



VERWOOD VISTA

The Town Council Newsletter for *Verwood* and *Three Legged Cross*

Issue No. 47
February 2016

28 Vicarage Road, Verwood, BH31 6DR
Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday

MAYOR'S REPORT

Since my last report in November, Clive and I have enjoyed so many experiences within our Town and County. We have seen how many volunteers work hard to help those less fortunate than themselves. Councillors Swarup Bhose, Philip Mann and I helped David from the Verwood food bank in collecting items outside Tesco's in Ferndown. I was really encouraged by the generosity of people. We were just three of many volunteers who came and went that day.

The Lions Club of Wimborne and Ferndown also invited Clive and I along to make up food parcels for Christmas. This was funded completely by the Lions Club, and they made up 96 parcels at an approx. cost of £1,600, they then personally delivered them along with many other volunteers. I am sure these parcels make such a difference to so many people.



With all the Christmas festivities well on the way, I asked the local schools if the children would design a Christmas card for me. It was a very difficult decision to pick a winner as everyone had tried so hard. My eventual winner, Ella Hendy-McGill, came from Three Cross First School. I would like to thank all those who entered. Once again the Christmas Extravaganza was a wonderful success with Santa arriving on his train and taking up residence in the Rotary Santa's Grotto. The weather was kind to us and the rain kept away although it was very cold and windy. This event is really special as it brings all ages of the community together and raises funds for good causes. In the period during Christmas we were delighted to attend many local events and carol concerts, the mince pies and mulled wine were much appreciated.

The Christmas Community lunch at Crane Valley Golf Club is now in its 4th year and this is such a wonderful event for those who would have been on their own to share and enjoy Christmas day with others.

On Saturday 16th January I had my third fundraising event. This was a Murder Mystery Evening with a three course meal. 10 ladies from the Towns Women's Guild performed the Murder at the Manor with their usual flair and enthusiasm. Each of them dressed as different characters and they invited the audience to participate in the solving of the murder. This turned into a really fun evening with all proceeds going to my chosen charities.



Please look out for my future events, these are:- 'Mayor's Civic Service' at St Michaels on 28th February, all are welcome. 'Sing into Spring' at the Hub on 19th March. 'Afternoon Tea with the Mayor' on 22nd March and a 'Celebrity Dinner and an Audience with Ray Wilkins' at Dudsbury Golf Club on 14th April.

I would like to thank you all for your support, it really is appreciated. Keep warm and take care this winter.
Cllr Sandra Grove Town Mayor

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Town Council Offices

Tuesday 23rd February 2016

Tuesday 26th April 2016

Three Legged Cross Village Hall

Wednesday 23rd March 2016

EVENTS AT THE HUB February - March 2016

Tuckton Group Artists' Exhibition

- Until 3rd March

This group of artists, many well known in their own right, meet regularly to paint and are now exhibiting a varied collection of works that show their individual styles, across a wide range of subjects that includes landscapes, marine, wildlife and floral subjects using abstract, traditional and contemporary treatments. Art work available to purchase.

NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL THE 80'S

Saturday 12th March - 8.30pm

Tickets: £6.50 (Adults only)

Full on night of nothing but seriously cheesy 80's music in our themed out theatre.

Impact Theatre presents:

BREAKING THE CODE

Wednesday 16th March - 7.30pm

Tickets £12 and £10 concessions

The play based on the book 'Alan Turing: The Enigma' by Andrew Hodges.

SPARKLE AND SHINE TEA DANCE

with Louise Sampson

Friday 18th March - 2pm-4pm

Dance to some strict tempo classics on our huge sprung dance floor. Tickets: £4.60 including tea/coffee.

'SING FOR SPRING'

Saturday 19th March

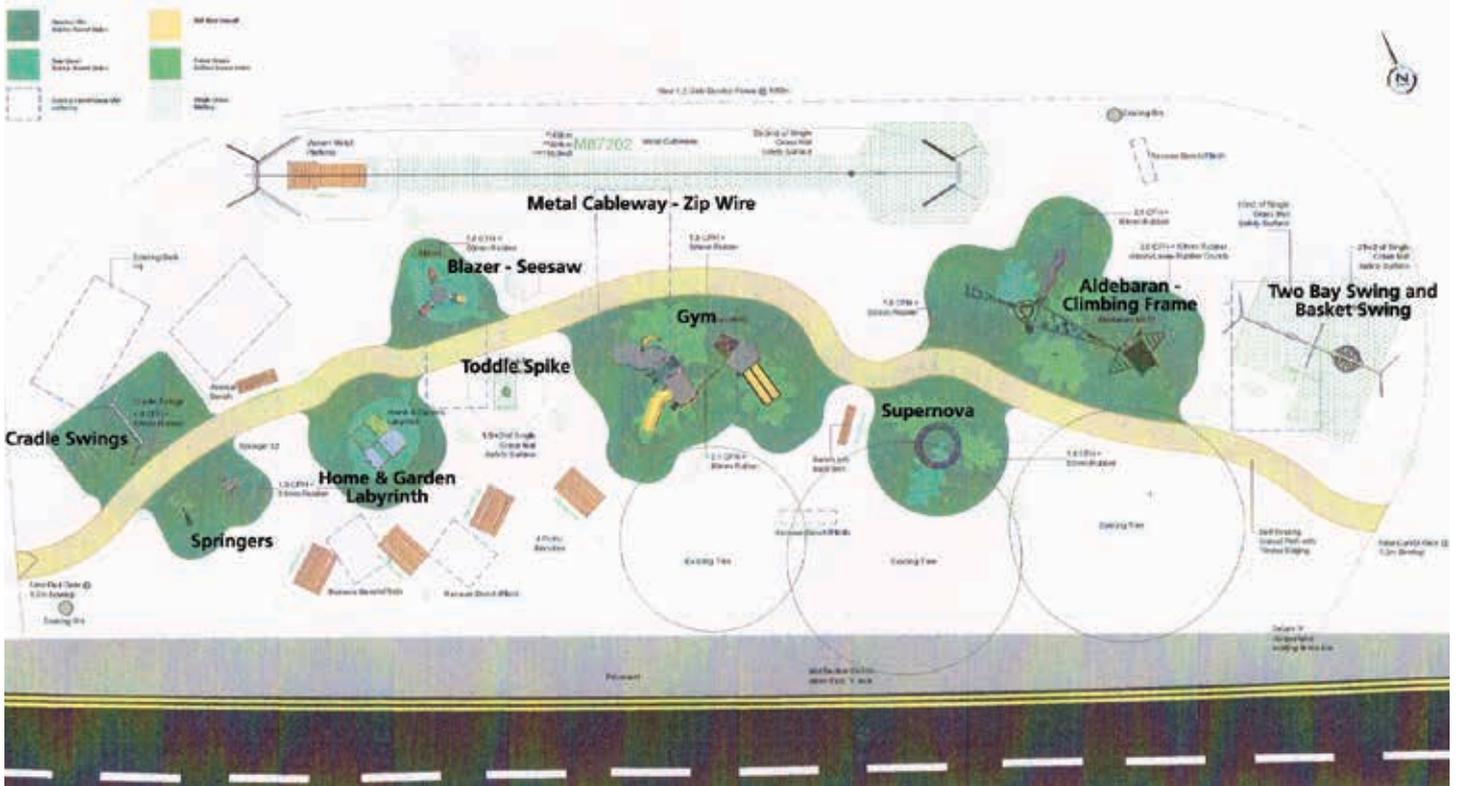
The Mayor of Verwood's charity singing event.

Tickets now on sale from the Hub Box Office

01020 828740

COMING SOON... NEW PLAY AREA FOR VERWOOD RECREATION GROUND

The Play Area will be shut from 29th February for work to begin.



WALKING FOOTBALL LOVE Football? Want to stay Active?

Walking football, a slower version of the beautiful game! The game is small sided, with no running on or off the ball, very little contact and kick-ins instead of throw-ins. With less stress on the body and no real sudden change of direction or cutting movements, the game allows participants to play in a safe environment.



Walking football has become increasingly popular and is designed to help people live an active lifestyle, as well as to support getting people back into football who have stopped playing due to age or injury. Long term benefits can include reduced heart rate and blood pressure and better mobility.

As well as offering health benefits walking football offers social benefits – the opportunity for participants to meet new people, prevent isolation and create interaction for individuals and small groups. Many sessions are increasing in numbers simply due to word of mouth within local communities and players sharing their positive experiences from taking part in the game.

Sessions are taking place across Dorset for men and women keen to come back to playing or brand new and wanting to stay healthy, make friends and socialise. We are always keen to support new sessions where there is demand and for those who want competition we are also developing a Walking Football League across the county.

For details on how to join sessions or to enter a team into the league please contact Justine Mosley at justine.mosley@dorsetfa.com or 01202 688277.

FREEMAN STATUS

Nominations for Freeman may be made by any resident of the Parish of Verwood and Three Legged Cross.

- Nominations must be made in writing.
- Consideration will be given to any Verwood or Three Legged Cross resident who has lived in the Civil Parish for a minimum of 25 years and in recognition of outstanding and exceptional service, in terms of type and length to the Community.
- All nominations received will be considered in confidential session by the Council on a date specified.
- Those to be appointed Freeman will be notified and a public announcement made as appropriate.

Serving Town, District and County Councillors will not be eligible for nominations but former Town, District and County Councillors will be eligible for nomination.

Nominations need to be submitted by **30th March 2016**

RUSHMOOR HEATH

Rushmoor Heath is a stunning block of lowland heathland extending southwards from Potterne Park Verwood, taking its name from Rushmoor Pond - probably an old decoy pond.



Last summer it was discovered that Rushmoor is astonishingly rich in silver-studded blue butterflies. This rare heathland species, like its cousin the large blue, has a fascinating relationship with ants. It also needs slightly wet and quite short heath. It will be but one of the special heathland species that acquisition and judicial management by the new owners, Erica Trust, will protect for visitors to see long into the future.

The whole of Rushmoor Heath will be managed for people and wildlife as part of The Great Heath Project. Initially this will involve extending the work of rescuing the heath from many years of scrub and tree encroachment. Efforts will concentrate on the pines and recently established birch and willow, whilst leaving the more matured deciduous woodland especially that within the Tree Preservation Order, to provide a mosaic of open and wooded habitats to be enjoyed by visitors and to support a rich and varied wildlife.

Dr. Lesley Haskins, a Trustee of the Erica Trust says she is particularly delighted that the charity has acquired the heath. *"Many will recall that back in the 1980s this area was to have been the site of a 'new town'. Improved appreciation and protection of this rare and wonderful habitat changed things around and now, many years later, we are finally in a position to carry out essential management to ensure its long term survival. We are grateful to The Garfield Weston Foundation, The Three Cross Community Fund, and the Dorset Wildlife Trust for help with the purchase, and of course to the former owners who transferred it to our care. We have permanently secured a wonderful natural asset for the Verwood and Three Cross Communities."*

Any enquiries should be directed to Lesley Haskins on **01202 889717**

MOBILITY CROSSINGS AND BUS SHELTERS

In 2015 Verwood Town Council contributed to Dorset County Council for seven mobility crossings to be installed around the Town. Two bus shelters were also erected by the Town Council; one in Dewlands Way and one in Newtown Road.



Tom Henshilwood & Cllr Sandra Grove, Town Mayor

BRENDA SLADE BEM

Mrs. Brenda Slade from Verwood received a BEM in the New Year's Honours List which was awarded for her services to Westminster Abbey and the creation and preservation of ceremonial garments. Brenda has volunteered with the Guild of St Faith for 33 years and travelled to London once a week to help repair and maintain the vestments and create new ones.



CHRISTMAS LIGHT COMPETITION

A big thank you to Verwood Surplus Stores for sponsoring the Christmas Light Competition yet again. The winners of the competition were: **Mrs. Lucas** for residential Christmas lights, and **Plane Cuisine** for Business Christmas lights.

Thank you to all those who took part.

REMINDER TO CUT BACK HEDGING

Spring is just around the corner and shrubs and hedging will be starting to grow again after the winter months. Could we please ask residents to ensure that their shrubs or hedging, if adjacent to a footpath, are cut back sufficiently so as not to impede pedestrians using the pathways.

POLICE REPORT

The past year seems to have been shot by. **Sgt Lee** has been with us for a year now and we have just said goodbye to **PCSO Lou Hamilton** who has moved to Devon. Lou worked in Three Legged Cross for many years before moving to cover the more rural area of our policing section.

The Christmas and New Year period was fairly quiet crime and ASB wise. This is really good news. However, crime does only represent a small amount of the work that we do with the majority of our time being spent dealing with other types of incidents.

We have had a few calls regarding vehicle crime recently. Please can we ask that you remove all valuables from your vehicles when left unattended and report any suspicious activity to us at the time. Whilst we get very few burglaries in Verwood & Three Legged Cross, please do not leave valuable and easy to take items out where they can be seen by passers-by. Mobile devices are a particularly easy target.

From all of us at the station I hope that you have a Happy New Year.

PCSO Robin Morgan



Your Town Council

Dewlands North Ward

Cllr. S. Bhose
07850 613604

Dewlands South Ward

Cllr. P. Barnett
01202 821021

Cllr. Mrs. L. J. Clark
01202 822275

Cllr. Mrs. T. B. Coombs
01202 827376

Cllr. S. G. Flower
01202 821231

Cllr. Mrs. S. Grove (Mayor)
01202 826449

Cllr. S. Hazel
01202 827010

Cllr. P. Mann
01202 820866

Cllr. Miss K. L. Stephens
07751225955

Stephens Castle Ward

Cllr. A. Biggs
01202 821186

Cllr. Mrs. L. Dedden
01202 824473

Cllr. S. Gibson
01202 820822

Cllr. Miss S. Manley
01202 826563

Cllr. Mrs. P. Morrow
01202 814733

Cllr. Mrs. S. Shaw
(Deputy Mayor)
01202 813526

Cllr. Mrs. N. Thompson
01202 828369

Three Legged Cross

Cllr. M. Hudson
01202 974654

Cllr. Ms. J. Russell
01202 822236



YOUNG COUNCILLOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Cllr Simon Gibson was recently shortlisted for the Young Councillor of the Year Award. At the awards ceremony in Birmingham, Simon was a runner up in his category for all Councillors under the age of 30.

Simon was nominated by Cllr Lindsey Dedden, who nominated him for his work with the MUGA project, the Community Christmas lunch and his work as Town Mayor.

She quoted *"At any age, Simon would be an exceptional Councillor but as a young Councillor he is truly outstanding and Verwood Town Council is fortunate to have him as a member"*.

Simon said *"I was delighted to come 2nd in these awards. It is always nice to have community projects recognised at a national level. In reality, I am one person of many who help regularly across the community in Verwood but it was humbling to be nominated"*



VERWOOD CONCERT BRASS

A fabulous year for Verwood Concert Brass

One might have thought 2014 was a pretty special year for Verwood Concert Brass as it marked its 150th anniversary but 2015 proved to be pretty special too for each of the bands in the organisation.

The principal band had a fantastic contesting year becoming 1st section Champions at the Oxford & District contest and the South West contest, and overall Champions of the Weston-Super-Mare contest and Wessex contest. Crucially they also earned promotion to the top flight Championship Section of the West of England from 2016. Furthermore, these results saw them enter the ranks of the top 200 brass bands in the world and closed the year out ranked at 138th in the World, 55th in England and 10th in the West of England - a marvellous achievement and hopefully set to go higher.

The Verwood Town Band also did well in the two contests it entered as a 4th Section band, beating a number of 3rd Section bands and now head to the 2016 West of England regional finals in March placed joint 7th in the 4th Section - its highest placing so far in its 5 years of contesting history.

The Youth Band became the Wessex Youth and Training Band Contest Champions as well as lifting the cup for best soloist and were honoured to provide an entertainment concert at the Wessex contest in Bournemouth meaning three of Verwood's bands were in action that day.

It's not all about contests though. The Training Band nurtures newer players, young and old, and 2015 saw numbers grow to over 40 players coming along to rehearsals. All the bands had great fun providing entering concerts at the Hub four times during the year and enjoyed taking part in local events such as the Verwood Carnival and Rustic Fayre. A new venture was started of holding free Picnic in the Park concerts on the Verwood Rec during the Summer to great success and of course players were out and about providing some festive cheer over the Christmas period playing carols.

2016 will be another action packed year with hopefully more contesting success, more people coming along to enjoy its concerts and even more people joining to experience the fun of making music together.

