

MAYOR'S MONTHLY REPORT TO VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

May 2010

Wilts & Dorset

On 27th April I hosted a meeting at the Town Council Offices with the Commercial Manager of the Wilts & Doest Bus Company, Mr Matt Callow and the Sales Manager, Mrs Vicky Williams. A large number of Verwood and Three Legged Cross representatives from local groups and organisations were there by invitation.

The meeting allowed Mr Callow to outline his company's strategy for meeting the bus transport needs of the Town. Then followed an extensive discussion with Town representatives who were able to air a number of complaints. Letters were read out from representatives unable to attend the meeting.

Mr Callow and Mrs Williams were able to take away a list of actions for the bus company. I have since written to Mr Callow indicating that the Town would like to repeat the meeting in some months time to discuss the company's progress.

Gillingham Civic Day

On 30th April I was privileged to represent Verwood and Three Legged Cross at the Civic Day hosted by the Mayor of Gillingham.

Memorial Plaque For Phil Allen

On 1st May I represented the town of Verwood and Three Legged Cross at the unveiling of the new plaque on the War Memorial in the cemetery of St Michal and All Angels, Verwood. This was attended by Phil's family, the British Legion, members of the Rifles football team and the Mayor and Mayoress of Wimborne. Revd Andrew Sinclair conducted the ceremony.

Memorial Football Match

On 1st May I represented the Town at the Memorial Football match between the Rifles regiment and Verwood Town Football Club. This occasion included a presentation of a silver bugle to Mrs Karen Charmin-Allen and a declaration of the names of the Company's soldiers who had fallen in Afghanistan. Verwood Cricket team members released balloons at the reading out of each name.

Verwood Football team won the match convincingly despite an extremely spirited performance by the Rifles.

Barn Dance

On 1st May I held a Barn Dance at the Verwood Hub in aid of the Mayor's Charity Appeal. This was judged to be a great success by all who attended, and like the Murder Mystery Dinner, it was an event which was designed to provide all corners of the Town community to enjoy themselves with the added bonus of raising charity funds.

Wimborne Thanksgiving Service

On 9th May I was privileged to represent Verwood and Three Legged Cross at the thanksgiving service held by the Mayor of Wimborne. The occasion included the granting of the Freedom of the Town to the Rifles regiment.

St Michael's Playgroup

On 12th May I attended the Annual Teddy Bears' Picnic held by the St Michael's Playgroup. This was a very happy event and the Parish Rooms were full of happy children and parents. In order that no child was without a prize, I made 'special award' certificates for all the runners-up.

Twinning Welcome

13th May I was present at the Verwood Hub to welcome visitors from Champtoceaux and unveil a plaque made by the Verwood Day Centre at the magnolia tree previously presented to this Town by Champtoceaux.

Accompanying me was the Mayoress, the Mayor's Guide and the Mayor's Scout. The visitors were given a cream tea as atypical example of Verwood's hospitality before dispersing to their hosts' homes.

Salisbury Mayor Making

On 15th May I represented Verwood and Three Legged Cross at the making of the new Mayor of Salisbury. This included a parade through Salisbury to St Thomas' Church where the ceremony was held and then a parade back to the Chapel Rest Rooms. Some visitors from Verwood and Champtoceaux were among the hundreds of people watching the parade.

Twinning Soiree

On 15th May I attended a Soiree given by the Twinning Association at the Verwood Hub for the Champtoceaux visitors. The evening included the presentation of a statuette from Champtoceaux which the Twinning Association has kindly allowed to be placed in the Town Office Help Centre so that it can be seen by all residents and visitors.

Sherborne Mayor Making

On 17th May I was able to represent Verwood and Three Legged Cross in Sherborne for their ceremony of making their new Mayor.

Poole Civic Service

On 23rd May I represented Verwood and Three Legged Cross at the Civic Service given by the Mayor of Poole at St James church. A parade along Poole Quay to the Guildhall provided the many visitors to the town with a striking example of Poole's colourful traditions.