

Shanklin Chimes

Church and Community News



November
2025

The monthly magazine of
St Blasius Old Parish Church

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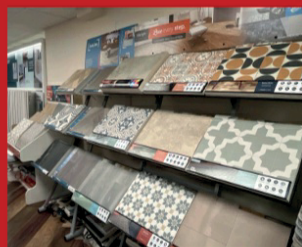


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Shanklin & District History Society



Meetings with a speaker and archive display are held at the Falcon Cross Hall (next door to the library) on the first Thursday of the month at 7.25

Visitors are welcome

For details of talks and other events please see our website
shanklinhistory.net



CAN YOU HELP US by adding an item from our most needed items in your nearest supermarket collection basket?



To find out what and where to donate or to make a financial donation, please visit our website:

isleofwight.foodbank.org.uk

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Today on the Isle of Wight there are families struggling to put food on the table. No money + no food = crisis. Isle of Wight foodbank provides 3 days worth nutritionally balanced emergency food parcels to local people in crisis.



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We are a registered Island charity that supports care home residents without family and friends or those suffering isolation and loneliness.

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rebecca@embracingage.org.uk or Tel. No 07419338066



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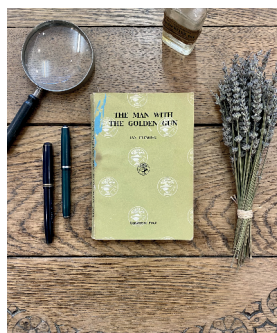
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St. Blasius Old Parish Church

Magazine

**SHARING GOD'S LOVE FOR ALL
Worshipping, Serving, Growing
TOGETHER**

— CHURCH SERVICES —

We warmly invite you to join us - See details on Page 3

For enquiries relating to Banns and Marriage services, Baptisms and Funerals
please contact: Revd. Tony Richards (details below)

Local Minister:	Revd. Tony Richards.	Tel: 863607
Curate:	Revd. Karen Crowhurst	Tel: 867727
Churchwardens:	Mr. Robert Crawley. (VACANT)	Tel: 868436
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Magazine Advertising:	Miss. Pam Dana.	Tel: 863189
Electoral Roll Secretary:	Mrs Annette Richards	Tel: 863607
Children's Society:	Mrs. Charlotte Coppin	Tel: 07724 852024

Cost of Magazine: £1.00 DONATION

St Blasius Old Parish Church, Church Road, Shanklin, PO37 6QY

NEW website: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/16793/



Thought for the Month

***To everything there is a season
and a time for every activity under heaven.'***

(Ecclesiastes 3:1)

Which is your favourite season?

It might be Spring - the season bursting with hope. After the long dark days of winter, comes the melting of snow and all the signs of new life, with buds on the trees, the bright colours of spring bulbs and the return of birdsong.

Or is it the warmth of the Summer, with its longer days and time to explore the countryside, swim in the sea, or sit in the garden and read?

It may be that Autumn is gold for you! With the leaves of the trees turning to an amazing array of colours – red, yellow, amber and gold, before softly dropping to the ground. With the crops safely gathered in, it is the season of both Thanksgiving and of Remembrance.

Then there is Winter. Although in many ways it is the hardest of all seasons, the long dark nights offer time to sit around the warmth of a log fire and the season is brightened by the decorations and joyful celebration of Christmas!

Whatever your favourite season, the Reverend Tim Eady, former Rector of Brighstone, offers these thoughtful reflections on the importance of each season:

There is something inevitable about the link between the changing seasons of the year and the development of human society.

Each season has its own particular feel, depending upon the weather, length of daylight hours, and in most societies, the continuous cycle of ploughing, sowing and reaping the land.

Twenty-first century western society is unusual, in that for the majority of us, the direct link between the annual cycle of seasons and the basic process of staying alive is not as significant as in earlier centuries.

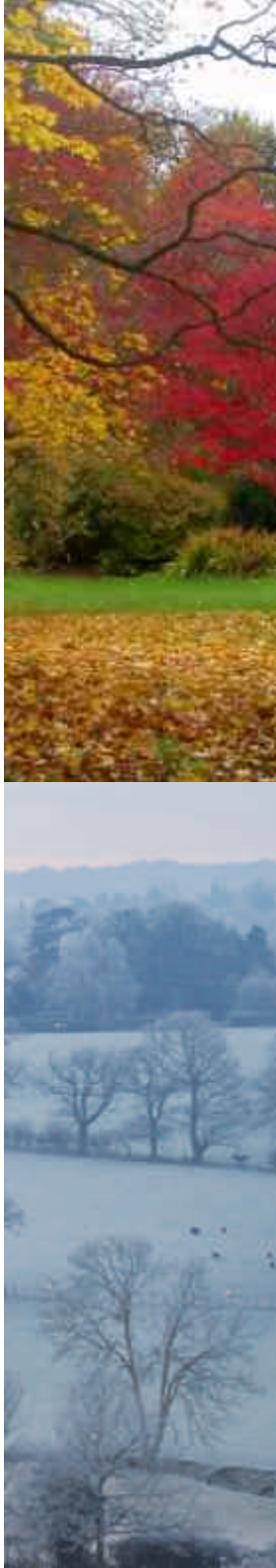
It is perhaps equally inevitable that the cycle of religious festivals should be influenced by the changing seasons. The pattern of feasts and festivals in the Old Testament is primarily agricultural. Agricultural festivals punctuate our own Christian year, although today Harvest Festival is the only one to which we pay any significant attention. The Christian Church has developed its own pattern of festivals, based upon the foundational events of our faith, for the most part following the life of our Lord from birth to His final departure from the earth, but it too uses the changing seasons to provide pictorial language to help us understand their full significance. Hence Christmas falling in midwinter, speaks of the promise of new hope breaking in to the darkness of human existence. Easter, with its message of resurrection, falls on the Jewish feast of First Fruits in the spring of the year when we are surrounded by the evidence of new life. Pentecost, the Jewish harvest festival, is when We celebrate the harvest of the Spirit in our lives.

The Christian year tells a story. Just as the Jewish year tells the story of escape from exile, the giving of the law and foundation of a nation, so too the Church's year tells the story of God's dealings with humanity, through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each season has particular characteristics. There are times of waiting, penitence, sadness and immense joy. In the same way that much of our lives are routine and humdrum, there have to be 'ordinary times' between the festivals, in order for the festivals to stand out as significant.

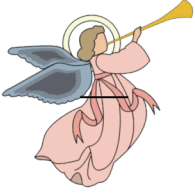
However, we must remember that ultimately, all seasons are of equal importance, and it is essential that we worship God at every time of year. After all, Australians manage to celebrate Christmas happily in mid-summer, and Easter in the autumn.

We are called to live as the people of God every day come rain or come shine. The Christian year, like so many other things, is there to assist us, but not to become a straight-jacket. If it gets in the way of worship, then, like anything else, it is time to reorder our priorities, and remember Jesus' teaching that worship should be 'in spirit and in truth' (John 4).

From "A Brighstone Book of Seasons" by Tim Eady



OUR CHURCH SERVICES IN NOVEMBER



Details of any changes
will be published on the St. Blasius website
and Facebook page



**You are warmly invited to join us for
Our Sunday Worship at
10.15am Every Sunday (unless otherwise stated)**

Sunday 2nd November - ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

HOLY COMMUNION

Followed by Harvest Lunch at Shanklin Cricket Club

Reverend Karen Crowhurst

Sunday 9th November - REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

9.30 am - SERVICE OF THE WORD

Reverend Tony Richards

**10.45 am - CIVIC ACT OF REMEMBRANCE
AT SHANKLIN WAR MEMORIAL**



Sunday 16th November - Second before Advent

MATINS

Reverend Karen Crowhurst

Sunday 23rd November - CHRIST THE KING

HOLY COMMUNION

Reverend Tony Richards

Sunday 30th November - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HOLY COMMUNION

Reverend Karen Crowhurst

Christians Working Together in the Bay

Warmly invite you to join them on Sunday
evenings in a different Church each week.

Details will be published in the
weekly newsletter.

***Shared
Worship***

at 5.00pm



PRAYERS FOR THE MONTH
The Sunday and Special Collects for this month
(with endings omitted)

2nd November - All Saints Sunday

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you...

9th November - Remembrance Sunday

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of all:
govern the hearts and minds of those in authority,
and bring the families of the nations,
divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin,
to be subject to his just and gentle rule...

16th November - Second Sunday before Advent

Heavenly Father,
whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil
and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life:
grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure;
that when he shall appear in power and great glory
we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom;

23rd November - Christ the King

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace,
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet...

30th November – Advent Sunday

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness
and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life,
in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility;
that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty
to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal...

FESTIVALS IN NOVEMBER

From the Church of England Calendar

- 1 All Saints' Day**
- 2 Commemoration of the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)**
- 3 Richard Hooker, Priest, Anglican Apologist, Teacher of the Faith, 1600**
- 3 Martin of Porres, Friar, 1639
- 6 Leonard, Hermit, 6th century
- 6 William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher of the Faith, 1944
- 7 Willibrord of York, Bishop, Apostle of Frisia, 739**
- 8 The Saints and Martyrs of England**
- 9 Margery Kempe, Mystic, c.1440
- 9 Remembrance Sunday**
- 10 Leo the Great, Bishop of Rome, Teacher of the Faith, 461**
- 11 Martin, Bishop of Tours, c.397**
- 13 Charles Simeon, Priest, Evangelical Divine, 1836**
- 14 Samuel Seabury, first Anglican Bishop in North America, 1796
- 16 Margaret, Queen of Scotland, Philanthropist, Reformer of the Church, 1093**
- 16 Edmund Rich of Abingdon, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1240
- 17 Hugh, Bishop of Lincoln, 1200**
- 18 Elizabeth of Hungary, Princess of Thuringia, Philanthropist, 1231**
- 19 Hilda, Abbess of Whitby, 680**
- 19 Mechtild, Béguine of Magdeburg, Mystic, 1280
- 20 Edmund, King of the East Angles, Martyr, 870**
- 20 Priscilla Lydia Sellon, a Restorer of the Religious Life in the Church of England, 1876
- 22 Cecilia, Martyr at Rome, c.230
- 23 Clement, Bishop of Rome, Martyr, c.100**
- 25 Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, 4th century
- 25 Isaac Watts, Hymn Writer, 1748
- 29 Day of Intercession and Thanksgiving for the Missionary Work of the Church**
- 30 Andrew the Apostle**

Copy Deadline for December Magazine - Wednesday 19th November



A Time of Transition

By Catherine Pulsifer

November, a time of transition and grace,
A month that holds a unique place.
As the year draws closer to its end,
November whispers, "Reflect and mend."

Leaves fall gently, painting the ground,
In hues of amber, red, and brown.
Nature sheds its vibrant attire,
Preparing for a season to inspire.

The air grows crisper, colder each day,
And daylight slowly fades away.
November's chill reminds us true,
To seek warmth in the things we do.

It's a time for gratitude and thanks,
For counting blessings, filling love's banks.
With hearts open wide, we gather near,
To share laughter, joy, and cheer.

November carries stories of the past,
Of heroes brave and memories that last.
It's a reminder to honour and remember,
Those who've walked this path, each November.

Jane Wilshaw accompanied by her daughter, Sian, gave us a fascinating talk about how she had created her beautiful quilts and the stories behind them, showing us slides of her work and bringing along a wide selection of quilts. Jane began quilting whilst working overseas, where she developed her skills, alongside other like-minded friends. Using a special type of sewing machine, Jane created some amazingly intricate designs using several different quilting techniques, with a wide variety of fabrics. The fabrics included silk, wool, cotton, netting, lace, feathers, threads, in fact anything that would help her to create the effect she desired - even using fabrics from her daughter's pre-loved dresses!

We were all astounded at the intricacies of Jane's work – the attention to detail, the variety of finishes, the richness of the colours and the combination of quilting styles and patterns. She showed us a selection of bed quilts, tablecloths, table runners, cushion covers, wall hangings; not only using textiles but sometimes enhancing her work by applying paint directly onto a quilt or cushion. Jane also personalised her work using photos.

We learned that 'batting' was the middle layer of a quilt and comes in different thicknesses depending on its purpose. In a hot country, a lightweight batting was used because of the extremely hot temperatures, whereas here in the UK wool might be chosen for added warmth. Another quilting term, 'Flying Geese', describes how triangular fabric pieces are applied to resemble geese flying nose to tail in formation. These pieces were also used to edge a quilt or a banner or to form part of a pattern or picture. The term 'Block of the Month' (BOM), referred to the creation of a square block of quilting. Each quilter in a group would place four different fabric samples into a bag and then swap their bags with another quilter. Quilters would then use those fabrics to create their own unique 'block'. Jane said how difficult it was sometimes, to part with favourite fabrics, but always fascinating to see what her fellow quilters had fashioned. One particularly interesting gift Jane made was a picnic set for a friend. It comprised; a tablecloth with a plastic underside, napkins, plate holders, a cutlery wrap, and a matching carry bag to hold all the items - and big enough to hold food too.

Jane's quilts are simply works of art; and we were all so delighted to see such a beautiful selection of her work and to hear the stories behind each design.

If you would like to know more about the Mothers' Union, there are some information leaflets in church, or why not come along to our next meeting on **Monday, 24th November at 2.00pm** at St Blasius Church, Church Road, Shanklin. Reverend Karen Crowhurst will be leading us in a time of Advent Reflections.

Suzanne V Cook, Branch Leader, Shanklin MU



Coffee Mornings

First Monday of the month, 10am -12noon, at St Blasius Church

Our coffee mornings have been so successful that we are continuing them on

3rd November *(in aid of the Children's Society)*

1st December *(with Christmas Craft Sale)*

Craft items also on sale at each, and maybe a raffle. Do come along!



Eco Encouragement

During recent years, we have seen an increasing number of unusual and extreme weather events. We have become more aware of the increasing evidence of the dangers caused by plastics and long-lasting chemicals, causing pollution that endangers both human health and all other life on the planet.

It is important to be aware of these huge challenges - but facing these constant negative headlines can lead to us feeling overwhelmed. We can become paralysed by despair and feel unable to take action. These climate challenges are significant, yet many developments are taking place that can give us real hope for the future.

Marine protected areas are expanding. The United Nations High Seas Treaty became law in 2023. It provides a legal framework to protect marine biodiversity in international waters and aims to protect 30% of the world's oceans by 2030. It is the world's first treaty to protect and conserve marine biodiversity and restore ocean health. in international waters. The High Seas Treaty This shows what the world can achieve when we come together for the common good of our ocean, which covers 70% of the planet.

“This is the most significant victory for ocean protection and restoration I have ever witnessed,” said Ariana Densham, a senior campaigner at Greenpeace. ***“Campaigners, coastal communities, small-scale fishers, scientists, and ocean lovers everywhere can hold on to this moment as proof that when millions of voices demand change, we can achieve what once seemed like a distant dream.”***

Following an international treaty, The Montreal Protocol, nearly 99% of ozone depleting substances have been phased out. As a result, the damaged ozone layer is being replenished. The hole in the ozone over the Arctic is expected to be fully healed by 2045 and the Antarctic hole by 2066.

<https://www.britannica.com/event/Montreal-Protocol>

Although many species are still endangered, conservation efforts are succeeding in bringing back species from the brink of extinction. Recent success stories close to home include the reintroduction of Sea Eagles to The Isle of Wight; the replanting of seagrass meadows that has allowed seahorses and cuttlefish to thrive in The Solent. The key to the seahorse comeback was cultivating an environment where seagrass would thrive. Water voles have returned to parts of England and Wildcats have been reintroduced to the Scottish Highlands.

Government support has increased funding to farmers.

“This helps to support the transition towards a more productive and environmentally sustainable agricultural sector; enabling farmers to prioritise the

nature friendly farming changes required to cope with the challenges of climate change. These include better wildlife management, tree planting, peatland restoration and flood resilience. A healthy and productive soil is the most valuable asset on the farm and is critical to the long-term productivity. A thriving soil life underpins the whole food web, essentially supporting more visible farmland wildlife such as birds and mammals. Healthy soils produce healthy plants that are more resilient to pests and disease, require fewer inputs and save money. A well-structured living soil is less susceptible to soil erosion and more permeable to water, reducing the risk of drying out and water logging.

It is estimated that the value of natural insect pollination to the UK farming industry is £690 million per year. The cost of replacing insect pollination in the UK is estimated at £1.8 billion per year, which is not an economically viable option.

The 'Pasture for Pollinators' project trialled leaving un-mown strips in the herbal leys to extend the flowering period. If these un-mown margins are not left, when crops are cut, (e.g. for silage), the local landscape can go from 'feast to famine' for insects overnight. By sowing diverse **legume and herb mixes** into farm grassland, and ensuring that mowing management allows them to flower, an excellent source of pollen and nectar for insects can be created." Nature Friendly Farming Network

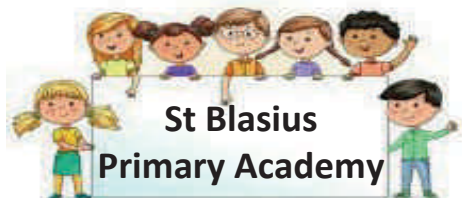
Martin Lines, chief executive of the Nature Friendly Farming Network,
"Increasing funding and prioritising nature-friendly farming will help put agriculture on a more sustainable footing and enable the changes required to continue feeding our nation as climate change presents ongoing challenges,"

We need to carry the momentum of these successes forward and channel our collective energy into driving even greater progress. Together, we can turn hope into action and build a healthier, more sustainable world for generations to come.

We can all help by doing something, however small. Did you know there is an Island Facebook group where you can exchange plants and seeds? See this link: [Isle of Wight seeds, cuttings, plant exchange and all things gardening.](#)

Earlier this month, a world-famous primatologist and anthropologist, Jane Goodall died. Throughout her life she inspired many people to respect the natural world and to take the dangers threatening our planet seriously. We remember her thoughtful advice in this quote:

"You can not get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." Jane Goodall



Extracts from Recent Newsletters

By Jemma Powell, Assistant Principal

It is a great honour and privilege to share some wonderful moments from our school recently.

Our recent Worship, helped children understand the secret of true wealth: their faith in God and the gifts He gives us. Through the parable of the rich man and the poor man, children explored how God wants them to live life to the full now and for eternity! The Scripture Luke 16:19-31 was shared with the children to help support this.

We've celebrated the appointment of our new school leaders, and I want to take a moment to recognise the incredible effort of all our children who applied for these important roles. From our school council to worship leaders, and our house and vice captains, these positions are vital in helping shape the future of St. Blasius. The passion our children demonstrated during the application process was truly heartwarming.

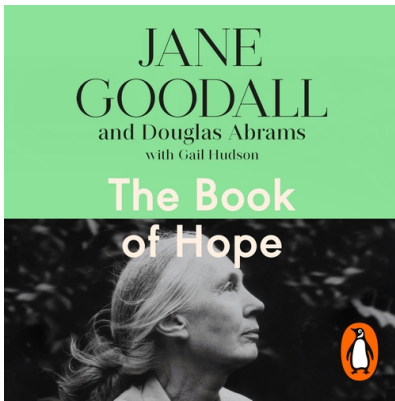
Our children have been incredibly active in sports recently. The Pokémon football cup saw fantastic effort from all participants, and our Tag Rugby festival was particularly exciting. The players' performances were gripping, and the supporters were wonderfully loud and enthusiastic!

We've also been enjoying some special community moments. We recently welcomed Year 3 parents for lunch, with Year 2 parents scheduled to join us next week at a slightly different time. It was particularly delightful to welcome eighty eight grandparents into school to share an activity with their grandchildren. The response was tremendous, with a huge uptake of participants and lots of inspiring ideas about how we can continue to grow these intergenerational connections.

Year 3 visited Brading Roman Villa on Wednesday. From speaking to the children it sounds like they had a wonderful time! Full of history and questions to enhance their learning – well done Year 3!

These moments remind us of the vibrant, supportive community we are building together.

Jemma Powell



Book Review

Title: Reasons for Hope
Author: Jane Goodall
Publisher: Penguin Books Ltd
ISBN: 9780241479469

Last month (October 2025), a world-famous primatologist and anthropologist, Jane Goodall died. Throughout her life she inspired many people to respect the natural world and to take the dangers threatening our planet seriously.

As a child, Jane's father gave her a toy chimpanzee. Jane named this toy chimp, *Jubilee* and said, "*her fondness for it sparked her early love of animals.*"

In 1960, Jane joined the work of Louis Leakey, studying primates in their natural environment. 1962 Jane Goodall, who had no degree, went to the University of Cambridge. She was the eighth person to be allowed to study for a PhD at Cambridge without first having obtained a bachelor's degree

The Book of Hope focuses on Jane Goodall's "Four Reasons for Hope": The Amazing Human Intellect, The Resilience of Nature, The Power of Young People, and The Indomitable Human Spirit.

"Chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans have been living for hundreds of thousands of years in their forest, living fantastic lives, never overpopulating, never destroying the forest. I would say that they have been in a way more successful than us as far as being in harmony with the environment." - Jane Goodall

We remember her thoughtful advice in this quote:

"You can not get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." Jane Goodall

Christmas Fair

St John's Church Annexe,
Carter Street, Sandown

Saturday 22nd November

10.30am to 2.30pm

A variety of exciting Stalls
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Dates for your Diary...

Special Events at St Blasius

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An evening of Christmas Music

by Simon Langton School Chamber Choir

Monday 8th December, 10.30am

Dementia Friendly Service

Sunday 14th December, 4.00pm

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**Meetings held at the
The Catholic Church Hall
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second **Tuesday** of each month
@7.30 pm
(No meeting in August)



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Saturday Mornings
9:30 - 12:30

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Please note we are closed every day between 1pm - 2pm



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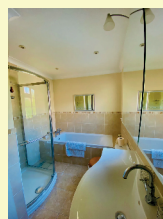


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FIND AN ALZHEIMER CAFÉ near you

An Alzheimer Café is a meeting place that gives informal education and advice about dementia and offers guidance and signposting to other services. We welcome people with dementia, their families, carers, professionals, and people with an interest in dementia.

EAST COWES

1st Tuesday of the month

2PM - 4PM

Town Hall, York Avenue

East Cowes

PO32 6RU

COWES

2nd Weds of the month

2PM - 4PM

Football Club

Reynolds Close

(off Park Road)

PO31 7NT

TOTLAND

3rd Weds of the month

2PM - 4PM

St Saviour's

Holy Family Centre

Weston Lane

Totland

PO39 0HE

SANDOWN

4th Weds of the month

2PM - 4PM

The Broadway Centre

1 Broadway, Sandown

PO36 9GG

NEWPORT

Last Thurs of the month

6PM - 8PM

Newclose County Cricket

Ground

Blackwater Road, Newport

PO30 3BE

RYDE

1st Weds of the month

11.30PM - 1.30PM

All Saints Church Hall

Queens Road

Ryde

PO33 3BG

ACE7, an Alzheimer Café for people with young-onset dementia (age 65 and younger) runs on 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10AM - 12PM at Parklands Park Road, Cowes, PO31 7LZ

 www.alzheimercafeiw.org.uk

 info@alzheimercafeiw.org.uk

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