

Christmas Recycling Tips

As the season of excess draws closer, here are some top tips to help reduce your waste...

Love food and hate waste! Visit www.lovefoodhatewaste.com/southwest for great tips and ideas on meal planning, recipes and portion sizing to save on food waste – and money!

Buy local Local products tend to have much less packaging and have less of an impact on the environment as they have not been transported long distances. Buying locally-produced items also helps the local economy.

Re-usable bags Use re-usable shopping bags or re-use old plastic carrier bags when shopping for your Christmas feast.

Buy in bulk For example, one large bottle generates less waste than several smaller ones

Compost your food Don't forget to put the vegetable peelings from your Christmas dinner in your home compost bin or wormery or any of your cooked food waste into your brown bin, if you live in an area covered by the scheme. If you don't have a home compost bin and would like one, please call (01202) 886201 for information on discounted bins.

Choose products that don't have excessive packaging! Although packaging does play a very important part in protecting and presenting all kinds of products, try to choose items that do not have unnecessary packaging.

Buy recycled Gifts Help to close the recycling loop by looking out for presents made from recycled materials or those that have recycled content.

Waste free presents For those who have everything, why not get them a gift voucher, experience, magazine subscription or sponsorship, rather than something they will end up throwing away?

Buy to last Buy presents that are durable and not disposable where possible.

Save paper Go for gift bags or boxes that can then be re-used for another occasion.

Alternative wrapping paper Try different materials instead of wrapping paper – jute cloth, a Christmas themed table cloth or simply just tie a simple bow around the gift.

Save energy Choose mains operated or rechargeable toys and gadgets to save on disposable batteries- for every 500 charges you will save 499 batteries from being thrown away! You will also save money not having to buy the batteries in the first place.

Paperless greetings Why not try sending e-cards this year? You'll save paper but the sentiment is still there.

Re-use for next year Keep the Christmas cards you receive this year and re-use them next year as gift tags or to make in to cards again.

Edible greetings Eat your words! Why not make biscuits or buns with icing messages instead?

Close the loop Buy cards made from recycled material.

Compost your Christmas tree

If you have a real Christmas tree this year, make sure you compost it!

If you live in an area with brown bins, your tree can be put out next to your bin at any time in January.

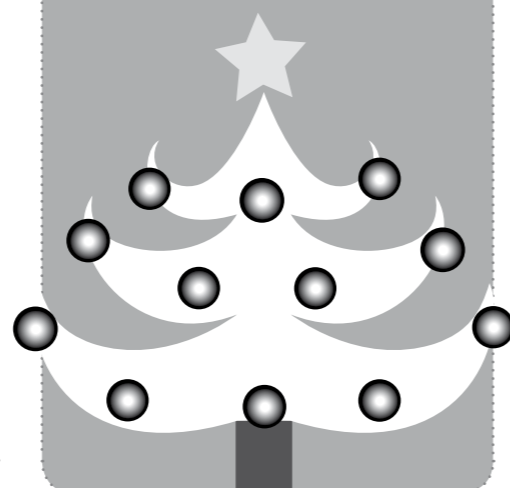
Alternatively, real trees can be taken to your nearest Household Recycling Centre and placed in the Garden Waste skip to be made into compost for next year's trees!

Important: Recycling Collection Day Change

In the New Year the Council will be making some large scale changes to the recycling collection days.

The changes are being made to maximise efficiency on the collection rounds.

All households that are going to be affected by this change will receive a letter from the Council detailing their new collection day. In order to make the changes run as smoothly as possible please ensure you put your recycling bag and box out for collection by 7am to ensure collection during this time.



VERWOOD VISTA

The Town Council Newsletter for Verwood & Three Legged Cross

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Summer has gone for 2009 but the sun still shines on Verwood and Three Legged Cross! Looking back over the last three months I am flooded with happy memories of so many good things happening all over the Town.



Verwood Football Club, after much hard fundraising work and contributions from EDDC and Veolia, have acquired two new stands at Potterne Park; the Three Legged Cross Fun Day was a great success and I hope that next year even more local residents will join in the fun; the Guides and Scouts were prominent in that they each nominated a very worthy representative to be this year's Mayor's Guide and Scout. The Verwood Horticultural Society had a fantastic and very popular show in the Memorial Hall; the Methodist Church was

the venue for the highly talented Southern Youth Chorus and at the end of September the former members of the Methodist Youth Club 1940 – 1966 had a very happy reunion. It was good to see so many long term residents of Verwood reliving happy memories.

Verwood Concert Brass gave another impeccable concert at the Hub and the Verwood British Legion gave me the honour of buying the first poppy for the 2009 Poppy Appeal. This month a Civic Service was held at St Michael and All Angels, attended by the Town Council, many local figures, many local residents and Mayors from all over Dorset. The highest ranking guest was the Deputy Lieutenant of Dorset. All the churches participated in the service and, with such a fine showing from everyone, Verwood and Three Legged Cross was shown in the very best light of co-operation and fellowship.

It was indeed sad to see the closure of the HSBC branch in Vicarage Road, despite the valiant efforts of many to prevent it. But from that blot in our sunny sky, it was heartening to see the collective response of so many people; the petition to save the branch collected over 700 signatures in only three weeks from people who crossed the branch threshold.

I was very pleased that the extension to the Town Council Help Centre was completed successfully with the minimum of disruption, within budget (a very rare occurrence for anyone these days!) and exactly on time. The funds for this extension had been accrued over some years by the Town Council so as to avoid any undue imposition on the council tax. And, as I frequently emphasise, the Town belongs to us all and I encourage anyone to bring to the Council's attention any and all aspects of Verwood and Three Legged Cross which may be a concern. Public attendance at any Council or Committee meeting is welcomed, as are contributions on any topic.

I would like to bring to everyone's attention a lady resident in Verwood who is trying to establish a local self-help group for all those who are suffering and their families, from the condition known as dyspraxia. This is a debilitating condition with serious and long term consequences for sufferers, their families and is devastating for society as a whole. Please spend a few minutes looking at this website www.dyspraxiafoundation.org or email Karen directly at faldon.family@virgin.net for more information and if you, or if you know of someone, who has a family member who may suffer from dyspraxia, then I know you do need help - help to understand and to speak with others in the same position. Please contact me or the Town Council Help Centre for more information.

Can I remind you also that the Mayor's 2009 Charities are The Verwood Stroke Club and MIND, the National Association for Mental Health. More details can be found on the Town Council website and donations can be given in cash or cheque through the Town Council. I will be arranging some fun fundraising events soon, so please look out for publicity posters around the Town.

The Verwood Hub has long been a matter of debate and opinion right across Verwood and even across East Dorset. There have been times of disappointments and difficulties as well as highlights. In recent months I have seen a brighter future for the Hub, as the current manager and staff have brought a definite optimism, teamwork and professionalism to the operation. Despite reservations you may have had in the past, I do urge you all to take a look at what is on offer. You may very well be pleasantly surprised!

I wish all in Verwood and Three Legged Cross a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Celebrate one another and do continue to show the generosity of spirit, willingness and humour for which our great Town is rightly known.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Members of the Verwood Town Council do not receive allowances or any travelling expenses when travelling around the Civil Parish in the pursuit of their duties.

YOUR TOWN COUNCIL

Dewlands Ward

- Cllr. P.A. Baker.....(821459)
- Cllr. Mrs. T.B. Coombs.....(827376)
- Cllr. M.W. Dolan (Mayor)(822939)
- Cllr. S. Gibson.....(820822)
- Cllr. Mrs. J.M. Hazel (Deputy Mayor).....(813328)
- Cllr. A.R. Nicholls(827157)

Newtown Ward

- Cllr. Mrs. A. Daymond(822549)
- Cllr. Mrs. L. Dedden(824473)
- Cllr. B. Mortimer(824375)

Stephen's Castle Ward

- Cllr. Mrs. G. Belcher(814540)
- Cllr. Mrs. L.J. Clark(822275)
- Cllr. M.V. Daymond.....(822549)
- Cllr. A.R. Dedden(824473)
- Cllr. Mrs. L.A.K. Nicholls(827157)
- Cllr. M. Simper(820609)

Three Legged Cross & Potterne Ward

- Cllr. V.M. Redpath.....(822236)
- Cllr. P.W. Richardson.....(829778)
- Cllr. Ms. J. Russell.....(822236)

Town Clerk - Mrs V.J. Bright



OPENING OF VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL'S NEW HELP CENTRE

The new extension to the Help Centre was officially opened on Monday 14th September 2009 by Mr. William Wells, The Mayor's Advisor. Also attending the ceremony were the Mayor of Verwood, Cllr. Michael Dolan, The Chairman of East Dorset District Council, Cllr. Mrs. Pauline Reynolds and Cllr. John Wilson, Chairman of Dorset County Council.

As before, the Help Centre will be open Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. to answer, not only queries about the Town Council, but also regarding the District & County Councils and any other enquiries residents may have. As the saying goes - If we can't answer your queries, then we know a man who can!

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL'S HELP CENTRE

During the Christmas and New Year period the Help Centre will be open: Christmas Eve 9am to 12 noon and closed on the following days:

- Friday 25th December 2009**
- Monday 28th December 2009**
- Friday 1st January 2010**

VERWOOD'S TALENTED YOUR CONCERT 2010

Anyone up to age 18 years is invited to take part in Verwood's next **Talented Youth Concert** at the Hub on Saturday 20th March 2010.

No auditions. Anyone wishing to take part should advise Mike and Angela Daymond in writing
c/o the Town Council Office
or by email: angela@aspen.plus.com
and application forms will be sent.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Farmers Markets 2009
Ferrett Green
Saturday 28th November
Monday 21st December

Christmas Extravaganza
Ferrett Green
Saturday 12th December,
5.00p.m. until 8.00p.m.

Churches Together Carols
The Hub, Brock Way
Sunday 13th December
2009 commencing 3.00p.m.

Council Meetings
25th Nov 2009, 7.30p.m.
at Three Legged Cross
Village Hall

15th Dec 2009 & 19th Jan
2010, 7.30p.m.
at the Council Offices

Verwood Pantomime Society
presents at the Hub
Ali-Baba & The Forty Thieves

- Sat 23rd January 2010
2pm & 6.30pm
- Wed 27th January 2010
7.30pm
- Thurs 28th January 2010
7.30pm
- Friday 29th January 2010
7.30pm
- Saturday 30th January 2010
2pm & 6.30pm

Contact the Hub
01202 828740

CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

Father Christmas will be visiting Ferrett Green on **Saturday 12th December 2009** between 5pm & 8pm

There will be rides on a roundabout and a steam engine, carol singing, band music and food and drink will be on sale.



Verwood & Three Legged Cross TOWN PLAN

Shape the future of our Community

A Steering Group of local residents has secured funding to develop a Town Plan for Verwood & Three Legged Cross, with the support of Verwood Town Council. The Town Plan will be our view of how we wish to see our area in the future and a description of how we will get there. It will only be as good as the input it gets from YOU – so get involved with Town Plan events and respond to questionnaires to make sure the Town Plan reflects YOUR views.

You may remember reading an article at the end of last year about a Town Plan for Verwood & Three Legged Cross. As a result of that article, a Steering Committee of local residents was formed and they have been working over the past year to investigate and identify support for a Town Plan and identify sources of funding.

Sufficient funding to start the community planning process in earnest was finally obtained in September when Dorset County Council responded favourably to a grant application made in May, shortly after the Town Council resolved to allocate money at its April meeting. Despite having no funding until now, the steering group have already made presentations to the Verwood Local Action Group (LAG), appeared on Forest FM and held a successful drop-in at the Hub in August, to which representatives of local groups were invited. They have also identified a provisional list of 'topic areas' which can be worked on by sub-groups as follows:-

- Community Safety
- Health & Wellbeing
- Environment
- Commerce/Employment
- Young people
- Housing
- Older People
- Traffic, Transport & Accessibility

The Steering Group are now working to recruit individuals who may have a specific interest in one of these areas and who can make a positive contribution to a sub-group, as well as someone to facilitate each group. They are also developing a website, which will go live in December and have created their own logo to affirm that the Town Plan is community led.

Members of the Steering Group will be at the Verwood Farmers Market on 28th November so go along and talk to them there. The next steps are a major launch event early in the New Year, followed by the development of a detailed questionnaire based on your initial input and the topic areas. The questionnaire will go to every household in the spring and the results will then be analysed and combined with background information to produce the Town Plan document, which will be published towards the end of next year.

Although publication is a major milestone, it's just the start. Projects and actions arising from the plan can then be commenced and the plan can be used to demonstrate to other agencies and potential sources of funding that we are serious, committed and able to succeed if they fund or support our projects. The plan will also be distributed to East Dorset District Council, Dorset County Council and other service providers as an evidenced record of our views which will influence their own future plans.

If you would like to be involved in the production of the plan, please contact Verwood Town Council who will put you in touch with the Steering Group. Once the website goes live towards the end of this year, you will be able to contact the Steering Group directly.



VERWOOD'S CIVIC SERVICE

Dignitaries from around Dorset joined residents who attended a Civic Service at St. Michael & All Angels Church in Verwood. Dignitaries included Deputy Lieutenant Professor Gillian Slater and her husband Dr. Ian Huntley. Also present were Cllr. Mrs. Pauline Reynolds, Chairman of East Dorset District Council and her husband Mr. Graham Reynolds and Mayors from Bridport, Chickerell, Ferndown, Gillingham, Lyme Regis, Poole, Portland, Ringwood, Shaftesbury, Swanage, Wareham, Weymouth & Portland BC, Wimborne, Yeovil and Chairmen from Colehill, St. Leonards & St. Ives and West Moors Parish Councils. There was a collection for the Mayor's two charities, MIND and the Verwood Stroke Club, which raised over £335. After the service all attending the service were invited to afternoon tea in the Parish Centre.