



VERWOOD VISTA

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

Issue No. 75
AUTUMN 2023

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Summer has now turned to Autumn, the nights are drawing in and Christmas stock is already in the shops. However, we have had a busy summer with several successful events – the Royal Picnic in the Park to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III in May, followed by the Verwood Carnival and then the Rotary Rustic Fayre on August Bank Holiday. All these events provided fun and entertainment but also, more importantly, raised money to support our local community.



In July we held an afternoon tea for our new Freemen of the Parish, recognising them for their service to our community. Gordon Thorne for his work with the Heritage Centre, Hilly Chittenden for her environmental work, Adrian Wareham for his community work, Val Bright for contribution to the community and her long service as Town Clerk and Roy Slade for his service to the Parish.

Remembrance Sunday falls on the 12th November this year and there will be a service at St Michael and All Angels Church followed by a parade to Ferrett Green Memorial Stone for the two minute silence and wreath laying. There will also be a short service at Ferrett Green on the 11th November at 11am. All are welcome. Special thanks go to Ray Felton for the remembrance decorations in the town.

As part of my fundraising for the Mayor's Community Fund and the Worldwide Veterinary Service, I held a virtual balloon race via social media and congratulations go to Julian's Hopeful. Fundraising will continue with a 12th Night Celebration at Crane Valley (Saturday January 6th). This will be a dinner with much merrymaking and gaming in the traditional style. Tickets will be available from the Town Council office and are expected to sell out quickly – why not get a group of friends together and book a table for eight.

Don't forget either that on Saturday December 2nd, we have our annual Christmas Extravaganza and Christmas lights switch on, we are hoping for a visit from a certain bearded fellow in red....

If you are struggling this winter, don't forget that there are many organisations out there which can help. The Town Council Help Centre can signpost you to support services both in the community and Dorset Council services. Seasonal best wishes to you and your families, may next year be a better year!

Councillor Toni Coombs

Image caption?



Christmas Extravaganza
Saturday 2nd December 2023
Ferrett Green, Ringwood Rd,
Verwood
4pm—7pm

NEW COUNCILLOR COUNCILLOR ELIZABETH INGRAM MBE

I was born in Somerset, gained a BA in Psychology & Sociology at Bristol & Hull University and moved to Verwood as Educational Psychologist in the Dorset County Education Service. While living in Verwood I married and my son was born.

My experience as a Director of a large charity in Peterborough & Northants involved working alongside the Local Authority, Health Authority, Police and Churches, providing support for those in need. During this time, I was very proud to be awarded an MBE.



As a Councillor I look forward to recognising and supporting the variety of strengths and needs of the thriving communities of Verwood and Three Legged Cross.

WARD BOUNDARY MAP

Verwood Town Council ward boundaries can be found on the Dorset Explorer website:

<https://gi.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/explorer/>

- zoom in on Verwood and from the lefthand options, click the 3rd (layer control) then select:
- Administrative Boundaries
- Other Boundaries
- Parish Wards
- Left click on a street and the name of the Parish Ward will appear on the screen.



FIVE NEW HONORARY TOWN FREEMEN

At an event on Sunday 23rd July 2023, Val Bright, Royston Slade, Gordon Thorne, Hilly Chittenden and Adrian Wareham were presented with their Freedom Scrolls and Honorary Freeman badges by last year's Town Mayor, Cllr Simon Gibson and the current Town Mayor, Cllr Toni Coombs. Angela Daymond, who was made an Honorary Freeman in 2012, was also presented with a Freedom Scroll.

The Mayor, Councillor Toni Coombs said "it was an honour and privilege to present the new Honorary Freeman of Verwood with their scrolls and badges of office. Many had spent most of their adult lives putting back into our community of Verwood & Three Legged Cross. Together they have shaped the community spirit of our town and deserve the recognition of their peers."



Gordon Thorne



Angela Daymond



Val Bright



Royston Slade



Hilly Chittenden



Adrian Wareham

Verwood Solar Farm Fund



VERWOOD SOLAR FARM

The Committee next meet January 2024 to consider applications for grants - the exact date will be on the website after the September meeting. Applications need to be in at least 2 weeks before the committee meeting. Grants awarded in May included Verwood Band for repairs to the Band Hall, Verwood First School, Emmanuel Middle School, Verwoodians on Waste, Dementia Friendly Group and the Youth Club.

VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB

The outdoor season has now finished and will start again mid-April when there will be Taster Days for those who wish to try this social and tactical game - details will be on our website www.verwoodbowlingclub.co.uk



Social activities continue through the winter. The weekly progressive whist drive takes place every Monday afternoon at 2pm and people take out social membership just for this activity. If you are a card player, why not give it a try?

Contact Angela Daymond: 01202 822549
adaymond@verwoodbowlingclub.co.uk

VERWOOD CEMETERY MEMORIALS

Would Burial Rights Owners kindly check your memorials in Verwood Cemetery.

The Town Council has had all the memorials tested and some require work to make them safe. Any reputable Stone Mason will be able to help you ensure that your memorial is safe. To identify the memorials deemed unsafe, we have tied tape around the stone.

We apologise that this is not very sightly and hope that the memorials will be made safe by their owners soon so that the tape can be removed.

Thank you.

VERWOOD YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

To enquire about Verwood Youth and Community Centre lettings please email: youthandcommunitycentre@verwood.gov.uk

HEDGE CUT BACK REQUEST

Could residents please ensure that shrubs and hedges are cut back sufficiently if bordering a footpath or pavement so that pedestrians are not impeded.



POLICE REPORT **PC 207 Creasey**

It has continued to be a busy summer across Dorset with our Neighbourhood Teams working collaboratively with other agencies and stake holders committed to keeping our communities safe with exceptional local Policing. We have been successful with regard to targeting persistent Anti-Social Behaviour and dealing positively with a core group of young people. As a result, we have seen a massive drop in ASB-type incidents allowing our small team to tackle our local priorities.

This has included a pioneering Community Payback Initiative whereby young people were asked to clear up areas of littering and other ASB activities. This proved extremely successful, giving them a sense of achievement whilst educating them on the importance of working together to improve the environment for all.

We also see the retirement of PCSO Andy Flanagan who has served Dorset Police in both Police Officer and Police Community Support Officers roles spanning more than 30 years. We wish him well in his well-deserved retirement.

We urge the public to make us aware of incidents that they witness by contacting us (don't forget to get a log number): 999 in an emergency - 101 for non-emergency - or email us at www.dorset.police.uk/do-it-online



VERWOOD HEATHLAND HERITAGE CENTRE

Like many other organisations in Verwood, the Heritage Centre was badly affected by the pandemic and is now recovering slowly. Chairman Gordon Thorne has resigned due to health problems and Chris Thorne is the new Chairman.

In July, Chris and his brother Jamie Thorne, who are now overseeing the Heathland Heritage Centre, arranged a meeting for Friends of the Centre and anyone interested in the Centre and its future. There were lots of comments about how the centre works, its use and possible changes but the most surprising comment was:

There are residents who do not know what the building next to the car park is and have never been in the Centre or the museum.

The museum is in the original pottery building and has been carefully preserved. Although the building is very small, the display of life on the Heathland is amazing. There is also a large display of Verwood Pottery, pottery being one of the industries for which Verwood is known. It is a gem and apparently almost an unknown gem! Entry to the museum is free and the café at the front serves tea, coffee and lovely cakes. The Heritage Centre has hosted family gatherings, post funeral gatherings and meetings of local groups and there are all manner of local as well as some family history records. It exists for everyone who lives in Verwood. If you and your family have never visited the Heathland Heritage Centre, you are in for a treat! Go and see Verwood Pottery, have a drink and some cake and see the latest display.

The Centre is open Monday to Saturday 9.30 to 12.00.

VERWOODIANS ON WASTE

Local eco group Verwoodians on Waste (VoW) have been awarded a generous grant by The Verwood Solar Farm fund of nearly £1,000 to spend on litter picking equipment. Sarah Cudmore, VoW's litter picking co-ordinator is delighted.

Following the success of Cllr Simon Gibson's monthly litter picking initiative, it has been clear that local people want to help keep Verwood and Three-Legged Cross a special place to live and work but Saturday mornings are not always convenient for them. Those who want more flexibility can now have a picker on permanent loan in order to collect unsightly litter on an ad-hoc basis, either working alone or with others.

If you would like a litter picker and to join this growing movement visit vovverwood.com and complete the link.



Sarah Cudmore with litter collection recovered from the Woodlands to Sutton Holmes roadside

Verwoodians on Waste monthly pop-up recycling surgeries are held at the Heritage Centre on the first Saturday of each month between 9.30am and 10.30am

THANK YOU

Having lived in Verwood for 34 years and served as a Verwood Councillor for 13 years, I have made many friends and attended events in my role as Mayor. In February, due to serious illness, I had to step back from normal life. During this time many people wished me well, included me in their prayers and sent cards, flowers and gifts. It meant so much to me and I thank each and every one of you. I am now on the road to recovery and hope to resume normal life soon. Many thanks Cllr Sandra Grove



VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

- 31 OCT - VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
- 29 NOV - THREE LEGGED CROSS VILLAGE HALL
- 12 DEC - VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
- 30 JAN '24 - VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
- 27 FEB '24 - VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE

YOUR TOWN COUNCIL

Dewlands North Ward

- Cllr Martyn Hudson
01202 974654
- Cllr Carol Traves
07799 891762

Dewlands South Ward

- Cllr Toni Coombs (Mayor)
01202 827376
- Cllr Charmaine Crossley
01202 826050
- Cllr Spencer Flower
01202 821231
- Cllr Sandra Grove
01202 826449
- Cllr Elizabeth Ingram MBE
01202 820880
- Cllr Philip Mann
01202 820866
- Cllr Tony Smith
07808 819762
- Cllr Kate Stephens
01202 940456

Stephens Castle Ward

- Cllr Alan Biggs
01202 821186
- Cllr Lindsey Dedden
01202 824473
- Cllr Simon Gibson
01202 820822
- Cllr Rev'd Julian Macro
01202 814270
- Cllr Andy Maw
07808 167949
- Cllr Pat Morrow
01202 814733
- Cllr Matthew Parker
(Deputy Mayor)
07703 342039

Three Legged Cross

- Cllr Jane Russell
01202 822236



Halloween Trail at Moors Valley
27 Sept - 1 Nov 2023, 9am - 5pm

Join forces with Shadow the cat to help their new friend find her lost shoes on our brand-new Halloween Trail! Pick up your trail sheet at the Visitor Centre for £2.50 and head to the walking and cycling totem pole to start your 1.5 mile quest.



Calling all thrill-seekers and mini adventurers!

Get ready to embark on a journey like no other at Adventure Valley - the brand-new Adventure Golf and Mini Land Rover experience zone at Moors Valley.

Open weekends and Dorset school holidays.

Start planning your adventure

www.moors-valley.co.uk/adventure-valley/

VERWOOD LIBRARY

Knit & Knatter: 1st & 3rd Monday of the month 2.15pm - 3.45pm

Get creative & have a chat at the same time

Cuppa & Company: every Tuesday 2.15pm - 3.45pm

Make new friends at this social event

Adult Colouring for Mindfulness 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month 2.15pm - 3.45pm

Enjoy the benefits of mindfulness and relaxation with this calming session

Rhyme Time: every Thursday 10.15am - 10.45am

Aimed at the Under 5's this lively sing-a-long session is great for tots and care-givers

Digital Champions

Bookable sessions Tuesday morning, Friday morning and Friday afternoon

Bonfire & Fireworks Safety Talk (Bookable session) Tuesday 24 October 10.30am - 11.30am

All sessions are free to attend.

To secure a bookable session contacting the library on 01202 822972.

Find us on facebook or visit us on Libraries - Dorset Council



VERWOOD HUB
COMMUNITY & LEISURE

For up-to-date information and to book tickets please contact Verwood Hub:

verwoodhub@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Tel: 01202 828740

Karaoke Night

last Friday monthly 8pm - Late

Bingo (18+ only)

Last Tuesday monthly 19.30 start

Quiz Night

Every Tuesday except last of each month from 7.45pm

2023

- The 80s, Halloween Special..... 28 October
- Scott Bennett, Great Scott Tour..... 4 November
- Nicky Kitt..... 10 November
- Geoff Norcott, Basic Bloke Tour..... 11 November
- The Comedy Store..... 25 November
- 20 - 1 2 December
- Disco Inferno 9 December

2024

- Oasish 3 February
- Tribute to Kool & The Gang 9 February
- Steve Brookstein, Remembering Legends..... 18 February
- Women in Rock 1 March