



## Purbeck Shuttle 200 Summer Bus Service 2025

The shuttle bus to RSPB Arne, is now in its fourth consecutive year, has been renamed to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the modern railway, thus Purbeck Shuttle 200 and includes The Blue Pool, Purbeck Park and Noden Farm Campsite.

The trial shuttle bus service originally set up by the RSPB to connect Wareham train station and RSPB Arne nature reserve has been extended to cover the period from 28<sup>th</sup> May to the end of August 2025 on a two day a week service on Wednesdays and Saturdays.

The main objective is to provide a sustainable public transport link from Wareham Station to the RSPB Arne Reserve, The Blue Pool and Purbeck Park connecting with the Swanage Heritage Railway, thus reducing road traffic especially during the main summer season. This also enables links with walking and cycle hire for visitors staying within the region. No bookings needed, just step onboard, enjoy the journey, and experience the outstanding scenery within Purbeck's internationally recognised heathland.

This we hope will establish a regular service now this is becoming known to locals and tourists alike and a growing expectation the bus will be there this summer. This is particularly useful for those without access to a car and is also beneficial for local people coming into Wareham from the outlying parishes acting as a rural transport hub.

The project is supported and funded by the Purbeck Community Rail Partnership, Dorset Council, RSPB, Blue Pool, Wareham Town Council and operated by Dorset Community Transport.

Steven Booth, Purbeck Community Rail Officer said "We are so pleased to be involved in this project working with our partners as it supports our aims and objectives to promote sustainable integrated transport by linking the railway and bus to Purbeck's most picturesque attractions. RSPB Arne remains one of the few places in the UK where all six of the UK's native reptiles can be found situated on Poole Harbour and within the Dorset Natural Landscape area. In addition to this the popular natural tourist attraction the Blue Pool, former clay mining pit can also be reached for the first time by public transport.

**Tim Christian, Dorset Community Transport Manager, said:** "We're delighted to offer the continuation of the shuttle bus through the summer period. This is a valuable service for those who can't drive or don't have access to a car to be able to come and visit RSPB Arne and the Blue Pool and connect by rail. Whether visitors choose to leave their cars at home, don't have access to a vehicle, we hope our Service Purbeck Shuttle 200 will enable more people to enjoy these major Purbeck attractions, experiencing wonderful wildlife, and stunning views.

For the full Bus timetable and further information, visit:

https://ectcharity.co.uk/Dorset/local-bus-service-in-dorset

## <u>Arne Nature Reserve, Dorset - The RSPB</u> <u>The Blue Pool Nature Reserve & Tearooms - Home</u>

Purbeck Community Rail Partnership (PCRP)