25 St Mary's Road, Cowes. He was the son of Frederick Charles and Elsie Winifred White. He was injured at Northwood on 4th May 1942 and died on the 6 May 1942 at the Royal Isle of Wight County Hospital, Ryde.

Kate Ellen Fleming aged 75, lived at "Hazelgrove", Pallance Road, Northwood, next door to Sidney Downer. She was the wife of Arthur Edward Fleming, butcher.

Do you have any photographs, stories, or memorabilia of the blitz that you would be willing to share with us for this exhibition or for our archives? If so, please get in touch with us, either with our secretary (Tony Butt) or our historian (Barry Sowerby) through the links below, or via our Facebook page. If you are related to or know the whereabouts of any relatives of those lost, or of the crews of the Blyskawica or the French Chasseurs, please contact us through one of the links below, we would like to hear from you.

Secretary, Friends of Northwood Cemetery
16 Church Road, Gurnard, Isle of Wight PO31 8JP
(01983) 295807 secretary@friendsofnorthwoodcemetery.org.uk
Historian: historian@friendsofnorthwoodcemetery.org.uk

Roger Williams (Chairman)
Friends of Northwood Cemetery

Cowes Library (Address: 12-14 Beckford Road, Cowes PO31 7SG, Phone: 01983 293341)

Cowes Library provides a safe and welcoming space in the heart of Cowes. As well as providing the usual library facilities, they also have a specialist maritime collection and a small maritime museum. The Library is supported locally by a Supporters' Group who help raise money for the Library and help to provide a variety of events. Cowes Town Council provides financial support to keep this valuable resource open for our residents and visitors.

Opening hours:

Monday	10am–12:30pm, 1:30–5pm	Friday	10am–12:30pm, 1:30–5pm
Tuesday	10am–12:30pm, 1:30–5pm	Saturday	10am–4:30pm
Wednesday	Closed	Sunday	Closed
Thursday	Closed		



Cowes Heritage and Community Group

We are very pleased to announce that the extension at the rear of the Beckford Centre, for which Cowes Town Council contributed a grant of £10,000, has now been completed and 'signed-off' by Building Control.

The users of the groups who met there before the pandemic have now returned, apart from the craft group – known by the title 'Crafty Cowes' - who during the lock-down decamped to the Duke of York. Going strong again at the Centre, however, are groups comprising Local History, Art for All and Current Affairs; anyone interested in joining them are invited to email beckford.centre@gmail.com or phone 01983 244180.

The Centre will also be actively seeking to establish other daytime or evening special interest groups - so ensuring it becomes even more of a much-appreciated community facility.

Meanwhile the transfer of Cowes Heritage archives from its portacabin in Three Gates Road to the Beckford Centre is underway; this is a daunting task given the variety of artefacts and research material it has accumulated over the years, and the need to ensure they are kept safe and secure.

We are planning to stage an official Opening Day for the new extension during the celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, targeting Saturday 4th June for 'cutting the ribbon'. A formal announcement about this will be made later.

To mark the occasion, CHCG volunteers are researching all the official visits that the Queen has made to Cowes and the Island generally, and will be mounting a special exhibition; if you can offer any suitable material we would be very pleased to consider it for inclusion.

Looking further ahead, when finances allow, the Centre's trustees are eager to remodel and re-equip the main hall, to make it even more relevant and inviting to users and occasional visitors.

Jon Matthews, Chairman, Cowes Heritage and Community Group



USEFUL NUMBERS.

Cowes Town Council Councillors: (* Also Isle of Wight Councillor)

Name	Tel No./ Mobile/ Email	Ward
Anni L Adams	07715 253558; anni.adams@outlook.com	North
Paul M Bertie (Town Mayor)	01983 243100; 07711 255000; cllr.paul.bertie@btinternet.com	North
Linda Brown	01983 295222; 07443 335107; lindymlou47@gmail.com	West
Alison Carter	07714 721885; arallie@icloud.com	West
Stuart Ellis	01983 246352; 07721 606934; bigstu2006@hotmail.co.uk	Medina
Paul A Fuller*	01983 289595; 07935 090835; paulfulleriw@gmail.com	North
Lynn Hammond	01983 282308; 07803 161272; lynnhammond67@gmail.com	Medina
Richard E Hollis	01983 200986; 07375 221971; richardehollis@yahoo.co.uk	North
David J Jones	01983 298445; 07423 825830; davwin@talktalk.net	Medina
John U A Nicholson* (Deputy Town Mayor)	07918 757843; cllr.john.nicholson@btconnect.com	South
Michael Paler	07483 251960; mpcowes@btinternet.com	Medina
Lora J Peacey Wilcox*	lora08@sky.com	Medina
John "Jock" Rafferty	07860 929462; jockrafferty@gmail.com	Medina
Phillip Sanders	07796 772634; phill.sanders@outlook.com	South
David Walters	01983 653194; 07525 774106; davidwalters572@gmail.com	North
Wendy Wardrop	01983 298687	North

Town Clerk: Ms Debbie Faulkner, Town Council Office, Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes. PO31 8AZ
townclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk Tel: 01983 209022.

Assistant Town Clerk: Mrs Kate Gibbs, Town Council Office, Northwood House, Ward Avenue, Cowes PO31 8AZ
assistanttownclerk@cowestowncouncil.org.uk Tel: 01983 209022.

Cowes Town Council Emergency Out Of Hours Number: 07502 444883

Website: <https://www.cowestowncouncil.org.uk/>

Useful Numbers	Tel. Number	Useful Numbers	Tel. Number
St Mary's Hospital	01983 822099	Isle of Wight Council	01983 821000
Cowes Medical Centre	01983 295251	Member of Parliament (Bob Seely)	01983 220220
Emergency Services (all)	999	Red Funnel Ferries	02380 019192
Police (non-emergency)	101	Rail Enquiries	03457 484950
Medical Advice (non-emergency)	111	Cowes Primary School	01983 293261
		Lanesend Primary School	01983 293233
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	Gurnard Primary School	01983 295713
Environment Agency	0800 807 060	Northwood Primary School	01983 293392
Floodline	0345 988 118	Cowes Enterprise College	01983 203103
Gas Leaks	0800 111 999	Cowes Library	01983 293341
Electricity Emergency	0800 072 7282	Citizens Advice Bureau	0344 411 1444
Southern Water	0330 303 0368	Age UK (IW) (Advice on benefits/ grants and handyman service)	01983 525282
Island Roads (24hrs.)	01983 822440		
Homestart - Support for families with young children	01983 533357	Foodbank	01983 292040
IW Fire Service - Free home fire safety check fire.communitysafety@iow.gov.uk	01983 407075	Social Services (Adult)	01983 814980
Jigsaw Family Support - community based for everyone affected by family separation www.jigsawfamilysupport.com	01983 639 793	Social Services (Children)	0300 300 0117
Pension Service (Pension Credit entitlement check)	0800 99 1234	Samaritans Isle of Wight	01983 521234
The Footprint Trust	01983 822282	Storeroom (Furniture project)	01983 298679

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