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BRIDPORT

Flyer

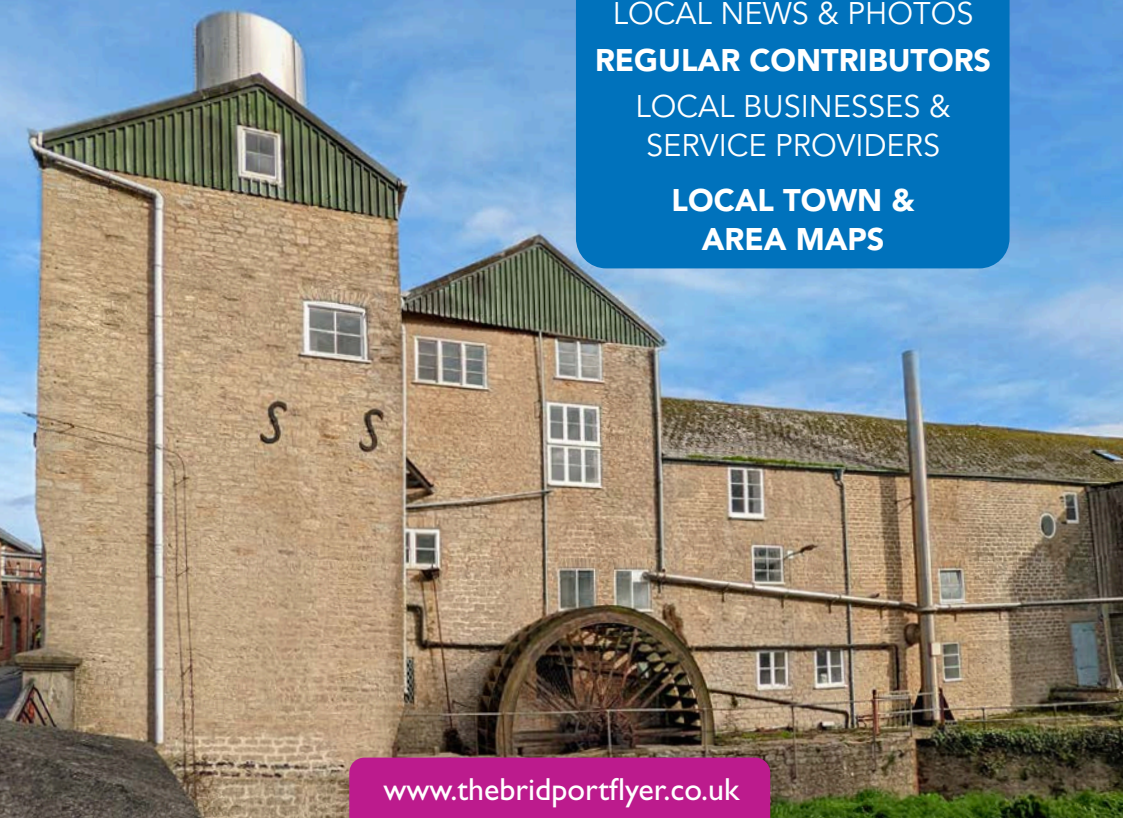
GRATIS

WINTER 2022

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WELCOME TO The Bridport Flyer Winter 2022.



Firstly a big "thank you" to Palmer's Brewery for simply "being there", and offering us 2 great photo opportunities – our new front cover, and the brewer's dray!

Our current edition is full of local business information. And a walk along part of the proposed new Bridport Railway; news from West Bay Discovery Centre; profiles on 3 local women "in business"; important information direct from Dorset Council.

In August "The Bridport Flyer" visited The Melplash Show. What a fantastic day that was – showcasing all that is good about our Town and locality.



THE MELPLASH SHOW

We must not ignore the "storm clouds" circling, and we share concerns with everyone as we all experience rapid increases in the costs of energy and basic foods. Communities are always stronger working together, and we hope that all in Bridport and DT6 postcode support each other during the Winter. Please support the local businesses who advertise in "The Bridport Flyer". I am sure they will all appreciate your custom, and give you great service.

Anthony Bucke.

EDITOR. Email bridport@theantiquetourist.com

Tuesday 11 October 2022.

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INDEX WINTER 2022

Active Mobility	Page 7	Loders Arms	Page 17
Antiques Bazaar	Page 33	Mapperton House & Gardens.....	Page 25
Auto Refurbs	Page 17	MH Electrical	Page 31
Autobodytech	Page 11	Nantes Solicitors	Page 29
Axminster Garden Machinery	Page 35	PCS Furnishing Centre	Page 1
Bespoke Landscapes	Page 17	Pebble Vintage	Page 31
Bridport Auction House	Page 6	Redlands Yard	Page 14+15
C&O Tractors Ltd	Page 31	Regency Care & Mobility	Page 21
Caravan & Motorhome Solutions	Page 16	Rockburn Ltd	Page 35
CMS Valeting Service	Page 17	SCM Garage Doors.....	Page 29
Classic Car Restoration	Page 27	Seal's Cove.....	Page 5
Clocktower Records	Page 31	The Admiral Hood Mosterton	Page 9
Colourfence	Page 8	The Corner Garage	Page 35
Concept Security	Page 9	The New Inn Eype	Page 27
Countryside Scaffolding	Page 9	The Potting Shed	Page 10
Dorset Hideaways	Page 2	The Trading Post	Page 13
Dorset Nectar Cider Farm	Page 36	The Vintage Trading Post	Page 27
EGF Carpet & Flooring	Page 17	Three Counties Pest Control	Page 24
Evans Plant Hire	Page 11	Top Sparks	Page 35
Gavin Dixon Finance Solutions	Page 25	Tree Bespoke Woodwork	Page 13
Global Art & Antiques	Page 12	Tricky Dicky Groundworks	Page 9
Grow Slow	Page 5	Vicary & Co	Page 29
Haddon House	Page 9	Vurlands Animal Farm	Page 26
Homefire	Page 13		
Hussey & Briggs	Page 31		
JCP Designs	Page 11		

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After a very varied career spanning 40 years, Michael Dark of Bridport Auction House found his vocation as an auctioneer. His background includes Brighton art student, Gloucestershire potter, then teacher and art therapist in London; Bermondsey market trader; fisherman; progressing to antiques dealer in The Lanes in Brighton, before finally settling in Bridport 25 years ago.

This was in order to open his very own auction house, back in the very town where Michael had started his education at Bridport's Colfox School, in the 1960's. So Michael does not lack entrepreneurial experience, nor knowledge of the antiques trade, and the locality. His specialist interests are First and Second World War "finds", tribal art, folk art, American antiquities and antique books.

Said Michael "As part of our service we carry out research on behalf of vendors. This can be so interesting, and helps us learn more around the subject, whilst ensuring our vendors achieve the very best prices." Bridport Auction House can be found in a character building adjacent to Bridport Police Station.



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Dorset Council has secured £2.5million in funding from the Environment Agency to stabilise, protect and repair the historic Cobb in Lyme Regis.

This will be the fifth and final phase of their long-term Environmental Improvement Strategy in the seaside town. The overall cost of the project is expected to be around £3million, with the rest of the money provided by Dorset Council.

The famous harbour and breakwater protect the Lyme Bay area from coastal erosion and flooding. However, structural investigations have shown significant signs of sea-floor erosion, which is gradually destabilising the Grade 1 listed Cobb. The erosion is so significant that, without intervention, the Cobb would no longer work as a breakwater by 2044. This would put over 100 properties at risk of flooding and coastal erosion.



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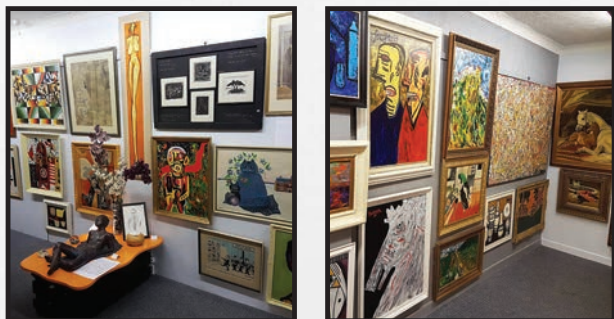
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- Wednesday 14th December – lunchtime Friday 16th December – lunchtime & evening, Wednesday 21st December – lunchtime

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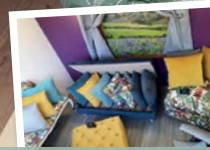
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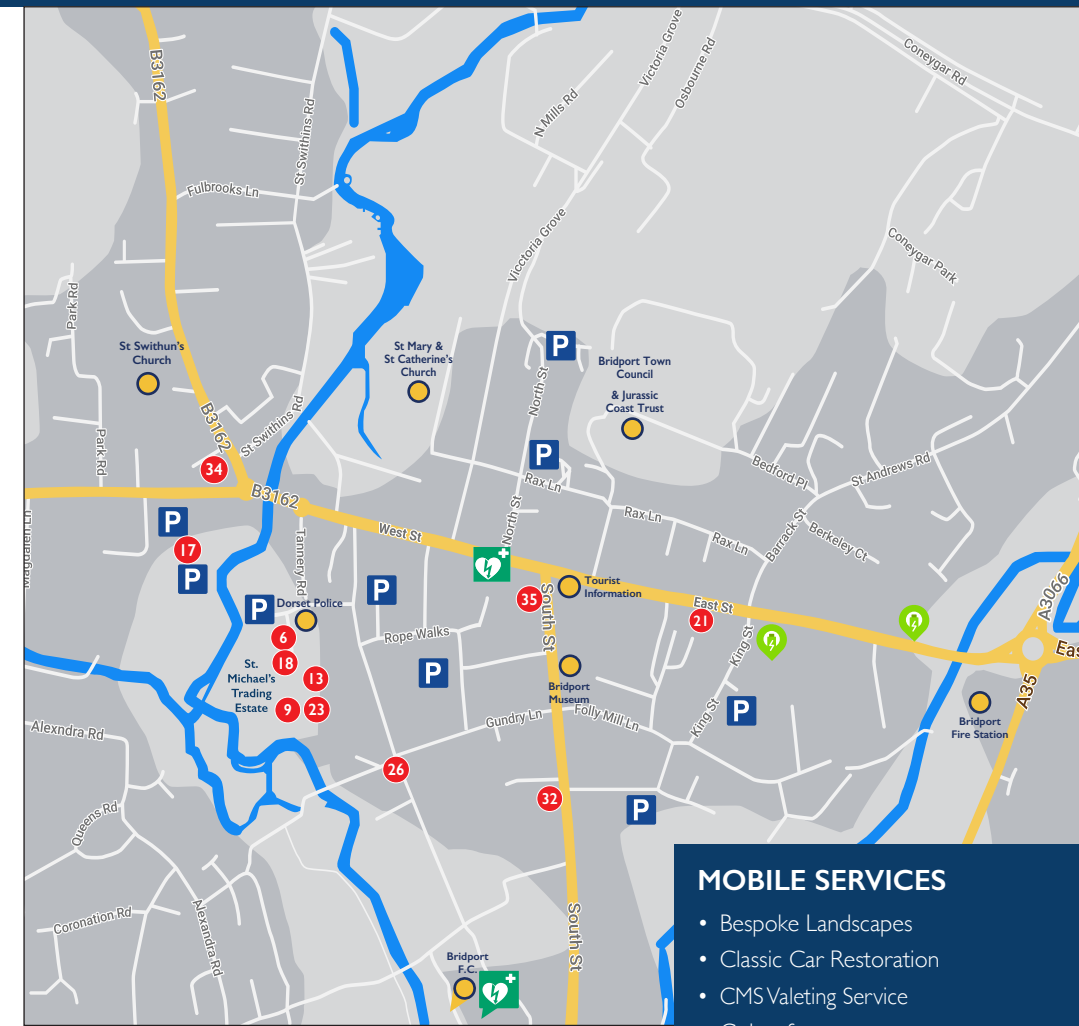
DT6 AREA MAP



- Axminster
- Bridport
- Crewkerne
- Chard
- Dorchester
- ⚡ Electric Car Charging
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WOMEN AT WORK IN THE BRIDPORT AREA

BEVERLEY BEAVIS - Director at The Customs House

Beverley Beavis is director at The Customs House, West Bay. Bev has been in charge since 2015.

The Customs House is a Vintage, Retro & Crafts Emporium and home to 100 independent traders across a 3 storey historic warehouse in West Bay.

To quote Bev "I love coming into work everyday - I meet so many different people, and I love buying and selling such a variety of items."



ALISON FERRIS - Manager of The Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre

Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre - a fascinating display of fossils, and an education centre for schools and the general public, with a small cinema/lecture room. From The Centre arrange fossil hunting and seashore safaris, plus more in-depth educational tours on geography and geology.

Graduate, and long term local resident Alison is enthusiastic about Charmouth, the beach and the cliffs. "The landscape is so raw and unspoilt - the heritage coast status should preserve this area, and prevent it becoming built up and commercialised".

www.charmouth.org/chcc



NICOLA DEVERELL - Partner at Grow Slow, Broomhil Farm, West Bay Fields

Grow Slow is a Garden Nursery with a twist, specialising in selling locally Grown Plants and Vintage & Reclaimed items for your garden. There is also a lovely licensed Cafe serving fresh homemade breakfast, lunch and cakes. It also has a growing science section with lots of local fossils, nature guides and walking maps of the area.

Said Nicola "I get inspiration from the Jurassic Coastline, it has everything I love, fossils scattered on every beach and human history carved into its holloways and hill forts. I'm enjoying working with local artists and growers to bring some of that magic into the garden here at Grow Slow."

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EXPLORING PART OF THE ROUTE OF THE PROPOSED JURASSIC COAST RAILWAY

Loders to West Bay

We started at Boarsbarrow Farm, midway between Bradpole and Loders. A bridleway follows the line of the farm track off the lane, and as you cross the bridge over the River Asker, the original line of the “permanent way” of the former railway line between Maiden Newton and West Bay passes beneath our feet. This is significant in that we are tracing the path of the proposed new JURASSIC COAST RAILWAY. Plans for this exciting project are beginning to take shape, and “The Bridport Flyer” have been given exclusive access to the route from this point, through Gore Cross, Pymore, North Mills, the bus station, St Michaels, West Bay Fields, Broomhills and straight into West Bay station.



We retraced our steps, then walked back towards Bradpole and the road bridge over the River Mangerton. The proposed new route will curve through the field on the left, crossing the lane just east of Hole House Farm, heading north east, then crossing the stream further up, and then heading north of the Mangerton Lakes, crossing Mangerton Lane north of New House Farm, before turning westwards

towards the Beaminster Road. Here it will enter a 300 metre long tunnel under the A3066, emerging on the west side adjacent to Watford Farm. Above ground and east of A3066 will be a major intermodal point for traffic coming in from the north, with park and ride and coach parking facilities, toilets, and refreshments, linked to the platform below by a state-of-the-art elevator system.

We walked about 200 yards into Bradpole, then took the public footpath through the barn conversions on the right, and up towards the rear of the abattoir.



BLACK COB AT BRADPOLE

The ground rises here, so the railway line will have to run in a cutting, before finally entering the tunnel north of Mangerton Lane. Careful navigation around a “mound” gets us into a sunken lane, bringing us out onto Mangerton Lane. Here we could see the ground continuing to rise towards the A3066, and the necessity for the tunnel. We walked along Townsend Way to Gore Cross, carefully crossing over into Watford Lane.

The railway line will emerge out of the hillside on the right, crossing the lane on an embankment and bridge and then hug the foot of the slope behind The Pymore Inn. At the bottom we



LAND TO THE REAR OF THE PYMORE INN

turned left towards Pymore. Just past the pub is the site of a proposed “halt”, providing a service for residents of Pymore. Heading into Bridport, and just before St Catherine’s Junior School, the railway line crosses Pymore Road, towards North Mills.

We took the footpath beside the allotments, and crossed the River Brit.



ALLOTMENTS OFF PYMORE ROAD

Here, west of the River Brit will be another “halt” to service this residential area, before running southwards to West Street, passing through the Amsafe site, and then crossing West Street into Tannery Road. Plans are well-developed for an intermodal station here. Buses and coaches would continue to stop here, connecting with the trains heading south to West Bay, and north to the Brit Valley and Maiden Newton.

The route of the proposed railway line continues south, crossing and

re-crossing the Rivers Brit and Simene, whilst skirting around St Michaels Trading Estate, before heading towards St Marys and the recreation ground,.

From North Mills we walked along St Swithins Road, then left to West Street, and right into Tannery Road. Cutting behind the Police Station, we turned left at The Red Brick Café, past Clock Tower Music, then right into St Michaels Lane. Immediately right at Rockburn into Foundry Lane, and after crossing the footbridge, we followed the path between the recreation ground and Skilling Estate. The railway line will be quite straight here, missing the sports fields, before crossing Skilling Hill Road.

At the brewery, the footpath to the west of the River Brit takes us to the left of the rugby pitch, out into open fields before passing under the A35, Bridport bypass.



THE BRIDPORT BYPASS NEAR BROOMHILLS.

For the proposed railway line to achieve this, “engineering ingenuity” will be required, as a dip in the line must be created under the bypass to allow sufficient headroom for the locomotives and carriages. Probably an elongated cutting, with a sophisticated early flood-warning system, and efficient high-output pumps, as this is right in the flood plain of The River Brit. Once south of the A35, the train will call at another major

intermodal station at Broomhills. Here will be a significant park-and-ride facility helping reduce parking, congestion, and pollution issues in the centre of Bridport. The site will also be the major storage area for carriages and locomotives when not in use, and engineering workshops for maintenance of the fleet, including restoration of heritage locomotives and carriages.

Our footpath remained fairly elevated as it took us south towards the extensive Parkdean Holiday Park at West Bay – a very popular destination for summer visitors. Here the line will curve away across the floodplain, probably on stilts, crossing West Bay Road near Bridec, before re-aligning with the original permanent way, and running into West Bay Station.

WHY RE-OPEN THE RAILWAY?

- Relieve traffic congestion, with park and ride facilities at Gore Cross and Broomhills.
- Provide direct mass-transit access to the Bristol – Weymouth railway line at Maiden Newton.
- Encourage local “commutes” between Bridport, West Bay, and the villages along the Brit Valley to Maiden Newton.
- Provide a “green corridor” from the coast inland to Maiden Newton. Providing improved access for sustainable employment in the rural areas.
- Increase job prospects – directly, through railway staff, and indirectly, by encouraging industry and therefore further employment opportunities in the area.
- Consolidate the Bridport area as a tourist attraction with a walking and cycling trail alongside the railway throughout the Brit Valley.

WALK SUMMARY

- Distance? 4 miles.
- Duration? 2 hours, plus time to explore the features along the route.
- Footwear? Good walking boots.
- Difficulty? Generally easy walking much on byroads.
- Dogs? Always on leads.

DATE OF WALK. OCTOBER 2022.

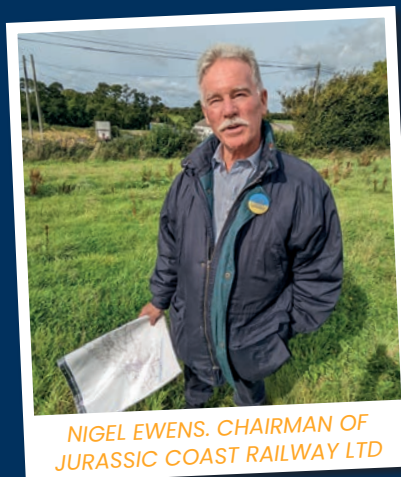
Nigel Ewens is Chairman of Jurassic Coast Railways Ltd and led our recent walk around part of the proposed route of the “Bridport Community Railway”. Nigel is passionate about this proposal, and is a complete authority on all aspects of the details of the project.

In Nigel’s words:

“Build it and they will come and use it!”

Nigel has asked us to publish his contact details here, should you wish to ask more questions, offer your support, or discuss any element that worries you.

Email: nigelewens@btinternet.com



NIGEL EWENS. CHAIRMAN OF JURASSIC COAST RAILWAY LTD



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DORSET COUNCIL'S CUSTOMER ACCESS POINT IN BRIDPORT IS MOVING

People in Bridport who have urgent or essential face to face enquiries for Dorset Council will have a change of location from the end of October.

Currently our Customer Access Point in Bridport is at Mountfield in Rax Lane. From the 31 October this will move to Bridport Library in South Street.

The opening times will be:

Monday: 10am to 5pm
 Tuesday: 9:30am to 12:30pm
 Wednesday: 9:30am to 5pm
 Friday: 9:30am to 5pm

Closed on Thursday, Saturdays and Sundays

Our customer services can also be contacted by phone on **01305 221000** or go online

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/contact/contacts



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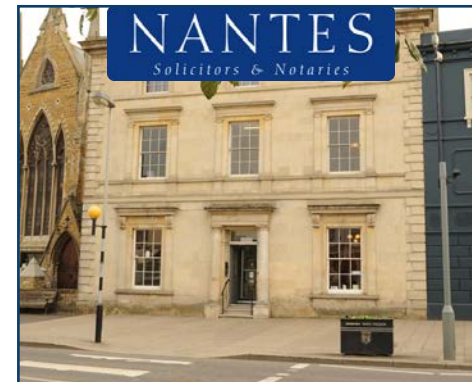
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19th Century advertising print of the W.H.E. Biddlecombe tannery situated roughly where the bus station is now. Tannery Road still exists. The tannery closed in the 1930's.



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Dorset Council launches second consultation to shape the future of the library service

Dorset Council has launched the second phase of public consultation to inform how they develop and deliver their library service in the future. Library users and non-users are being asked to share their views. The consultation runs from 29 September 2022 to 22 December 2022 and is available here. www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lets-talk-libraries-consultation

Libraries are at the heart of Dorset's communities and provide highly valued services, including book lending, activities and events, reading groups, skills and learning, health and wellbeing, information provision, digital access and support, and art and cultural exhibitions. People of all ages can enjoy all of this and more, within a safe and welcoming environment. There are 23 council-run and eight community-managed libraries in the Dorset Council area.

The current library strategy is 11 years old and this consultation seeks to look to the future of Dorset's libraries – how can they best meet the needs of local residents and communities, now and over the next ten years.

Over 7,500 responses were received in the first phase of public consultation, which ended earlier this year. Consultation responses have shaped a new draft Dorset Council library strategy with the mission: To Inspire,

Connect and Enable communities through the library service. The survey will run for 12 weeks and will close on Thursday 22 December 2022. Survey responses will help to refine the draft strategy before it is presented to Dorset Council's Cabinet for sign off in Spring 2023.

In addition to our public survey, there is a dedicated children's survey for ages 5-15 years and a survey for businesses, partners and employees. To find all the surveys head to:

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/lets-talk-libraries

Support is also available via customer services where an officer can help to fill in the survey over the phone. **Call 01305 221 000.**



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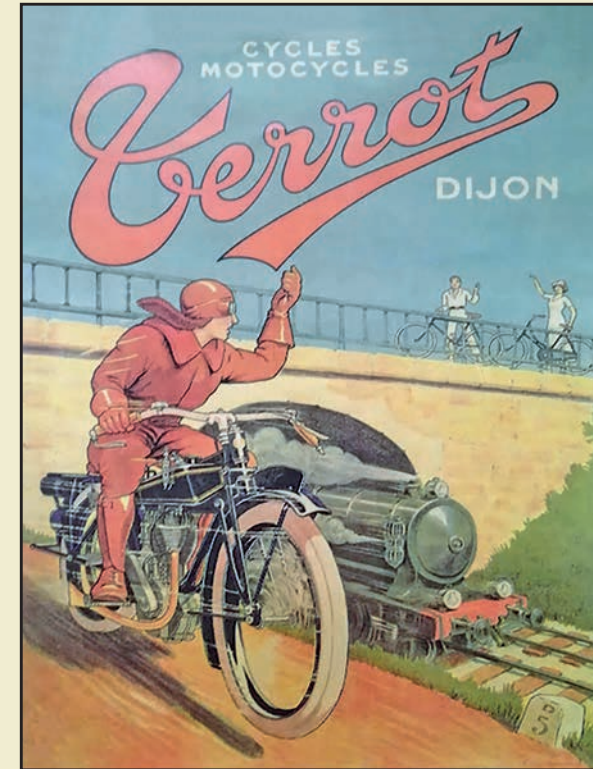
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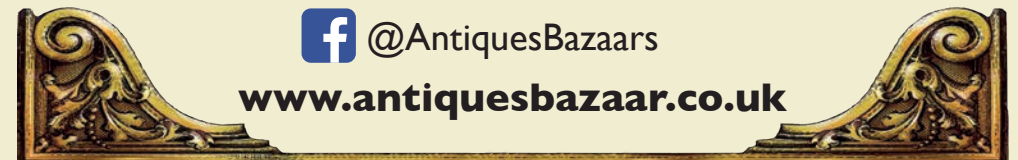


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From 31st October the Centre will move to weekend only opening for November, then opening for holiday periods only until March 2023. The end of October also marks the end of the hugely popular Buried in Time exhibition, which looked at the coastal geology and fossils of the West Bay area. In its place the Centre's winter exhibition will invite visitors to relive their "**West Bay Memories**".

The West Bay Memories exhibition uses photographs and stories that have been passed to the Centre by local people and visitors to capture a sense of West Bay in living memory. These feature events such as happy holidays, fires and floods, and include local characters from days gone by. There's also a selection of old West Bay souvenirs – posing the question "which one would you have taken home?"

Alongside the exhibition the Centre is planning to hold one or more days when people can come and share their memories and have them recorded by the Centre. Details of these will be publicised closer to the time.

The Centre operates on a charitable basis. There is no admission charge but donations from visitors are appreciated and help the Centre meet its running costs. Find out more at the Centre's website www.westbaydiscoverycentre.org.uk or contact them at manager@westbaydiscoverycentre.org.uk



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