



# VERWOOD VISTA

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

Issue No. 73  
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28 Vicarage Road, Verwood, BH31 6DR  
Office Hours: 9am - 1pm Monday - Friday

## MAYOR'S REPORT

**Happy New Year to everyone in Verwood & Three Legged Cross. I hope that 2023 has got off to a good start. Despite some very poor weather I believe that this coming year will be an exciting time for our town. We have much to look forward to including the Coronation in May. The Council is working hard to arrange suitable celebrations and to build on the success of the Jubilee last year.**

The Town Council is keen to grow events in the town to ensure that everyone can enjoy them. Events bring us together and are vital for a thriving and close knit community. Whether it is an unusual occasion like a Coronation or our annual events such as the Christmas Extravaganza or Remembrance Sunday, we want to make sure that we keep what has always worked well and then add to it with new ideas to keep things fresh. Some of the changes to Remembrance Sunday were well received and I am very grateful for the feedback which will help us make next year even better.

I was delighted to be able to switch on the Christmas lights in December. I have wanted a traditional Christmas tree for a number of years and I think that it was a welcome addition to Ferrett Green and also to Three Legged Cross. Christmas is a time of celebration and I am grateful to all of the shops and businesses in the Town Centre who also played their part in making everything feel festive.



Despite being an optimist, I appreciate the challenges that many people are facing due to inflation and the subsequent rise in the cost of living. The Council continues to offer a warm space on Wednesdays for anyone that would like to call in.

Councillors have been focusing on the cost of living when setting the budget for next year. We are highly conscious that any rise in Council Tax is undesirable whilst we need to find a fair balance to allow the Council to continue providing good quality services such as the Youth & Community Centre. The Council is setting the rise in precept to significantly below inflation this year, which is the right thing to do. We recognise that we are in difficult times but will continue to be here to support our community and residents wherever possible. I remain hopeful for a positive 2023 and wish you and your family a brilliant year too.

**Councillor Simon Gibson**  
**Verwood Town Mayor**

## KIDS 1ST CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Mayor had a great time on 22 December visiting a Christmas Party by Kids First and arranged by Jane Hobbs.

There were plenty of activities and food was provided by Bimbo's Burger Bar. The Mayor donated some of his Charitable Funds towards buying presents for every child that attended. We would like to thank Jane for this great initiative, we know that local parents really appreciated it.



## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Community Christmas lunch returned this year after a couple of years away due to Covid. 60 guests were welcomed to Crane Valley Golf Club for a lovely Christmas dinner and some festive songs.

I am so very grateful to everyone at Crane Valley for their support with the event, which could not happen without the help of Sam and her brilliant team. Local businesses in Verwood have always been incredibly generous towards the Community Lunch. In particular AW Andrews and Alan Frouds Ltd have supported the event every year. I hugely appreciate their support as do the guests who enjoyed the lovely food. Verwood Rotary Club kindly continue to provide much needed funding.

The event is set up for anyone on their own to enjoy a meal and companionship at Christmas time and I would like to encourage anyone who would like to join us next year to get in touch. Due to the generosity of our supporters the event is free for all guests.

Thank you again to everyone who made the event possible and to everyone who attended.

**Simon Gibson**

## GRANT AID APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

**Verwood Town Council are accepting applications for Grant Aid up until 1st March 2023.** Grant Aid funding is available for community organisations who can demonstrate a clear need for financial support. The organisation must be either charitable or non-profit making, it must have clearly written aims and objectives, a constitution and membership rules. Each organisation can only make one application per year from the Town Council Awards Grants in April or October. Deadlines for applications is 1st March and 1st September.

### TO MAKE AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT AID:

- Download a form from the Verwood Town Council website: [http://www.verwood.gov.uk/Grant\\_Aid\\_33546.aspx](http://www.verwood.gov.uk/Grant_Aid_33546.aspx)
- Return it the Town Council either via email at: [towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk](mailto:towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk) or to the office at 28 Vicarage Road.



## VERWOOD YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE

To enquire about Verwood Youth and Community Centre lettings please email:  
[youthandcommunitycentre@verwood.gov.uk](mailto:youthandcommunitycentre@verwood.gov.uk)

For information on Youth Socials:  @verwoodycc  youth\_centre\_verwood



The Town Council are pleased to announce they have made the decision to hold the Christmas Extravaganza on Saturday 2nd December from 4pm to 7pm this year.

## Moors Valley

Country park and forest

Unleash your inner adventurer at Moors Valley with hours of fun in the great outdoors. From imaginative play amongst the trees on the Play Trail to the lakeside Music Trail, you'll discover something for everyone. Start planning your adventure.

[www.moors-valley.co.uk/summer](http://www.moors-valley.co.uk/summer)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY...

### ROYAL PICNIC IN THE PARK

SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY

VERWOOD RECREATION GROUND

### CARNIVAL

29<sup>TH</sup> MAY

POTTERNE PARK



## VERWOOD HUB

COMMUNITY & LEISURE

### The Boogie Bumpers

Saturday 4 March 2023 - 7:30pm

The Boogie Bumpers are an exciting seven piece vintage swing & jive band. Based in the South of England, the Boogie Bumpers recreate the eras of the 1930s, 40s and 50s with their energetic dance music. Bringing the jump blues flavour of Louis Prima and Louis Jordan, as well as the swing of Sinatra. Tickets: £15

### Lollypops and Moptops

Friday 10 March 2023 - 7:30pm

Lollypops and Moptops - a spectacular 50's and 60's package which includes performances from; The Dreamers, The Temple Brothers and Buddy Walker as Buddy Holly!

Tickets: £20

### The Comedy Store 2023

Friday 17 March 2023 - 8pm

Simply the funniest show you'll see all year!

Tickets: £15

### The Jukebox and Bobbysox show

Saturday 25 March 2023 - 7:30pm

This is a stage show that will have audiences rockin' clapping and dancing in the aisles. Jukebox & Bobbysox is a high energy show that celebrates the songs of the most influential decades in history of music.

Tickets: £17.50

For full listings of events and cinema please go to the Verwood Hub website:

[www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/leisure-centres/verwood-hub/verwood-hub](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/sport-leisure/leisure-centres/verwood-hub/verwood-hub)



Verwood Rotary Club were delighted to host a presentation evening at The Hub during November to hand out donations to 25 local organisations, charities and groups from the funds raised at the Rustic Fayre in August. The evening was hosted by Rotarian Vern Harris (Rustic Chair) and the presentations were made by President, Clive Grove.

Rotarian Louisa Hiscock said: 'It was wonderful to bring together so many community groups to celebrate not only the success of the Rustic Fayre but also all the amazing work so many do in our community - much of it voluntary and supporting a wide range of needs and age groups. All our club members were thrilled we could help to do our bit and proud to hear so much was going on in Verwood'.

All who received a donation spoke about what they did, the challenges they face and how the donation would support their work. Many are volunteers and give their time willingly because they care about those they are helping and want to do their bit to make a difference. This ranged from offering support and friendship groups for vulnerable, elderly and those with health conditions to running sports activities and clubs. Others worked hard to raise funds for their chosen charities or community events for all ages.





## POLICE REPORT

It has been a challenging year across East Dorset keeping our communities safe with exceptional local policing. We are making ourselves more accessible by holding regular Community Contact Sessions across the town. We will be available for 2 hours to enable the public to report crimes, seek advice, ask questions or simply to say hello.

In December and January, we held a 2-hour session at The Verwood Hub where we were joined by our



partners from Dorset Council, Youth Workers and the Fire Service. **We will be holding this event once a month. Details can be found on Dorset Police Website and your local East Dorset Police Facebook Page. (Dorset.police.uk/contactpoints)**

Sporadic Anti-Social Behaviour has continued throughout December, albeit mainly nuisance in nature. We have done lots to tackle this by working closely with schools, Youth Leaders and Dorset Council. Many young people have been identified and subject to agency intervention. As a Team we are committed to dealing with these individuals, understanding the detrimental effect it has on our communities.

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](http://www.dorset.police.uk/do-it-online)**

## THE HERBERT PROTOCOL

### A process to help find people with Dementia if they go missing

The Herbert Protocol is a national scheme that encourages carers, family and friends to provide useful information which can be used in the event of a vulnerable person going missing.

**For further information and to obtain a form, please go to the Dorset Police website using the following link:**

**<https://www.dorset.police.uk/support-and-guidance/missing-people/missing-person-with-dementia/>**

## VERWOODIANS ON WASTE

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

For more eco-friendly tips and events join **Verwoodians on Waste** facebook group.



## 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, thank you.



## WARM SPACES

In response to the energy crisis and increased cost of living, Verwood Town Council have opened up a Warm Space for members of the public between 10.30 and 12.30 each Wednesday at the Council Chambers, Verwood Town Council, 28 Vicarage Road, BH31 6DR.

**Everybody is welcome and warm drinks are provided free of charge.**

## Are you a man suffering from domestic abuse?

### You are not alone

One in every six men will be a victim of domestic abuse in their lifetime

Please call the ManKind Initiative's helpline and speak to our dedicated team who can provide support and information

National Helpline for Men 01823 334244  
Weekdays 10.00am - 4pm

[www.mankind.org.uk](http://www.mankind.org.uk)

ManKind Initiative

Charity Number 1089547

## Scared of your partner or ex?

Talk to us any time, day or night.

Freephone 24 hour National Domestic Abuse Helpline

**0808 2000 247**

Confidential, non-judgmental support

Or reach us online:  
[www.nationalDAhelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationalDAhelpline.org.uk)

Refuge

For women and children. Against domestic violence.



**VERWOOD TOWN  
COUNCIL MEETINGS**  
TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY -  
VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE  
WEDNESDAY 14TH MARCH -  
THREE LEGGED CROSS VILLAGE HALL  
TUESDAY 25TH APRIL -  
VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE

## YOUR TOWN COUNCIL

### Dewlands North Ward

**ClIr Martyn Hudson**

01202 974654

**ClIr Carol Traves**

07799 891762

### Dewlands South Ward

**ClIr Toni Coombs**

01202 827376

**ClIr Charmaine Crossley**

01202 826050

**ClIr Spencer Flower**

01202 821231

**ClIr Sandra Grove**

01202 826449

**ClIr Philip Mann**

01202 820866

**ClIr Shelley Rose**

07855 201532

**ClIr Kate Stephens**

01202 940456

**ClIr Mark Thorpe**

**(Deputy Mayor)**

07483 213309

### Stephens Castle Ward

**ClIr Alan Biggs**

01202 821186

**ClIr Lindsey Dedden**

01202 824473

**ClIr Simon Gibson (Mayor)**

01202 820822

**ClIr Rev'd Julian Macro**

01202 814270

**ClIr Pat Morrow**

01202 814733

**ClIr Matthew Parker**

07703 342039

### Three Legged Cross

**ClIr Jane Russell**

01202 822236



## NEW COUNCILLORS

### COUNCILLOR CHARMAINE CROSSLEY



I was born in Laleham-upon-Thames, but our family moved to Surrey where I spent most of my young years. I attended St John Bosco's Grammar School for Girls, now The Salesian School and did a course in shorthand and typing whilst studying for my foreign language A-Levels.

I worked initially as secretary to the Director of a construction company and as he was promoted within the organisation I accompanied him, taking on new challenges and responsibilities along the way as his Personal Assistant. My boss, I and one other director were the founding members of a new international branch of the company for which I worked for many years in London until my boss was promoted to Chairman of the entire corporation and also member of the P&O Main Board of Directors.

I was married for a few years but, very sadly, found I had made an unfortunate mistake and therefore have now been divorced for many years.

After many happy years but tired of commuting to London every day, I found myself a more local job working for the President of an American company which entailed arranging and attending conferences overseas and liaising with the staff of the many overseas companies based in Europe, the Middle East and Africa who reported to our Surrey based HQ. After seven extremely busy and challenging years I decided to make a move to Dorset. My parents had retired from Surrey to Woodlands and on frequent visits to them, I realised that I really liked the quality of life and friendliness that I found in the area.

I moved to Verwood in 1992 and held various local PA and administrative roles until my retirement at the end of 2019. I have always very much enjoyed life here in Verwood and the fact that, although technically a town, it has very much the heart and soul of a village which I should like to see preserved for the benefit of all. I joined the Town Council with a view to assisting in this aim and to endeavour to give something to the community in which I live.

### COUNCILLOR REV'D JULIAN MACRO



I grew up and went to school in Wimbledon and then studied at universities in Wales and Oxford, taking degrees in Classics and Theology. Following Ordination I served as Minister of United Reformed Churches in Buckinghamshire, Hampshire and Berkshire. My wife, Dorothy, and I moved to Verwood in 2005, delighted to find such a welcoming community and where we have both been active in the Verwood United Reformed Church where I was, in effect, locum Minister for eight years during time which I initiated the Foodbank Distribution Centre (linked with the Trussell Trust). I was appointed a JP at the age of 28 and served as a Magistrate and in related roles with the Probation and Prison services. I have also been a Non-Executive Director and Chairman of a Housing Association with some 10,000 homes. I continue to serve on a number of Church and Charity boards and look forward to doing what I can to promote Verwood and Three Legged Cross as communities where everyone can enjoy living.

### COUNCILLOR CAROL TRAVES



I was born and raised in South Wales but had visited Dorset all my life. My Mother was born in Shaftesbury where I still have close family. I always had a mind that I would like to live in this beautiful County and so, having completed my honours degree in City & Regional Planning and Post-Graduate Diploma in Town Planning at Cardiff University, I was keen to move. I started my career as a Planning Officer obtaining promotions at Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Council. In 2008 I moved to Verwood with my now husband who is a locally born Architect. In 2009 we decided this was where we wanted to put down our roots and so we established our architectural and town planning practice. We have built our home, our business and our lives in Verwood and I am grateful for the opportunities that the town has given us. Along with our small dog and rescue ducks, we are proud to call Verwood home.

I look forward to being part of the team that continues to make Verwood and Three Legged Cross the lovely thriving communities we enjoy living in.