



80th Anniversary of D-Day: Thursday 2nd June 2024

On 6 June 1944, tens of thousands of soldiers landed on five beaches in Normandy, northern France.

The sixth of June is a date etched in the memories of generations as D-Day, the start of Operation Overlord, the Allied forces' full-scale liberation of France from Nazi Germany during World War Two. They gave us freedom by giving up their lives.

Mindful of the war in Europe raging 80 years later, today, in West Moors, we paid tribute to the sacrifices that were made in combat before, on and after that day.

As our way of remembering, the Council hosted a FREE fish and chip lunch and cakes; between us and Lime Coast Catering, for those residents that asked to attend.

Gathering at Pinehurst Community Church was a lovely group of 61 residents including residents from Brook View and Summer Hill Care Homes.

There were some new and familiar faces from West Moors, that joined in with waving of D-Day Flags and singing along to melodies from the '40's, performed by The Land Girls.

Everyone present, understood the significance of the day, even though there were no veterans amongst them (we think), there were guests who had parents or grandparents, in the war, or were evacuated because of the war, or remembered where they were, on D-Day, when troops were faced with the most shocking scenes one could never imagine.

Following the lunch, some then met at the Petwyn War Memorial, where the Town Crier, Iain Mitchell, read out the D-Day Proclamation, and a short service was led by Revd Michael Eaton; Revd Lynne Morris recited The Exhortation, and the Chair of the Town Council, Cllr Rita Burke laid a wreath of remembrance. The D-Day Flag was flown till the following week, in honour and gratitude of those who have gone, but not been forgotten.

Thank you to Pastor Adam Parrett of Pinehurst Community Church for his support all day and to Cllrs Trevor Salt, Jim Staig and Cllr Mrs Rita Burke for their help throughout the event. Lest We Forget, let's be thankful, and let's hope there is soon peace, where there is currently war.



WESTIVAL Sat 13th July 12-4pm

It is safe to say, WESTIVAL is now part of the history and future of West Moors. The vibe this year was friendly, fun and community spirited. The display of 90 classic cars wowed many, and out of those 90, Neil McAbendroth, the owner of an Austin Metropolitan, was presented with a trophy for being the winner of 'The Car I would most like to Take Home'. The 70 stalls enticed many, and the band and Krazy Kev kept the buzz going all day. There were so many children running around laughing, dancing in front of the live band, with their faces painted for just £2, by our very busy face painter that day, from Head Turners Face Painting. Elaine, thank you for being so swift and skilled with the sponge!

The Gladiator Jousting and Water Chicanes, were provided in place of the Zorbers and climbing wall that cancelled without notice. Unfortunately, they did not seem as practical to use or as popular as we had hoped, so something more inspiring but simple will go in its place next time.

The celebrities of the event, as always, are the ferrets. The racing and accompanying handling experiences, offered by Wessex Ferret Club, engrossed as many this year as last year. Fun with fundraising for the ferrets!

The other wow factor was URBAN DISPLAYS. The crowd Rich drew was phenomenal. A big thanks to him and his crazy bike stunts. The First ever Cash Raffle at WESTIVAL and we ran out of tickets! These prizes would not have been possible without our amazing Sponsors;

JULIA's FARM, BREWER & BREWER, TEC CHECK, JK HOUSE TRAINING, FLOORING ELEGANCE, O HARA, BLUE BARBERS, K&B Installations, MB WILKES, PHOENIX MARBLE & GRANITE, CLEAR VISION, MINSTER MECHANICS. It is just a shame we can't give a little something to everyone. Next year, it could be you! The winners of this year's cash prize did not take it lightly. One is due to have a baby, the other being 84 plans to pay it forward to the charities he's involved with and the other had never won anything. The whole event would not have been possible without our wonderful volunteers that are there all day, on and off different shifts, helping it all run smoothly. A BIG thank you.

Despite small issues such as a toilet queue, running out of disabled spaces due to people not parking as asked, and many not realising there was a bar available, we feel that the mini Festival in West Moors every July, is no longer very mini!

Bi-Monthly Litter Pick Saturday 11th May

Since July 21 we have carried out 20 litter picks, including May 11th and July 6th.

The sun was shining on both events and, everyone was early, eager and extremely happy to see there was a little less litter each time. We have had some new faces this year, which is amazing - keep coming!

The Thank You's they get whilst out picking goes a long way.

Thank you again, to Dorset Waste Services (DWS) street cleaning crew for collecting the rubbish on the Monday!



For those that give our litter heroes the cause to be out there:- Please stop, Don't Drop. Put it in your pocket, or your car, or carry it till you get home. It will save millions in money and wildlife homes and lives. Think, don't throw.



Thank you to all those that travelled from a distance to try our fun day and those who walked down the road. Support local, get together, make memories. Visit our website for many photos of the day:

https://www.westmoors-tc.gov.uk/WESTIVAL_43962.aspx

Or our Facebook @WestMoorsTC



Urban Displays and Face Painting

Ferret
Racing

Winner of the Car I would most like to take home with his Austin Metropolitan: Neil McAbendroth, with a shiny trophy and plaque: a forever reminder of WESTIVAL 2024

New Bench in the Spinney



Thank you to Dorset Council for their support with the supply and installation of a new bench in The Spinney. This open green space was improved by a local community group last year- and further work has been carried out this year. They have not stopped trying to make this a nicer place for people....and wildlife, to enjoy! Getting together, working together, succeeding together. 😊

Above photo: Dorset Council Open Spaces: Sophie Issacs and Will Holland with Community volunteers; Ken, Keith and Hazel, Rachel and Angie and Malcolm.

Spring Clean for the War Memorial

This Memorial provides an important focus for commemorating those who have fought or fallen in a conflict and this importance should not be detracted from through unsympathetic additions of dirt. Each inscription should be clear, as it tells a story, of which some of us know and others can simply be grateful that they gave their life for ours.



Grants Awarded – From April 2024.

In May, Vision Wimborne Dialaride were awarded £500 to assist with the running costs of providing transport needs to people with limited mobility, for the financial year 2024/25

In July, West Moors Dementia Action Group were awarded £200 to assist with purchasing of resources to enable further outdoor contact with the community.

Goodbye and Thank You Cllr Alex Clarke

At the Annual Town Council meeting on Thursday 16th May, members said their goodbyes to Cllr Alex Clarke who chose not to stand for Councillor this year, in order to make time for his many other commitments. Members presented former Cllr Alex Clarke with a card, gift and their sincere thanks, for his time and work on the council, over the many years.

Since joining in 1991, Alex Clarke has contributed a vast amount.

Having served on various committees such as the then Playing Fields & Cemeteries Committee, Finance, Highways, etc, he became Chairman of Council in 2008. In 2009, he decided to take a step back so he could focus on his East Dorset District Councillor role (EDDC) (for which he was elected in 1994), although he still attended Parish meetings to give the monthly report from EDDC.

Alex moved to West Moors in 1990 with his wife and young daughters, as West Moors struck them as a great location to live. On their first visit, standing on the pavement outside St Mary's Church, they were immediately warmly welcomed by the Church Secretary who was cycling past. That clinched it – obviously a friendly place!

Alex explained, he always enjoyed his council work, using his knowledge of West Moors and his involvement with the local community to inform his contributions. He feels it has been both interesting and fulfilling to be a member of his local council, working with fellow councillors who wish the best for West Moors. In Alex's eyes, the council is going from strength to strength and the last five years are the best he has experienced since joining 33 years ago. He wishes the Council every success in the future.

As do the Council for Alex Clarke.

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Left to right:
Alex Clarke,
Chair of WMTC,
Cllr Rita Burke
and Alex's Wife,
Mrs Gillian
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Office Opening Hours:
Monday to Friday 10.00 – 14.00
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