VERWOOD & THREE LEGGED CROSS

OFFICIAL GUIDE

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VERWOOD & THREE LEGGED CROSS OFFICIAL GUIDE 2024

Issued with the authority of

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

28 Vicarage Road, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6DR
Tel: **01202 820880**
Email: **towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk**
Website address: **www.verwood.gov.uk**
Hours of opening Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest edition of the Official Town Guide which we hope will be a useful source of information to new and established residents.

The population here has grown from some 4,000 in 1980 to reach 15,196 at the last census in 2021. If you stand on the top of Stephen's Castle (no castle I am afraid) and look west you may wonder where the houses are.

Verwood is centrally located to travel to Wimborne, Bournemouth, Poole, Southampton, Portsmouth and Salisbury on either fast main roads or by taking the scenic route along country lanes.

If the information you require is not in the Town Guide, then contact the Town Council Offices (as above) or ask at Verwood Library.

Thanks are given to the Town Council staff for their work in compiling and checking information for the Guide and to those who have contributed articles and photographs.

All items were correct at the time of going to press. Please inform the Town Council Offices of any amendments and these will be logged on the Town Council website.

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VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

THERE HAS BEEN A PARISH OR TOWN COUNCIL IN VERWOOD SINCE 17TH SEPTEMBER 1894. AT THAT TIME, VERWOOD AND THREE LEGGED CROSS HAD A POPULATION OF 1,190.

Verwood Town Council, the elected body of the Town, consists of nineteen members representing the Civil Parish. There are four wards in the Civil Parish which are:

Verwood Dewlands North Ward
(2 Councillors)

Verwood Dewlands South Ward
(8 Councillors)

Stephens Castle Ward
(7 Councillors)

Three Legged Cross Ward
(2 Councillors)

The Town Council has two Committees (Finance and Policy Committee and Community & Plans Consultative Committee) as well as Full Council meetings. These are held evenings at the Town Council Offices, 28 Vicarage Road, Verwood or at the Village Hall, Three Legged Cross. Please check our website **www.verwood.gov.uk** for up to date information.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor serve on all the committees but the Mayor may not be the chair of any.

The Town Council Office is also a Help Centre and is open: **Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm**
The Office is manned by the
Town Clerk
Ms Carrie Lloyd
Assistant Town Clerk
Mrs Janice Sebire
Administrative Assistant
Mrs Michaela Saunders

THE TOWN COUNCIL OPERATES WITH COMMITTEES WHICH REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL. THESE ARE:

FINANCE & POLICY COMMITTEE

Consisting of twelve members, meeting eleven times a year. This is the organisational, administrative and financial committee tasked with dealing with expenditure, policies and monitoring of Council financial activity.

COMMUNITY & PLANS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Consisting of nine members, meeting on a four-weekly cycle, the committee's role is to examine all planning applications affecting the Civil Parish and forward comments to Dorset Council which makes the final decision. The committee also oversees the day-to-day maintenance of the Cemetery, Recreation Grounds, Open Spaces, Play Areas and highway matters.

Notices, agendas etc, of all the meetings are posted on the Town Council noticeboards and on the Town Council website. There are four noticeboards, situated: outside the Town Council offices, on Ferrett Green, at Liederbach Drive and outside the Post Office at Three Legged Cross.

All council meetings and committee meetings are held in the evening and are open to members of the public. With permission and at the discretion of the Mayor/Chairman, any member of the public may comment on an issue being debated by the Council in order to provide information or clarification of items relevant to the matter being debated. This facility will normally be limited to a maximum of three minutes per person on the subject being debated.

VERWOOD RECREATION GROUND TRUST

(Charity no. 1055101)
Verwood Recreation Ground is a memorial to those who fell in the Great War 1914-1918 and was purchased by public subscription in 1920 as an open space for public recreation. It is generally accepted that the trees around the perimeter represent residents who died.
The Town Council is sole trustee. The Trust meets three times a year in January, May and September. All meetings are held in the Town Council Offices.

Any correspondence should be addressed to 'The Chairman, Verwood Recreation Ground Trust' and sent to the Town Council Offices. The maintenance of the play area and the Recreation Ground is the responsibility of the Town Council.

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- Lasting Powers of Attorney

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www.forestedgesolicitors.co.uk
17 Headlands Business Park, Salisbury Road, Ringwood, BH24 3PB

DORSET COUNCIL

Dorset Council, working in partnership with parish and town councils, delivers all your local services. For full details see the Dorset Council website: **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.**

Contact details for some of the services are below.

Other areas of responsibility include education, support for children and families, libraries, road and transport, adult social care, rights of way, waste disposal and trading standards as well as many more.

For more information about the services provided, to report a road problem or to apply for a school place, visit **www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**. You can also use this website to pay for council services, view job vacancies and book an appointment to register a birth.

West Moors and Three Legged Cross:
Cllr Andy Skeats
Email: **cllrandy.skeats@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**

Cllr. David William Shortell
Tel: **01202 870476**
Email: **cllrdavid.shortell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**

Verwood
Cllr Toni Coombs
Tel: **01202 827376**
Email: **cllrtoni.coombs@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**

Cllr Spencer Flower
Tel: **01202 821231**
Email: **cllrspencer.flower@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**

Cllr Simon Gibson, Verwood
Tel: **01202 820822**
Email: **cllrsimon.gibson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Member of Parliament for Verwood and Three Legged Cross currently is:

Mr. Simon Hoare MP for North Dorset
Email: **simon.hoare.mp@ parliament.uk**

Your MP holds regular surgeries throughout the constituency. Appointments for a meeting at his surgeries can be made through:

Mrs. Diana Mogg
Constituency Support, Constituency Office
Tel: **01258 452585**

Main switchboard
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
01305 221000

Benefits
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/benefits
01305 211930

Electoral registration
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/councillors-committees-elections/elections-and-voting/register-to-vote
01305 838299

Refuse collection, recycling and garden waste (as part of Dorset Waste Partnership)
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/bins-recycling-and-litter
01305 221040

Local planning and development management
www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land
01305 838336

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BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Bournemouth International Airport is just a short drive from Verwood and Three Legged Cross with excellent facilities for passengers
For information telephone: **01202 364000**
www.bournemouthairport.com

CITIZENS ADVICE

For enquiries please contact Dorset Advice Line on **0800 144 8848**
The Advice Bus visits The Hub in Verwood on Tuesdays between 10am and 12pm each week

VERWOOD LIBRARY

1 Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DS

Wheelchair accessible.
Parking and access available from Manor Road and Potter's Wheel car park.
Everyone is welcome at Verwood Library and membership is free. Group activities include Rhyme Time, Knit & Natter and Cuppa & Company. For housebound residents who are unable to visit the library due to health or access issues, the Royal Voluntary Service run a Home Library Service. If you know someone who may like to receive this free service, please contact the library for more details of eligibility. The library offers internet access and Taster IT sessions are also available via a Digital Champion.

Current opening times are listed below but may be subject to change:

Opening times:

Monday	10am – 1pm; 2pm – 5pm
Tuesday	10am – 1pm; 2pm – 5pm
Wednesday	Closed
Thursday	10am – 1pm; 2pm – 5pm
Friday	10am – 1 pm; 2pm – 7pm
Saturday	9am – 1pm

For more information please contact
Verwood Library
Tel: 01202 822972
Email:
verwoodlibrary@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

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Office 5, The Old Crossroads, Station Road, Verwood. BH31 7PU. (By appointment only)

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FIRE BRIGADE

Verwood Fire Station is staffed by Retained Firefighters, locally based people who attend regular training sessions. They react to "alerters" and respond to the scene of the incident. The Station Manager and his team will always welcome visitors and potential recruits. Requests for speakers, educational visits etc. should be made to: Dorset Fire and Rescue Service, Community Safety Department, Dorchester
Tel: **01722 691000** (during office hours) and call **0306 799 0019** (out of hours)

POLICE

Verwood Police Station is closed to the public but there is a phone outside the entrance for public use which connects the public to the Police Control room.
The local Neighbourhood Policing Team works from Verwood Police Station, plus Youth Justice, Police Community Support Investigators, Members of the Incident Resolution Team and your Neighbourhood Engagement Officer.
Contact details:
EMERGENCY 999
Non-emergency 101
Email: **verwoodtownsnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk**
Webpage: **www.dorset.police.uk**
Facebook: **Verwood Police**
X (formerly twitter): **@Verwood Police**

POST OFFICES

Verwood Post Office
11 Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DS
Tel: **01202 829712**
Hours of opening:

Monday - Friday	8.30am – 5.30pm
Saturday	9am – 1pm

Three Legged Cross Post Office
Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross BH21 6RJ
Tel: **01202 822002**
Hours of opening:

Monday - Saturday	9am – 6pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

The Register Office, King George V Pavilion, Peter Grant Way, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 9EN
Births, Deaths and Marriages by appointment only.
Opening times:

Mon:	2.15 pm - 4.30pm
Tues:	9.15 am - 4.30pm
Wed:	Closed
Thur:	9.15am - 4.30pm
Fri:	9.15am - 4.30pm
Sat:	Closed
Sun:	Closed

Email: **registrars@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**
Tel: **01305 225153**

VERWOOD CEMETERY

Ringwood Road, BH31 7AR
The Cemetery is open to the public during the hours of daylight. Children under 10 must be accompanied by a responsible person. No dogs are permitted in the Cemetery, with the exception of guide dogs.
The Cemetery is managed by Verwood Town Council and a Register of all burials is maintained.
To apply for a burial or for further information:
Email: **towncouncil@verwood.gov.uk**
Tel: **01202 820880**

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The Verwood Surgery
15 Station Road, Verwood
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Doctors: A Polkinghorn, I Pride, R Thangavel, N Garrett, V Blythe, S Crowther & E Rawsthorne
Health Visitor Tel: **01929 557593**
Website: **www.verwoodsurgery.co.uk**

The Cranborne Practice (Verwood)
The Surgery is on the corner of Lake Road and Newtown Road, Verwood.
Serves Verwood, Alderholt, Cranborne and Three Legged Cross and surrounding areas.
Tel: **01202 822825**
Opening Hours:
Monday - Friday 8am – 6.30pm

The Cranborne Practice (Cranborne)
Penny's Lane, Cranborne BH21 5QE
Tel: **01725 517272**
Opening Hours:

Monday	8.30am - 1pm & 2pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday - Friday	8.30am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

OUT OF HOURS
Outside of normal surgery hours you can still phone your GP surgery, but you will usually be directed to an out-of-hours service. The out-of-hours period is from 6.30pm to 8am on weekdays and all day at weekends plus bank holidays.
If it is not an immediate emergency then call NHS 111 which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, offering medical advice and details of the best local service which can provide care. Telephone consultations and triage (an assessment of how urgent your medical problem is) are an important part of all out-of-hours care.

SAMARITANS

The Samaritans is a voluntary organisation giving support to people experiencing a personal crisis, especially those who feel suicidal. Phones are staffed 24 hours a day every day of the year.
Telephone FREE: **116 123**
Or go to: **https://www.samaritans.org/** for a self-help appointment

PHARMACIES

Verwood Pharmacy
Bank Court, 10 Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DW
Tel: **01202 828499**

Monday - Friday	8am - 8pm
Saturday	9am - 4pm

Morrisons Pharmacy (in store)
Chiltern Drive, Verwood BH31 6UQ
Tel: **01202 822555**

Monday - Friday	9am - 7pm
Saturday	9am - 6pm
Sunday	10am - 4pm

DENTISTS

123 Dental Verwood
11 The Old Pottery, Manor Way, Verwood
Tel: **01202 827786**
Mrs. E. Ewelinakiersz
Opening Times:

Monday - Thursday	9am - 5pm
Friday	9am - 1pm

BUPA Dentalcare Verwood
Vicarage Road, Verwood
Dr. L Peters and Mrs K Merton
Tel: **01202 119868**
Opening Hours:

Monday	8.30am - 5pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday	8pm - 4pm
Wednesday	8pm - 5pm

Verwood Dental Care
35 Ringwood Road, Verwood BH31 7AB
Tel: **01202 824177**
Tel: **01202 232322**
Opening Hours:

Monday - Thursday	8.30am - 5.30pm
Friday	8.30am - 1pm

The Lakes Dental Practice
Unit 4a, Old Crossroads, Station Road, Verwood BH31 7PU
Tel: **01202 823345**
Opening Hours:

Monday	8am - 4.30pm
Tuesday & Wednesday	8am - 4pm
Thursday	8am - 12.30pm
Friday	8am - 4pm

BRITISH RED CROSS

Nearest medical loan centre:
Red Cross Portakabin , the Drill Hall , Bartons Road , Fordingbridge , SP6 1JD
Opening Hours:
Monday - Thursday 10am - 4pm
Tel: **01425 653273**

OPTICIANS

Peacock and Murphy Opticians
27 Vicarage Road, Verwood BH31 6DR
Tel: **01202 825448**
Opening Hours:
Monday - Wednesday 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm
Thursday 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 7pm
Friday 9am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm
Saturday 9am- 1pm

VETERINARY SURGEONS

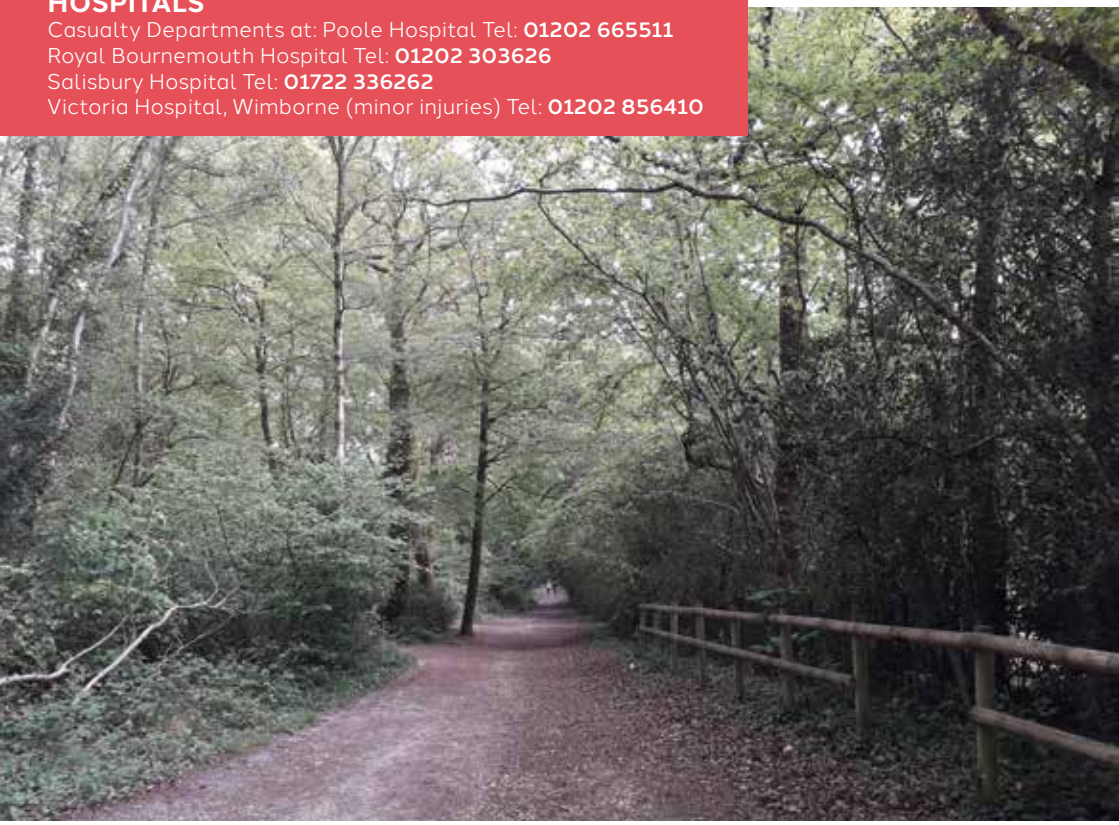
Cedar Veterinary Group
17 Ringwood Road, Verwood BH31 7AA
Tel: **01202 825217**
Opening Hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8am - 6pm
Tuesday/Saturday Closed

Lynwood Veterinary Group
19 Station Road, Verwood BH31 7PY
Tel: 01202 826956
Opening Hours:
Monday - Friday 8am - 1pm & 2pm - 6.30pm
Saturday 8am - 12.30pm

Three Cross Veterinary Surgery
Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross BH21 6RR
Tel: **01202 829436**
Monday to Friday: 9am - 6.30pm
Saturday: 10am - 2pm

HOSPITALS

Casualty Departments at: Poole Hospital Tel: **01202 665511**
Royal Bournemouth Hospital Tel: **01202 303626**
Salisbury Hospital Tel: **01722 336262**
Victoria Hospital, Wimborne (minor injuries) Tel: **01202 856410**



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Verwood | 17 Ringwood Rd | **01202 825217**
Ferndown | 81 Victoria Rd | **01202 861622**

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Churches

PARISH CHURCHES

St. Michael and All Angels
The Vicarage, 34 Dewlands Way, Verwood
Vicar: The Revd. Deborah Matthews
Tel: **01202 823707**
Sunday Services at St Michael's

10am:	Holy Communion
6pm:	Together @Six
3rd Sunday -	
10am:	Family Communion Service

Weekday Services at St Michael's

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 9am:	Morning Prayer
1st Tuesday of each month 9.15am:	Holy Eucharist

Parish Office
For further information, please contact the Parish Office Monday – Friday 9am -12 noon
01202 813256 or
email **stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com**

Verwood Methodist Church
Vicarage Road, Verwood, BH31 6DR
Minister: Revd. Nick Wood Tel: **01202 822212**
Verwood Methodist Church is pleased to offer a variety of services to suit different people. We have visiting preachers who come to our church from the circuit and each has their own style of preaching. For further information, please visit the website: **www.verwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk/whoswho.htm**

All Saints Church – Three Legged Cross
All Saints Church
Saints Close, Three Legged Cross
All Saints Church holds a Holy Communion Service on the 2nd Sunday of the month and a Morning Praise Service on the 4th Sunday of the month.
Contact details as for St. Michael & All Angels Church:
Vicar: The Revd. Deborah Matthews
The Vicarage, 34 Dewlands Way, Verwood
Tel: **01202 823707**

EVANGELICAL CHAPELS

Verwood Elim Church
40 Ringwood Road, Verwood BH31 7AH
Email: **bec.verwood@gmail.com**
Website: **www.bethelchapelverwood.com**
Sunday Services:

11am:	Worship and Holy Communion
6.30pm:	Evening Service

Regular Meetings:

10.30am:	First Wednesday in the month (except August) - Coffee Plus
7.30pm:	Friday evening - Prayer Share and Bible Study in the Bethel Unit at the rear of the Chapel

A warm welcome to all.

Churches Together in Verwood
All five Verwood churches are members of Churches Together in Verwood which meets throughout the year with shared services, Bible study and times of prayer.
Contact email: **ctverwood@gmail.com**

New Life Community Church
Sundays 10.15am
Trinity C of E School, Coopers Lane, BH31 7PG
www.newlifecommunitychurch.co.uk
07909711886
office@newlifecommunitychurch.co.uk

Verwood Road Evangelical Chapel
Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross, BH21 6RW
Pastor: Grant Spratley
Sunday Services
10.30am and 6.30pm each week.
Details of midweek activities can be found on the website
Please contact by email:
admin@verwoodroadchapel.org
or via the website: **www.verwoodroadchapel.org**

UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Verwood United Reformed Church
(Congregational/Presbyterian/
Churches of Christ)
1a Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DS
Minister: Revd. James Whately
All are welcome.

Sundays 10.45am:	Worship with provision for Creche and Junior Church

Holy Communion on Third Sunday each month and Church festivals

Mondays from 10am:	Discussion Group at the Heritage Centre
Saturdays from 10am:	Coffee4All – all are welcome

On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 11.30am and 1.30pm the Foodbank operates from our premises (referral information via Ringwood Foodbank website). During these times the Church will be open for quiet reflection
Verwood United Reformed Church is a Fair Trade Church
Further information from the Church Secretary:
07541 008486
Email: **verwood.urc@gmail.com**
Website: **www.urc-eastdorset.org.uk/verwood**
Facebook: **Verwood URC**

Three Legged Cross United Reformed Church
Ringwood Road, Three Legged Cross which was founded in 1891, has a Service every other Sunday at 2.30pm
Email: **bonitawright@hotmail.co.uk**
Website: **www.urc-eastdorset.org.uk/3x**

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church
Pinehurst Road, West Moors.
Priest: Father Anthony Achunonu
Tel: **01202 874811**

Saturday vigil Mass:	6.30pm
Sunday Masses:	8.30am Mass & 11am Mass
Confessions	
Saturdays:	10am – 10.30am 6pm – 6.30pm

Email: **westmoors@prcdtr.org.uk**

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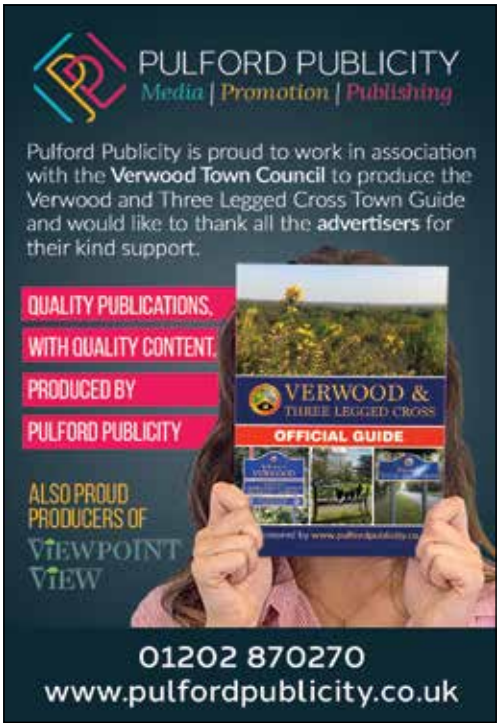
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Education - Schools

FIRST SCHOOLS (4-9 years)

Cranborne CE First School & Nursery
Water Street, Cranborne, Dorset BH21 5QB
Headteacher: Annette Faithfull
Tel: **01725 517439**
Email: **office@cranbornefirst.dsat.org.uk**

Hillside First School
Hillside Road, Verwood, Dorset BH31 7HE
Headteacher: Mr D Graves
Tel: **01202 822737**
Email: **office@hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk**

Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School
Church Road, Three Legged Cross, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 6RF
Headteacher: Mrs J Horn
Tel: **01202 822460**
Email: **office@3lxschool.com**

Trinity CE (VA) First School
Coopers Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 7PG
Headteacher: Mr Newbery
Tel: **01202 821704**
Email: **office@trinity.dorset.sch.uk**

Verwood CE First & Nursery School
Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6JF
Headteacher: Mrs Anstey
Tel: **01202 822652**
Email: **office@verwoodfirst.dorset.sch.uk**

MIDDLE SCHOOLS (9-13 YEARS)

Cranborne County Middle School
Cranborne, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 5RP
Headteacher: Mr R Stevens
Tel: **01725 517348**
Email: **office@cranbornemid.dorset.sch.uk**

Emmanuel CE (VA) Middle School
Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6JF
Executive Headteacher: Mr R Christopher
Tel: **01202 828100**
Email: **office@emmanuel.dorset.sch.uk**

West Moors Middle School
Heathfield Way, West Moors, Dorset BH22 0DA
Headteacher: Dr D Craddock
Tel: **01202 872474**
Email: **office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk**

UPPER SCHOOLS

Ferndown Upper School
Cherry Grove, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 9EY
Headteacher: Mr P Jones
Tel: **01202 871243**
Email: **school@fernup.dorset.sch.uk**

Queen Elizabeth's Upper School
Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 4DT
Headteacher: Mr S Firth
Tel: **01202 885233**
Email: **office@queenelizabeths.com**

UNDER 5'S

Scamps
Meets on Fridays, 9.30am to 11.15am during term time in the Methodist Church, Vicarage Road, Verwood. The Group offer quality play facilities, creative activities and sessions finish with song time. All are very welcome.
Further information from Yvonne
01202 822708

All Sorts Baby & Toddler Group
Verwood Road Evangelical Chapel
Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross, BH21 6RW
Thursdays 10am – 12pm
Toys, craft, refreshment, singing & Bible stories – please contact us via email if you would like to attend, as there is limited space:
admin@verwoodroadchapel.org

PLAYSCHOOLS

Happy Days Nursery & Pre-School
19 Church Hill, Verwood, BH31 6HT
Due to open in August 2024 catering for children from 12 weeks to 5 years of age.
For further information please email:
enquiries@happydaysnurseries.com
or telephone: **0800 783 3431**

Hillside Preschool Early Learning Group
Hillside Preschool is set in the grounds of Hillside First School for children aged 2-4 years. The preschool accepts government funding for children aged 2,3 and 4 years of age. We run a breakfast club from 7.45am and an after-school club until 6pm Monday to Thursday and 5pm on a Friday for Hillside Preschool and First School children.
For further information:
Tel: **01202 820679**
Email: **office@hillsidepreschool.org**
Website: **http://www.hillsidepreschool.org**

Orchard Day Nursery And Pre School
Situated in the grounds of Trinity First School Orchard provides care and education for children aged between 3 months and 5 years. We are open all year round (apart from Christmas week)
Monday to Friday 7.30am to 6pm
Person in charge Angela Clayton (Manager)
Number of Staff 30
Total Places for Children 78
Please visit or call **01202 820124** to discuss your requirements.
We also have three Forest School trained staff who take small groups of our 'Foresters' into St Stephen's Castle and the surrounding area for a variety of wonderful learning experiences, please get in touch if you would like more information about our Forest School programme.

Verwood CE First & Nursery School
Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6JF
Headteacher: Mrs Anstey
Tel: **01202 822652**

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STAGECOACH RINGWOOD AND WIMBORNE ARE DELIGHTED TO CONTINUE THEIR PERFORMING ARTS CLASSES THIS SUMMER!

It has been a busy year, with EVERY student taking to the stage in performances! Early Stages (4-6 years) performed their rendition of Mary Poppins and all of Main Stages (6-14 years) and Further Stages (14-18 years) performed at the Bournemouth Pavilion in a Charity Gala Evening, it was a fantastic show that saw each child sparkle with confidence! All parents gave a standing ovation at the end when each child took to the stage for an almighty show stopping finale.

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Look out for us this Summer in community performances at the Wimborne Folk Festival and St Ives Summer fayre. Further Stages are also performing at some Barchester Care homes! We are running our Summer workshop 'Roald Dahl the Musical' featuring some classic Roald Dahl musicals at Trinity CE VA First School, Verwood, 5th-8th August.

If your child would like to try a class, we offer a two-week free trial and sibling discount. We are also Ofsted registered and able to accept Tax free childcare and childcare vouchers. Contact us for more information by contacting **Ringwood@stagecoach.co.uk** or **01202 238810.**

St Ives Primary School, BH24 2LE | The Allendale Community Centre, BH21 1AS

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GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Verwood Guides, Brownies and Rainbows meet in the Guide Hall on Manor Road.
District Commissioner is AJ Windsor contact email: **verwooddc@gmail.com**

Rainbows
3rd Verwood "Butterfly" &
3rd Verwood "Ladybird"
meet alternate Thursdays
Leader: Ms. Sue Parkin

Brownies
1st Verwood - meet Mondays
Leader: Mrs. Sue Portnell
2nd Verwood - meet Tuesdays
Leader: Mrs Suzannah Wood
3rd Verwood – meet Thursdays
Leader: Mrs. Mary Selby

Guides
2nd Verwood – meet Wednesdays
Leader: Ms Linda Rose
3rd Verwood – meet Tuesdays
Leader: Mrs Kerry Stopa

To register your interest in joining any of these units, please go to: www.girlguiding.org.uk
Any queries regarding the above units can be emailed to the District Commissioner

Three Legged Cross falls under the control of West Moors District.
5th West Moors Brownies meet weekly on a Tuesday 18.00 to 19.30 at
West Moors Guide Hall, Ashurst Road,
West Moors
For further information go to:
https://www.girlguiding.org.uk

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Scouts are organised in Districts within which are Scout Groups. A Scout Group may include Squirrels, Beavers, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and Scout Network. These days girls as well as boys are included. The Scout District includes Ferndown, West Moors, Verwood and Three Legged Cross and surrounding towns and villages. The Verwood Scouts are known as 2nd Verwood with HQ on Manor Road, Verwood, BH31 6DX.
District Commissioner: Claire Mitchell
Email: **dc@eastdorsetscouts.org.uk**

Group Scout Leader: Carolyn Inge
Tel: **01202 824196 / 07790 528241**
Email: **carolyneinge9@gmail.com**

Beavers
Age 6 – 8 years.
Tuesdays 4.30pm – 5.45pm
Fridays 4.30pm – 5.45pm
Leader: Carolyn Inge Tel: **01202 824196**

Mercury Cub Pack
Age 8 – 10½ years
Wednesdays 6pm – 7.30pm
Leader: Kim Whitehead Tel: **07825 639164**

Apollo Cubs
Age 8 – 10 ½ years
Mondays 5.45pm – 7.15pm
Leader: Jacqueline Still Tel: **07932 467159**

Ararat Scouts
Age 10½ - 14½ years
Wednesdays 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Scout Leader: Matt Jones Tel: **07717 218702**

Verwood (Tiger) Explorer Unit
Age 14 - 18 years
Mondays 7.30pm
Contact: Charlie Dixon Tel: **07530 346500**

THE FAYREWOOD SINGERS

They rehearse at the Verwood Hub every Tuesday afternoon at 2.00pm and put on two performances a year plus some 'mini concerts' by invitation. There are 20 members who enjoy singing a variety of music in two/three parts. All voices welcome.
Contact Linda Tel: **01202 280491**

FERNDOWN BLIND CLUB

The Ferndown Blind Club is a friendly well-established club that includes blind and visually impaired members from the Verwood and Three Legged Cross area. It is run entirely by local volunteers under the umbrella of the DORSET BLIND ASSOCIATION. For further details on membership or volunteer work telephone **01202 712869** or via Social Services

THE FIRESIDE THEATRE

The Fireside Theatre was launched in September 2006. The purpose of the group was to promote good theatre by reading quality plays in members' homes, around their fireside. Some members come to read, others just to sit and listen. The local press described the society as "East Dorset based group of theatre lovers."
We aim to:

a) Provide confidence building to young people who have not yet found the courage to "tread the boards."
b) Help those who are prevented by their workload to take an active part in dramatics; this will keep them in contact with the theatre.
c) Support those who have retired from the dramatic world and this will give them the opportunity to once more enjoy a variety of roles.

The season is divided into autumn (September to December) and spring (March to June). The December reading always concludes with a Christmas buffet supper and in July we have a summer luncheon at the home of one of our members. One of our life members organises trips to the professional theatre such as the West End and also the major theatres in the South of England.
For further information contact:
Glenwood Carlyon, the Co-ordinator on **01202 813517** or Jenny Brown, the Membership Secretary on **01202 825178**.

FOREST FM

Forest FM is our local radio station providing news and information. Run by volunteers, the station provides airtime free of charge to any individuals, groups, societies or clubs that are non-commercial concerns.
Contact: Forest FM, Unit 2, Enterprise Park, Blackmoor Road, Verwood BH31 6YS
Tel:
Office: **01202 820003**
Studio: **01202 820006**
Website: **www.forestfm.co.uk**
Email: **admin@forestfm.co.uk**
Also on Facebook and X (Formerly Twitter)

RAF ASSOCIATION

Is a Registered Charity with local Branch and Hall at 34 Leigh Road, Wimborne. Full membership is open to all serving and ex-service personnel and families. Associate Membership is also available. For further information on the branch, social events, welfare or to enquire about hiring the hall please contact the Branch Secretary at:
secretary.rafawimborne@gmail.com

RINGWOOD & FORDINGBRIDGE CLUB FOR THE BLIND

The Club offers social contact, entertainment and advice. Meetings are held twice a month at Greyfriars Activity Centre, Ringwood and new members are always welcome, including people from Verwood and Three Legged Cross. The Club are always looking for volunteers and drivers from Verwood & Three Legged Cross to help to transport partially sighted people to the Club. For more information please contact: Mrs Henderson on **01425 476568**

RINGWOOD & FORDINGBRIDGE TALKING NEWSPAPER

Registered Charity: 1025970
Talking newspapers have been set up in many areas of the British Isles for over 25 years. Most of these are affiliated to the Talking Newspapers Federation. Although blind and partially sighted people can listen to television and radio, they are cut off from really local news unless a friend or relative can spare the time to read to them. A Talking Newspaper therefore fills a need which allows blind and partially sighted people to take an active interest in the local community. A blind or partially sighted person may receive a sixty minute CD each fortnight free of charge. Verwood and West Moors is now included. For further information about any of their activities contact the Chairman, Mr Peter Ansell **01425 475886**

THE ROTARY CLUB OF VERWOOD

Verwood Rotary Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm for 7.30pm. The third Tuesday is a social event, we have a meal together at Crane Vally Golf Club with a guest speaker, and on the first Tuesday we meet at The Hub here in Verwood to discuss our ongoing programme.

Our main fund-raising event of the year is The Rustic Fayre held at Potterne Park on August Bank Holiday Monday which aims to provide a fun day out for all the family whilst raising funds for local charities and organisations. Other events include the annual Swing Band Dance at the Memorial Hall and Santa's Grotto at the Christmas Extravaganza.

As part of Rotary International we help provide 'Shelter Boxes' and 'Aqua Boxes' to people suffering through war or natural disasters. One of Rotary's main objectives is supporting the International Polio Plus Project which has almost entirely eradicated Polio globally. We also collect and sort the boxes for the annual Shoe Box Appeal to gift Christmas presents to children in need throughout the world.

We are a community-based organisation, happy to offer our support to local organisations' events as needed. We welcome new members throughout the year alongside volunteers for our events so if you are new to the area or you just want to make some new friends, please feel free to contact the Rotary via Facebook (Verwood Rotary) or our website **www.rotarygbi.org.**

SOLAR FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT

There are two Solar Farms in the Civil Parish, Homeland Solar Farm in Three Legged Cross and Manor Solar Farm in Verwood to the west of the B3072.

The local community receives money from both solar farms which will be paid annually for 20-25 years. The funds are administered by two Community Groups independently of the Town Council. The groups accept applications for grants throughout the year.

THREE LEGGED CROSS DOG TRAINING CLUB

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Dog training classes held at Three Legged Cross Village Hall every Tuesday evening 7pm to 10pm. Beginners to Advanced Level, Kennel Club Good Citizen Tests & Beginners' courses. Experienced Instructors available at all times.
Contacts: Rosemary Turner: **01202 895136**
Website: **https://tlcdogclub.co.uk**

3X PAINTING FOR PLEASURE

This group exists to provide an opportunity for people who have had lessons to develop and practice their drawing and painting skills. Most painters will agree that getting motivated is their biggest problem; painting for pleasure groups provide and nurture this motivation. No formal tuition is given, but members have a wide range of skills in most media and are always willing to give advice and encouragement to less experienced artists.

The Three Legged Cross venue offers a pleasant atmosphere and plenty of free parking. The club meets in the Three Cross Village Hall on most Mondays between 2pm and 4.30pm. All new members welcome.
For more details please contact Jackie Taylor **01202 876882**

THREE LEGGED CROSS SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

Runs on a Friday afternoon 2pm - 5pm and again in the evening 7pm - 9.30pm in Three Legged Cross Village Hall
Club Secretary: Linda Green,
Chairman: Geoff Green
Contact: **lindamgreen2013@mail.com**
Tel: **01202 825386**

TUESDAY AFTERNOON GROUP

T.A.G. (Tuesday Afternoon Group) meets fortnightly at Verwood Methodist Church 2.30pm - 3.45pm. A friendly group, open to anyone to enjoy a social, varied programme and a cup of tea and biscuit. For more information:
Contact Val: **01202 823993**

VERWOOD AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

A busy and active guild which meets on the first Thursday of each month at 2pm in the Verwood Memorial Hall. They enjoy a varied programme of activities, events and speakers, both educational and social. An annual holiday and coach trips are also arranged.
Hon. Sec. Mrs Sally Jenn-Board **01425 475785**

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VERWOOD ALLOTMENT HOLDERS ASSOCIATION

VAHA was created in 2009. Since then, the allotments have matured into an established garden with 34 half plots, some further subdivided into quarter and eighth plots. A variety of crops are grown from mixed vegetables to fruit trees, berries and flowers. There is an active committee who meet regularly to schedule maintenance, make improvements to the site and organise events. For membership and for further information please or see our website: **www.verwoodallotments.org** or contact: **secretary@verwoodallotments.org**

VERWOOD & DISTRICT ARTS AND CRAFT SOCIETY

Meet on the second Wednesday in the month at 7.30pm in the United Reformed Church Hall. A group, not for experts, but for those who enjoy arts and crafts and want to make friends. There are meetings with speakers, demonstrations and some workshops. The Society organises an annual exhibition of members' work at a local craft fair. There are also social events during the year. New members very welcome. Contact Ann Aitken on **07876 288042** or Janet Stride on **01725 517434**

VERWOOD BRIDGE CLUB

Meet at the United Reformed Church Hall at 6.45pm Wednesday evenings. Join them for friendly duplicate bridge.
Contact: Mr Neil Gibson **01202 826880**

VERWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY

Practices are held at St Michael and All Angels Church, Church Hill, Verwood on Mondays at 7pm. All voices are welcome, no experience is necessary.
Please contact Ann Mayo on **07843 014381** **annsmayo@yahoo.co.uk**

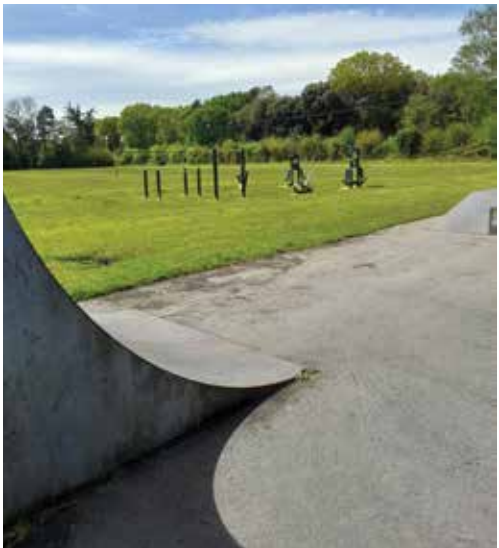
VERWOOD CONCERT BRASS

Verwood Concert Brass is a brass band organisation that is an important part of the Verwood community and dates back over 150 years having started in 1864. We pride ourselves on supporting local events such as the Verwood Carnival, as well as performing sell-out concerts at the Verwood Hub. Our bands have also won many awards through competing in brass band contests.

We have a policy of encouraging players of any standard and age to join us. Even with over 90 members our doors are always open to brass and percussion players who want to share in the delight of making music together. We can achieve this by having numerous bands within the organisation as follows:

- **Acorns Group,** tuition for complete beginners of any age – Thursday 6:00pm – 7:00pm.
- **Community Band,** for beginners to early intermediate standard of any age – Monday 6:15pm – 7:45pm.
- **Town Band,** 3rd Section Band, for intermediate to early advanced players – Tuesday 7:30pm – 9:30pm.
- **Verwood Concert Brass Band,** Championship Section Band, for advanced and expert players – Monday & Thursday 8:00pm – 10:00pm.

We are a very family friendly organisation with the benefit of our own purpose-built band hall in Moorlands Road. Membership fees are very reasonable and instruments are available for use. If you are interested in joining us, hiring a band or the band hall please contact our Secretary, Louisa Elliott on **07708403876** or email to: **secretaryvcb@gmail.com**



VERWOOD AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Normally meets the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Verwood Memorial Hall. There are illustrated talks on a variety of topics about gardens, horticulture, nature or local interest. The Society arranges social events and outings for its members. Two horticultural shows are held annually. Visitors or new members are welcome.
Contact Ollie Greensmith (Chairman)
Tel: **01202 827622**
Email: **verwoodhorticulturalsociety@gmail.com** or visit the website **verwoodhorticulturalsociety.co.uk** for further details.

VERWOOD & DISTRICT RAMBLING CLUB

We are a friendly and active walking group who organise three walks each week: On Tuesdays a three to four mile easy walk on level ground, with no styles, on Wednesdays a slightly more challenging walk of five to six miles and on alternate Fridays and Saturdays up to ten miles for the more experienced walker. In the summer months we also offer a Sunday walk of medium length.
For the current programme and an application form go to **www.verwoodramblers.org.uk,** or contact Ron Walmsley on **07874 703300**

VERWOOD EVENING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

We are a small friendly group which meet on the second Thursday of each month at the United Reformed Church Hall, Manor Road at 7.30pm and we are always looking for new members or visitors. We have a varied programme and if anyone would like more information or to come, along please contact: Carol Weaver **01202 822201**

VERWOOD EVENING W.I.

They meet at 7.30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the United Reformed Church Hall, Manor Road, Verwood. They are a friendly and sociable group offering a varied programme of speakers, activities and outings. So, if you are new to the area or just have some time, come along and meet some new friends.
Contact Lyn Ledger **01202 827188**
LindyLou3333@hotmail.co.uk

VERWOOD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

A popular social club for the more elderly residents of the local community who meet on the second Thursday of each month between 2.15pm and 4.15pm at the Verwood Memorial Hall providing a lively afternoon's entertainment, refreshments and a raffle. During the summer months they arrange additional outings to local places of interest and a New Year Lunch in January. Transport to and from the meetings can usually be provided if you cannot make your own way there.
For more details contact Lesley Ralph

Tel: **01202 827457**

VERWOOD PANTOMIME SOCIETY

Verwood Pantomime Society was formed in 1984 and has grown from a small group of friends performing in the village hall, to a large society now performing in Verwood's own theatre at the Hub. They meet throughout the year for social events and hold a Read Through and Auditions in September. Once a cast is chosen, they rehearse once or twice a week until the show in the last week of January. New members are always welcome from school year 7 upwards but there is no maximum age. Tickets go on sale at the Hub from November 1st.
For more information go to:
www.verwoodpantomimesociety.co.uk
or call Clive Matthews on **01202 821802**

VERWOOD PROBUS CLUB

Verwood Probus Club is the local branch of a national organisation for retired and semi-retired professional and businessmen. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at Crane Valley Golf Club for lunch, followed by a guest speaker, as well as organising other social events.
For more information please contact Peter Richardson, Verwood Probus Secretary:
Tel: **07566 754764**
Email: **richardson05906@gmail.com**
or visit our website: **www.probusverwood.org.uk**

VERWOOD AND THREE LEGGED CROSS DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Provide fun physical and mental activities for carers and people living with memory loss in a supportive, friendly and social group.
We meet on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Wednesdays of each month.
1st and 3rd Wednesday at 11am - 12.15pm
2nd Wednesday 2.30pm - 3.45pm
At St Michael's Church Meeting room, Church Road, Verwood, BH31 5DZ
For further details please see our website: **https://vdfca.com/**
Contact: Ann Mayo at:
annsmayo@yahoo.co.uk or **07843 014381**
All are very welcome!

VERWOOD AND THREE LEGGED CROSS TWINNING ASSOCIATION

In 1985 Verwood Town Council decided to twin with a group of nine French communities in the district of Champtoceaux. The area is situated on the river Loire between Nantes and Angers. In 1992 Verwood also twinned with the small German town of Liederbach am Taunus, close to Frankfurt. The twinners are celebrated in the names of Champtoceaux Avenue, Liederbach Drive, Champtoceaux Green and Liederbach Green in the town. In 2005 the town's achievements in promoting international friendship were recognised when the town was awarded the European Diploma. In 2007 the town was honoured further with the European Flag of Honour. Plaques and photographs marking the formal twinning ceremonies, the Diploma and Flag of Honour are on display in the Town Council chamber. Various gifts from the twin towns are displayed in the Council Offices, the Library and the Heritage Centre. The Association organises monthly members' evenings during the winter months and various social events and outings during the summer. Each year members either visit one of our twin towns or host French or German visitors.

New members are always welcome; membership costs £4 per person, per annum. An introductory leaflet and copies of the latest newsletter are available from the Council Offices, the Library or the Heritage Centre. For more information see: **www.twinning.verwood.org** or phone Clive Grove **01202 826449.**

VERWOOD U3A

Verwood u3a is a charity for people who are no longer in full time employment. We run a range of groups, activities and events that offer social, physical, creative, educational, musical and recreational opportunities to people in our local community.
For more information about our activities and how to become a member visit our website: **www.verwoodu3a.org.uk**

Sport and Leisure

BADMINTON

Verwood Badminton Club

Verwood Badminton Club is held on Mondays 8pm - 10pm at Emmanuel Middle School Sports Hall. We are always looking for League Standard players who would like to join in. For further information please contact Ian Strachan on **07583 8292222**

BOWLING

Verwood Bowling Club

Moorlands Road, Verwood

First class facilities aimed to encourage the sport of bowling at all levels. New members of any age are welcome including novices and instruction from experienced bowlers is available. This is a friendly club, which offers bowls for all from the fun of social bowls to competition and league play. For further information see our website **www.verwoodbowlingclub.co.uk** or contact Norman Pearce **07889 715468**

CRICKET

Verwood Cricket Club

Verwood has had its own cricket club since 1891. We are a friendly Clubmark-accredited cricket club based at Potterne Park offering cricket across a wide range of levels, new adult and junior members are always welcome. We have a number of teams, including adult teams playing in both the Hampshire and Wimborne Evening leagues, a Ladies softball team and Colts cricket from Under-9s level upwards. If you are interested, there are a number of ways you can contact us:

Email: **info@verwoodcricketclub.co.uk**
Facebook: **www.facebook.com/VerwoodCricketClub**
X (formerly Twitter): **@VerwoodCC**
Web: **www.verwoodcricketclub.co.uk**

FOOTBALL

Verwood Town Football Club

Verwood Football Club is based at Potterne Park in Verwood. The team play in the Sydenham Wessex League Division 1 - home matches are played at Potterne Park at 3pm on Saturdays. All midweek home games are played on Tuesday evenings 7.45pm kick off. Football training is every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm. Weekly photos and club details can be found on the website: **www.vfc.co.uk**
Anyone interested in joining the Club should contact the secretary in the first instance via email: **secretary@vtfc.co.uk** or phone **07517 077566.** The Committee are always looking for additional volunteers to assist in the running of the club and to assist on match days. Sponsors are always welcome.

Verwood Town Youth Football Club

Rossgarth YFC was founded over 40 years ago and is an FA Charter Standard club based at Potterne Park in Verwood. Verwood Town YFC offers boys and girls aged 6 to 18 the opportunity to play football. Whilst the youth section is run entirely by volunteers, the ethos is that it is run as professionally as possible. All managers and coaches are trained to Level 1 F.A. coaching standard. They must also have been trained in Emergency First Aid and attended the F.A.'s Safeguarding Children course complete with an F.A. DBS check. Furthermore, as is appropriate, the Club has a constitution to follow and strict code of conduct guidelines which all players, parents and spectators are expected to adhere to. For more information and to find out all about us, visit our website **www.vtfc.co.uk** and follow the links for youth football.

GOLF

Crane Valley Golf Club

Situated half a mile outside Verwood. Facilities include an 18-hole Valley Course, a 9-hole Woodland Course & a 9-hole foot golf course within the Woodland Course, a driving range, club house and golf shop. There is a function room for weddings, parties and other social events. Tel: **01202 814088**

NETBALL

Verwood Town Netball Club
14+ Train at Emmanuel Middle School every Monday evening 7pm - 8pm (Term times only). All are welcome no matter what the ability, so please come along or contact us for more details on **07912 444099** or
Email: **juniornetballverwood@gmail.com.**

Verwood Town Club Juniors
Train at Emmanuel Middle School every Monday evening (Term times only)
Years 3,4,5 5.30pm - 6.30pm
Years 6,7,8 6pm - 7pm
Contact details:
Email: **juniornetballverwood@gmail.com**

THREE LEGGED CROSS VILLAGE HALL

Various activities take place at the Hall which include: Art classes, Dog training groups, Embroidery classes, Golden Years Lunch Club, Karate classes, Line Dancing, Short Mat Bowls, Yoga and Zumba classes.
They also cater for adult and children's parties.
Contact details for any of the above activities:
Pat Byrne tel: **01202 827393** or
email: **pat.byrne129@btinternet.com**

VERWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Various activities take place in the Hall which include mother and baby/toddler groups, Slimming groups, a local choir and a Friday Market is held each week. The hall is available for hire for private events, fundraisers and groups.
Contact details:
Telephone: **01202 828943**
website: **www.verwoodmemorialhall.co.uk** or
email: **enquiries@verwoodmemorialhall.co.uk**

MOORS VALLEY COUNTRY PARK

The Country Park, whilst not within the Civil Parish, is situated immediately to the south of Verwood. It is a joint venture between Dorset Council and Forestry England. The Country Park and Forest as a whole, consists of 1,000 acres of woodland, heathland, meadow, lakes and rivers. At the heart of the park is the Visitor Centre, an 18th century timber barn, which houses the Seasons Restaurant and Coffee Barn, gift shop and 'Ranger Den' nature education area. For those wishing to get out and about there are plenty of way-marked walks, cycle routes and cycle hire with child seats and trailers. For the less able, wheelchairs or electric scooters are available to hire. For children there is an adventure play area for juniors, castle and sandworks for infants plus the Play Trail; unique wooden play sculptures set around a 1 mile trail within the forest. For the more adventurous there is the 'Go Ape' tree top adventure course set in the trees. There is also a narrow-gauge steam railway and an 18-hole golf course. Discover Adventure Valley, our new activity zone, located just 180 metres from the Visitor Centre featuring Adventure Golf and miniature Land Rovers. There is also a Health and Activity Centre offering a full programme of walks and cycle rides throughout the year for adults.

There are no entrance charges to Moors Valley but vehicle charges do apply. Access by road is from Horton Road, Ashley Heath, approximately one mile from the Ashley Heath roundabout in the direction of Three Legged Cross. On foot from Verwood there is a pathway through Potterne Park playing fields. From here it is about one mile to the Visitor Centre.

Moors Valley Rangers can be contacted at the Visitor Centre between 9am and 5pm:
Moors Valley Country Park, Horton Road, Ashley Heath, Nr. Ringwood, Dorset. BH24 2ET
01425 470721
www.moors-valley.co.uk

Countryside Officers, Dorset Council are also responsible for the management of a number of Nature Reserves and Sites of Special Scientific Interest including Dewlands Common and Stephens Castle in Verwood. For more information on these and other countryside sites in the country and to contact the Countryside Team please visit www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

VERWOOD HEATHLAND HERITAGE CENTRE

Ferrett Green
The Museum and Coffee/Tea/Cake are open from 9.30am to Midday, Monday to Saturday. Entry is free to the museum but children must be accompanied. Exhibitions and artefacts can be found in the main hall. Verwood Tea Towels, Bags, Aprons and The History of Verwood book are all available to purchase from the coffee shop. The hall is also available for hire.
Contact Pam Warren: **01202 900207**
(9.30am to Midday, Monday to Saturday)

VERWOOD HUB COMMUNITY AND LEISURE

The Hub, Brock Way, Verwood, BH31 7QE
Email: **verwoodhub@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk**
Tel: **01202 828740**

Whether you enjoy live concerts or shows, watching some of the latest blockbusters, want to improve your health and fitness or simply need a place to meet and have a coffee, The Verwood Hub, Community and Leisure can cater for you.

The Verwood Hub Community and Leisure comprises three sites; The Verwood Hub, Potterne Park and Emmanuel Sports Hall all offer facilities, activities and events to suit every need.

The Verwood Hub is a hugely versatile facility which includes the fantastic Merryfield Theatre, featuring a brand new state of the art cinema showing some of the latest blockbusters and an auditorium which can transform at the click of a button, from a 300 seated theatre to a cabaret layout to cater for different styles of events. Make the most of a state of the art Technogym a licensed bar as well as free Wi-Fi! Boasting an exciting and varied calendar of events including shows, theatre, cinema and concerts; there is something for the entire family to enjoy! With the latest Technogym equipment, a functional training zone, suspension training area, large free weights section, and array of fitness classes plus a team of some of the best fitness instructors around, the Verwood Gym is an ideal place to get that full body workout. The easy to use Wellness System TM simplifies every aspect of the gym experience and allows defined routines to be followed with constant feedback on progress and gives each workout that personal feel.

The Café Lifestyle provides a comfortable social area to meet friends, enjoy a light lunch or choose a drink from the licensed bar. Situated right at the heart of Verwood and with such a wide variety of opportunities, the Verwood Hub is your one stop shop for fun, fitness and entertainment.

Potterne Park includes a modern 3G Astroturf arena, newly refurbished tennis courts, a play park, an outdoor gym and trails which lead to the back of Moors Valley Country Park. The Pavilion has space for indoor activities to meet a variety of needs, including a café and changing facilities. It is the perfect place to meet and enjoy a drink whilst watching a match or with friends and family utilising the facilities at the park.

Emmanuel Sports Hall is a shared facility with Emmanuel Middle School that comprises of a four court sports hall hosting a variety of group exercise classes, providing a joint community and educational facility. Community access is available on Monday, Tuesday mornings, weekday evenings, weekends and school holidays. During these times the Verwood Hub, Community and Leisure Centre operate an exciting range of activities and courses, with the facilities available for community hire. Courts are available to hire for the following sports; badminton, short tennis, table tennis, football and cricket.

VERWOOD HUB
COMMUNITY & LEISURE

2024 Events Programme

The Boogie Bumpers ***15 June***
Love Changes Everything - Michael Ball Tribute ***21 June***
JD King's Elvis ***6 July***
Oye Santana ***13 July***
Crazy Little Thing Called Queen ***27 July***
Coldplace ***2 August***
The Bootleg Shadows ***4 August***
Hamilton Browne as Lionel Ritchie ***9 August***
Fleetwood Shack ***24 August***
WHAM! Duran ***31 August***
The Retro Rock Show ***7 September***
The Comedy Store ***14 September***
Nya as Whitney ***11 October***
Sean Collins ***19 October***
Robbie Lewis as Robbie Williams ***2 November***
The Comedy Store ***16 November***
Glen Leon as Tom Jones ***6 December***
20 - 1 Brass Band ***21 December***

Varied Fitness Class Programme
40 Station Technogym Gym
Personal Training
Studios Theatre
Live Events Programme
Fully Digital Cinema
Cafe
Sports Hall
Free Parking
Free Wifi

CONTACT US

01202 828740
dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/verwoodhub

Dorset Council

Regular Events

ROTARY RUSTIC FAYRE

Why not come along to Potterne Park for a great day out. The Rustic Fayre is held every August Bank Holiday Monday. Meet up with family and friends, new and old. We have a large classic vehicle show, arena events, lots of stalls, live music, food outlets including a café, and a fully stocked bar. All the money raised goes to local, national, and international good causes. So look out for the free programs in local shops and the library. You can even buy a duck for the annual duck race. For the latest news, or to support the event please see our web site: **www.verwoodrotary.org.uk**
Or contact:
Chairman: "Rusty" Vern: Tel **01202 824005**
Secretary: Ian Domeney Tel **01425 478868**

VERWOOD CARNIVAL

Verwood Carnival is held on the 2nd bank holiday in May at Potterne Park
Chairman: Shelley Rose
Tel: **07855 201532**
Email: **verwoodcarnival@gmail.com**

VERWOOD FLAMEBURST

Annual firework display, funfair and entertainment held at the end of autumn half term.

VERWOOD CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

This event is held on a Saturday before Christmas. The event is managed by the Town Council, The Heathland Heritage Centre, the United Reformed Church and the Verwood Rotary Club. The Scouts and other local organisations join in to help make the event a highlight of the season. Father Christmas can be seen in his grotto which is provided by Verwood Rotary Club and there is Christmas music from Forest FM, rides for the smallest children, refreshment stalls and much more.

VERWOOD INDOOR MARKET

Open 9.30am to 1pm every Friday in the Memorial Hall, Verwood
A Friendly indoor market comprised of non-commercial market stalls selling fresh vegetables, fresh meat, homemade cakes, jams & honey, Jewellery, wood items, knitted baby wear and soft toys and cards. Tea, Coffee & light refreshments.
Free Parking and admission.
For enquires/table hire,
please call Kathy
on **01202 823324**
or **07900 508023**

Halls for Hire

Band Hall –
hire for music group rehearsals only
as space is limited. Enquiries via website:
www.verwoodconcertbrass.co.uk

Helix 17 Moorlands Road
Email: **info@helixhallandroomhire.co.uk**

Methodist Church Rooms
Email :
bookings@verwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk

St. Michael & All Angels Hall Hire
Tel: **01202 813256**

Three Legged Cross Village Hall
Tel: **01202 827393**

United Reformed Church Hall
Tel: **01202 828943**
Email: **enquiries@verwoodmemorialhall.co.uk**

Verwood Memorial Hall
Tel: **01202 828943**
Email: **enquiries@verwoodmemorialhall.co.uk**

Verwood Youth & Community Centre
Tel: **07749 629088**
Email:
youthandcommunitycentre@vewood.gov.uk

Woodlands Village Hall
Tel: **07462 570117**

History

Although recorded as Beubos or Beau Bois in 1288, the first mention of "Fairwood" is in a charter dated 8th December 1377 in the first year of the reign of Richard II. The Norman lord, William de Bello Bosco or Beau Boys had used the Latin or Old French translation of the locality for his surname. On this date he granted to Walter, Vicar of Cranborne, amongst others "all the lands, tenements, meadows, woodland, heath, marsh, pasture, rents and services which he then held in Lesteford, Fairwoode and Boverige". Fairwood remained the official name well into the nineteenth century, written as such in documents, but this gradually evolved phonetically into Verwood as pronounced by the Dorset tongue.

The arms of Bello Bosco included an inverted chevron "V shape" which has now been incorporated into the town coat of arms, along with other significant emblems, trees, the waters of the River Crane, besom brooms and pots.

Long before Norman landlords, a community already flourished. Prehistoric remains of burial mounds, cremations and flint implements have been found in the area around Stephen's Castle to the north-east. This is a natural outcrop, not a manmade fortification though its defensive possibilities are not hard to imagine. The origin of the name 'Stephen' for this part of Verwood is lost in the mists of time but nearby 'Stephen's Stone' is reputed in local folklore to have at one time stood upright, possibly as a territorial marker or sacred gathering place. There is no doubt that ancient tribes would have had a commanding view all over the surrounding countryside and to the sea from this lofty vantage point.

Until the latter years of the nineteenth century, Verwood, including Three Legged Cross, was part of the large parish of Cranborne. The hamlet is not mentioned by name in the Domesday Book but some of its mills and other properties may well be included in the inventory given for that parish. Through Verwood also ran the boundary of the ancient outer limits of Cranborne Chase and as such parts were in the hunting grounds of the king and his nobles. The River Crane, Ebblake and the "hoar stone" on the way to the great bridge at Ringwood were amongst the landmarks noted in a perambulation ordered by King John to determine the bounds.

Settlement probably began along the banks of the River Crane where the land was fertile and water power could drive mills such as that at Romford in the west. Several of the farms which lie at intervals along this part of the Crane Valley have very early foundations and are recorded in medieval documents. Verwood was also fortuitously equidistant between the two ancient market towns of Ringwood and Cranborne.

The surrounding heathland, relatively infertile and therefore not of great use to major landowners, was however rich in seams of clay, timber and scrub. These commodities were taken advantage of from earliest days for house building, cottage industry and pasture.

Pottery has been found at Ebblake dating from 1690 and it is probable that kilns were established in the immediate area from much earlier days as has been proved in nearby villages. Small, family run, potteries were dotted all over the Verwood area producing

mainly heavy domestic earthenware not just for local consumption but also for export all over the south of England and probably abroad via ships from Poole. Earlier, much finer, tableware and other utensils have been found.

The growth in this industry probably accelerated when Enclosure Acts forced people out of traditional villages where they had previously enjoyed right of pasture on the commons. In Verwood they could settle, build a "cob" mud wall cottage and carve themselves an acre for use as a vegetable garden and smallholding without objection from the local landlord.

Other home grown enterprises sprang up such as broom making from the birch and heather which abounded on the heath whilst the village had its own independent craftsmen: carpenters, blacksmiths, shoemakers, thatchers and the like. The population was served well into the twentieth century by bakers, grocers, greengrocers, general stores, ale houses and other retail outlets.

Throughout the nineteenth century, the bulk of the male population continued to work as agricultural labourers for the big farm estates. The family subsistence was augmented from the garden and domestic livestock and, especially at Three Legged Cross, income was gained from the sale of excess produce. In latter years laden carts travelled to the growing town of Bournemouth. Women and children knitted highly prized gloves for sale through local traders and also assisted in agricultural activities at busy seasons of the year.

Until the second half of the nineteenth century the pattern was a grouping of scattered settlements all over the heath. A major factor in the growth and cohesion of Verwood was the construction of the railway branch line from Salisbury to the coast in 1866. Verwood Station, which stood near the Albion Inn, could then handle imports and exports, increasing trade and population. Several of the men took railway occupations and the population was able to move further afield.

It was a mixed blessing however. Pottery, farm goods, high quality sand from the quarry on Stephen's Castle and latterly bricks could be sent to a wider market. Coming in were coal, slates and lighter enamel household goods which latter eventually led to the demise of the local pottery industry. One by one the potteries closed, the last remaining being that at the Crossroads which remained open until 1952. The railway and station were in full operation until 1964 when they fell under the Beeching axe, a decision much regretted by the local population.

From the end of the nineteenth century, several major brickworks were established, replacing smaller family owned enterprises. The Manor Brickworks at Black Hill and the Verwood and Gotham Brick and Tile Company at the station made traditional red bricks. North of the station was a roofing tile yard whilst one at Ebblake used seams of white clay to produce decorative bricks. All these products were highly regarded and used throughout a wide area, including the construction of The Pavilion at Bournemouth.

In the early twentieth century Verwood would have presented an industrial face amongst the largely rural countryside, with the constant plumes of smoke rising from the potteries and brickworks. The thriving brickworks closed for a completely different reason to that of the potteries as under World War II blackout regulations they were unable to be continuously fired as the process demanded. Although there was talk of revival after the War, this never happened.

Both wars brought tragedy to Verwood as they did to every community. The names of the men who lost their lives are recorded on the war memorial in the parish churchyard. The Recreation Ground was purchased by public subscription and a tree planted for every man who fell in the Great War and the Memorial Hall placed on it as a tribute to those of the Second World War. Several bombs fell over the area fortunately causing only one human fatality, a young boy whose loss was felt by the whole community. There was an influx of service and civilian personnel, some of whom came to make Verwood their home. Lasting friendships were forged and fascinating tales are told of the now primitive nature of strategies and subterfuges intended to defend the population and mislead the enemy.

Over the centuries, however, the populace had carried on its life largely untroubled by outside events though the visitation of the young Edward VI and entourage to Woodlands in 1552 and the hunt for the Duke of Monmouth after the battle of Sedgemoor in 1685 must have occasioned excitement. The Duke was eventually captured beneath an ash tree on Horton Heath, giving rise to the name of a local public house. In latter years, as the nearest station to the "big houses" of

Cranborne and Wimborne St. Giles, the village saw royalty alighting on numerous occasions, sometimes followed by a carriage ride around the area to the delight of cheering crowds.

In Napoleonic times a telegraph station north of Verwood was one of a series which could relay news from Plymouth to London in a matter of minutes. This era too was of immediate interest and profitability to Verwood by participation in the smuggling trade.

Eastworth Farm and Burrows Lane are two names that occur in the annals of the pack pony routes from the then deserted coves around Bournemouth to inland markets.

The spiritual and educational advantages were slower in coming. The Dorset historian, Rev. John Hutchins, records that there had been a Chapel of Ease of the important monastic foundation of Cranborne, situated in the grounds of Manor Farm, but it was in ruins by 1666. No attempt seems to have been made to erect another place of worship for the established church until the inhabitants of the Verwood area, who then numbered only a few hundred, petitioned in 1829 for a Chapel to save them the long journey to the parish church at Cranborne. This was granted with the erection of a small building and yard on the site of the present parish church.

It was not until 1887 that Verwood became an ecclesiastical parish in its own right, at which time the chapel was completely rebuilt in local brick to become St. Michael & All Angels parish church. It was greatly extended in 1980 to reflect the growing population. In 1893 All Saints was built at Three Legged Cross to save these outlying parishioners the journey to Verwood along unlit and rough trackways. The original building was later cased in stone but in latter years had to be demolished and replaced.

In 1802 a small Independent Chapel had been erected on Church Hill by the non-conformist population and after several successive moves and improvements remains today as the United Reformed Church in Manor Road. There were also Independent chapels in Three Legged Cross and on Dewlands Common. The foundation of the former remains as the United Reformed Church in Ringwood Road at the southern end of the parish.

The Methodist congregation began by meeting in the open air and homes. Wild Church Bottom and Mount Ararat on Boveridge Heath to the north may be two

place names indicative of such informal assemblies. A Primitive Methodist chapel was erected in 1876 on the site of the present Methodist Church in Vicarage Road which replaced it in 1909. A tiny Primitive Methodist chapel was founded in Three Legged Cross in 1893 but has since closed.

For those who preferred a more Evangelical form of worship, the Bethel Chapel was opened in Ringwood Road, Verwood in 1931 and a Gospel Hall, now the Evangelical Church, was founded in Three Legged Cross.

In 1847 the Anglicans built a schoolroom adjacent to their chapel on Church Hill. This was intended for all children of the area including Three Legged Cross but the non-conformists began their own classes shortly after. These latter became the “British” and then the Council school, housed in the former chapel, now the Library, in Manor Road. The direct successors of these two foundations are the Church of England First School in Howe Lane and Hillside First School, both now open of course to children of any denomination or none. Emmanuel Middle School was established in 1988. The latest scholastic addition, in recognition of the growing populace, is Trinity First School in Coopers Lane, established in 2001 and installed in its present premises in 2002.

Education in Three Legged Cross began with Anglican classes in 1873 followed a year later by the non-conformists who established an undenominational school. These have now combined to form Three Legged Cross First School in Church Road.

The origin of the name Verwood has been explained but that of Three Legged Cross is more obscure. Suggestions have ranged from a tripod beacon to guide travellers across the heath, a gallows and a boundary stone marking the junction of three great estates. However, a more prosaic explanation may well be the arrangement of the road system whereby the roads north and south leave the former turnpike road at staggered intervals.

The expansion brought by the railway continued with the building of brick houses and public buildings from the early twentieth century onwards. Many of the old cob, thatched cottages began to disappear, though fortunately several still remain. The 1960s and 70s saw the establishment of several housing estates. Until the building on the former Joy's farm between Verwood and Church Roads, Three Legged Cross had remained a sparsely populated hamlet.

Since Verwood's designation as a development area, the building work continues apace with the resultant influx of population. Again, the largely infertile soil that enabled previous generations to settle is a significant factor, although today's new residents are more likely to arrive in retirement or to take work rather than relying for their livelihood on the fruits of the heath.

Social life has never been neglected in Verwood. From earlier times there have been church activities, fairs and carnivals, sporting teams, an active band, youth and adult pursuits, concerts, special events and outings. This is no less true today and provides opportunities of enjoyment and service for all age groups and interests. It is sincerely hoped that this "village" character will remain in its best aspects and that everyone feels welcome and able to contribute to this unique community.

The panoramic view from Stephen's Castle, reveals the buildings on the cliffs at Bournemouth more readily than the roofs of the growing community directly below. It takes only a short stroll to the forestry areas, nature reserves and commons to escape the traffic, rejuvenate the spirits and enjoy tranquillity. Whatever changes the area has witnessed over the centuries Verwood can still truly be described as a "Fair Wood".
(Jill Coulthard for Verwood Historical Society: February 2008)

VERWOOD INDEX

Acacia Avenue E4
Acorn Way D3
Aggis Farm B2
Albion Way A2
Aspen Drive E3
Badger Way C3
Bakers Farm Road B2
Bank Court C2
Barberry Way E3
Beech Close B3
Belmont Close C3
Berkeley Close C2
Bessemer Close F4
Bingham Close D4
Bingham Drive D4
Bingham Road D4
Bitterne Way D3
Black Hill D3
Black Moor Road F4
Blackthorn Way E3
Bridleways B3
Brickyard Lane B2
Bridport Road C3
Brock Way C2
Brook Drive E4
Brunel Close E4
Bugdens Lane D3
Burley Close C3
Burn Close D4
Burnbake Road D3
Burrows Lane C1
Caradon Place B2
Cartref Close C3
Champtoceaux Avenue C2
Cheviot Way C3
Chiltern Drive C3
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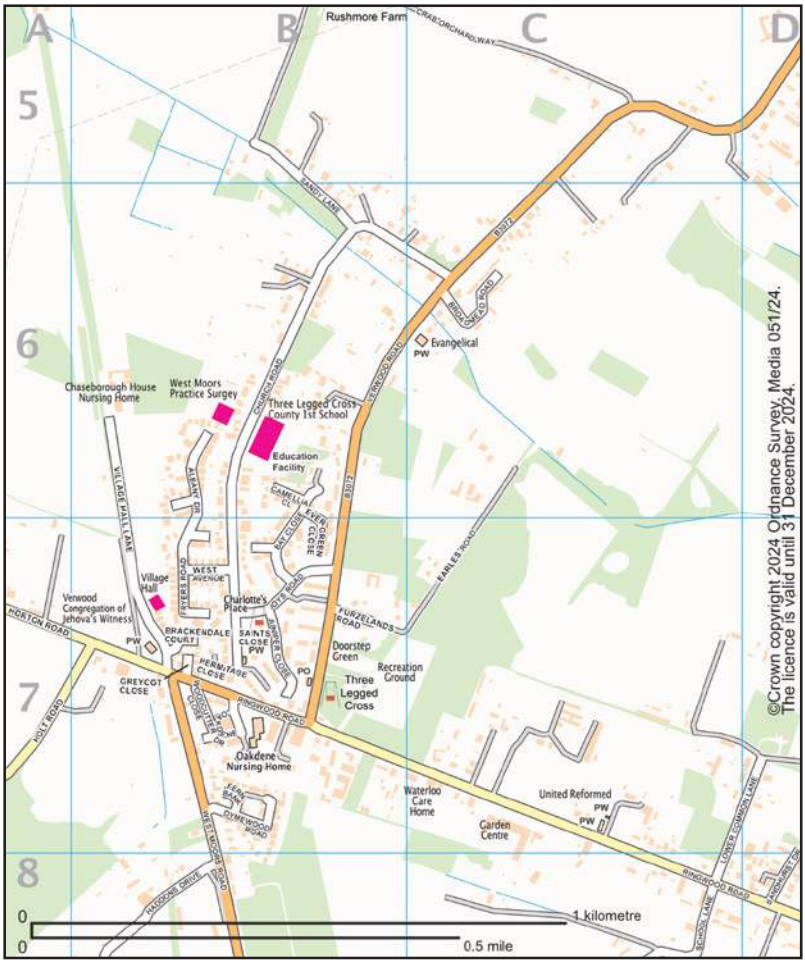
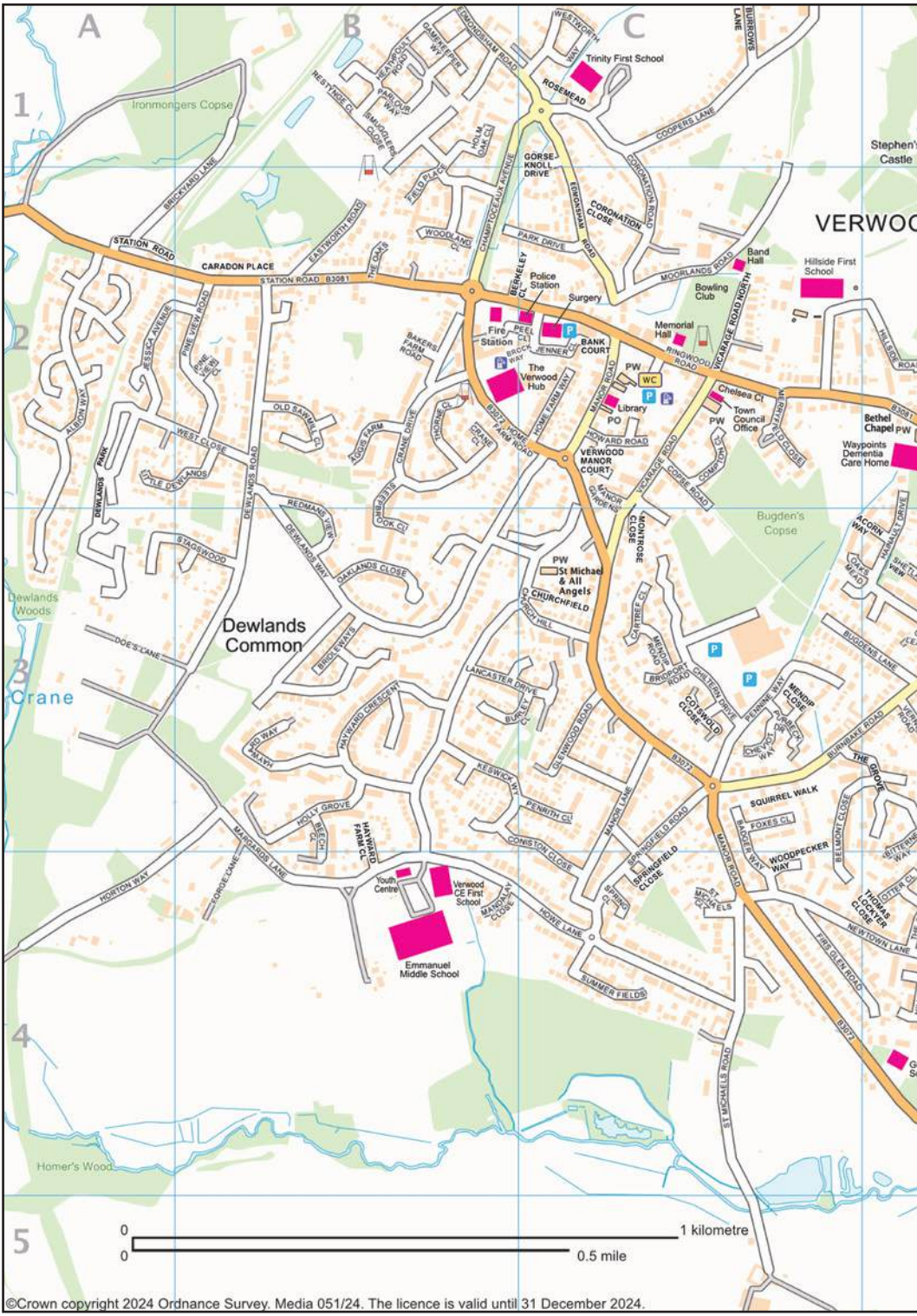
Cotswold Close C3
Crane Close B2
Crane Drive B2
Crescent Road D3
Dewlands Road B2
Dewlands Park A2
Dewlands Way B3
Does Lane B3
Eastworth Road B2
Ebblake Close E5
Edmondsham Road B1
Fairwood Road E3
Field Place B2
Firs Glen Road C4
Forest Close F4
Forge Lane B4
Foxes Close C3
Foxhills E3
Gamekeeper Way B1
Glenwood Road C3
Gorse Knoll Drive C2
Hainault Drive D3
Hayward Crescent B3
Hayward Way B3
Haywards Farm Close B4
Hazelwood Drive E4
Heather Gardens F4
Heathlands Close D2
Heathpoult Road B1
Hillmeadow D4
Hillside Road C2
Holly Grove B3
Holm Oak Close B2
Home Farm Road C2
Home Farm Way C2
Horton Way A4
Howard Road C2
Howe Lane C4
Hunters Close F3
Jessica Avenue B2
Keswick Way B3
Kiln Way E5
Laburnum Close E4
Lake Road D3
Lancaster Drive C3
Lavender Close E3
Liederbach Drive E4
Little Dewlands B2
Lombardy Close E3
Magnolia Close E4
Mandalay Close B4
Manor Gardens C2
Manor Lane C3
Manor Road C3
Margards Lane B3
Meadow Grove D3
Meadow Way D3
Mendip Close C3
Mendip Road C3
Merryfield Close C2
Moneyfly Road E4
Monmouth Close D4
Monmouth Drive D4
Montrose Close C3
Moorlands Road C2
Newtown Lane D4
Newtown Road D2
Nightingale Close D4
Noon Hill Drive E2
Noon Gardens E2
Noon Hill Road E3
Oaklands Close B3
Oaks Mead C3
Old Sawmill Close B2
Orchard Court D3
Otter Close D4
Owls Road D3
Paddock Grove D3
Park Drive C2
Parkland Close F4
Parlour Way B1
Pennine Way C3
Penrith Close C3
Pine View Close B2
Pine View Road B2
Pine Walk E3
Potterne Way D4
Potterne Wood Close E4
Potters Place D3
Purbeck Drive C3
Raymond Close D3
Redmans View B3
Restynge Close B1
Ringwood Road C2
Ringwood Road F4
Rosebery Close E3
Rosemead C1
Rossgarth Place F4
Rowan Drive D4
Sandy Lane D3
School Close D2
Shard Close D3
Sherwood Drive D3
Shetland View D3
Shires Mead D3
Sleepbrook Close B3
Smugglers Close B1
Southernhay Road E3
Spring Close C4
Springfield Close C4
Springfield Road C3
Squirrel Walk C3
St Michael's Close C4
St Michael's Road C4
St Stephens Lane D2
Stagswood B3
Stanley Close D3
Starlight Farm Close D2
Station Road B2
Strathmore Drive D2
Summer Fields C4
Taunus Way E4
Taylor Way D3
The Chase E3
The Curlews D4
The Forestside F4
The Grove D3
The Kingfishers D3
The Lea D3
The Oaks B2
Thomas Lockyer Close D4
Thorne Close B2
Verne Rd D3
Verwood Manor Court C2
Vicarage Road C2
Vicarage Road North C2
West Close B2
West Worth Way C1
Westworth Way C1
Whitebeam Way E4
Wisteria Drive E4
Woodland Close B2
Woodlinken Close D4
Woodlinken Drive E4
Woodlinken Way E4
Woodpecker Close C4



THREE LEGGED CROSS INDEX

Albany Drive	B7	Hermitage Close	B7
Bay Close	B7	Holt Road	A7
Broadmead Road	C6	Horton Road	A7
Camellia Close	B6	Joys Road	B7
Church Road	B6	Juniper Close	B7
Church Road	B6	Lower Common Lane	B7
Crab Orchard Way	C5	Ringwood Road	B7
Dymewood Road	B7	Saints Close	B7
Earles Road	B7	Sandhurst Drive	C8
Evergreen Close	B7	Sandy Lane	B6
Fern Bank	B7	School Lane	C8
Fryers Road	B7	Verwood Road	B7
Furzelands Road	B7	Village Hall Lane	B7
Greycot Close	B7	West Avenue	B7
Haddons Drive	B8	West Moors Road	B7



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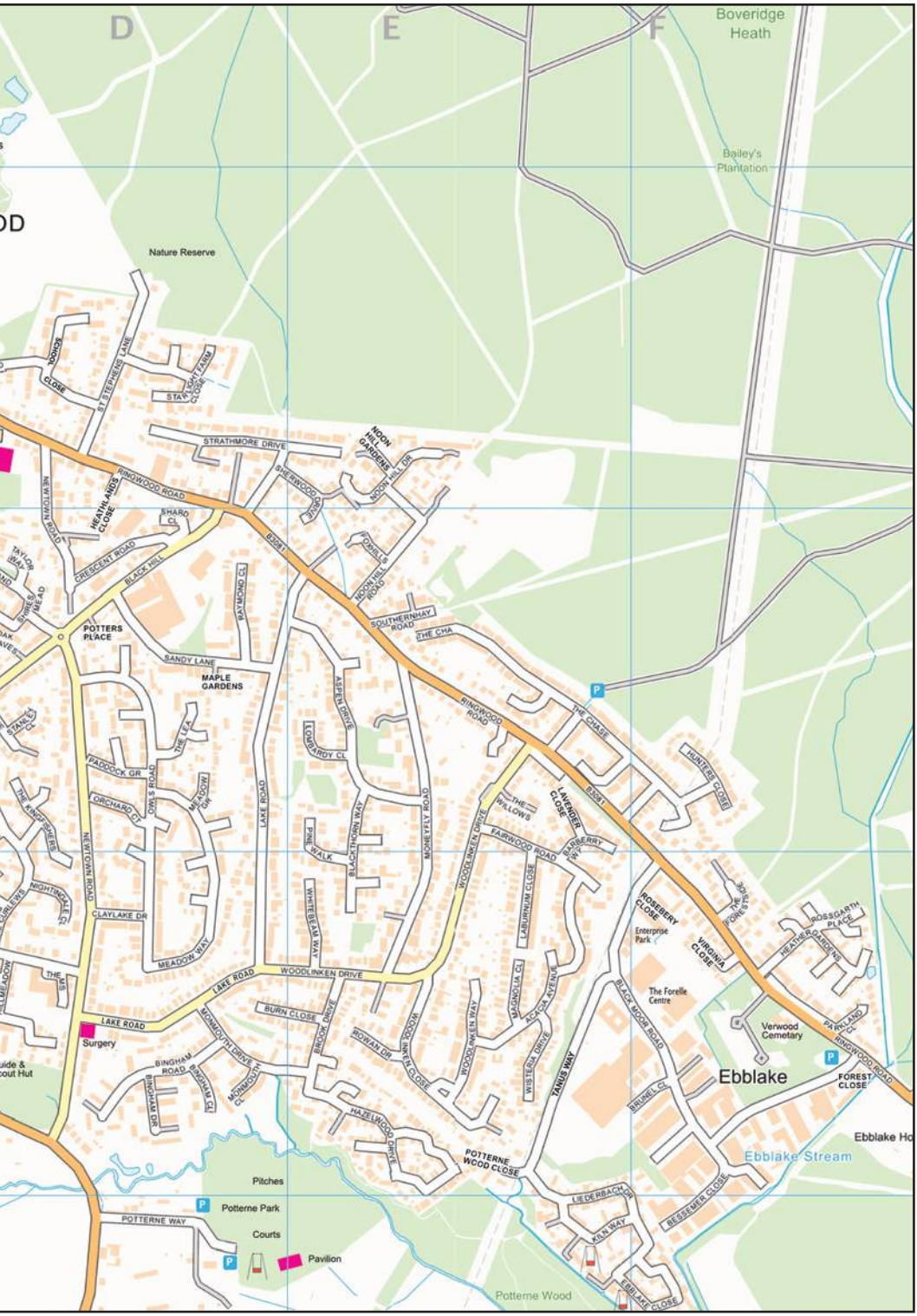
D
E
F
Boveridge Heath
Bailey's Plantation
Nature Reserve
ST STEPHENS LANE
STANLEIGH FARM CLOSE
STRATHMORE DRIVE
NOON HILL GARDENS
SHERWOOD CRESCENT
MOON HILL DR
RINGWOOD ROAD
HEATHLANDS CLOSE
SHARD CL
CRESCENT ROAD
BLACK HILL
B3081
FOXHILL
MOON HILL ROAD
SOUTHERNHAY ROAD
THE CHA
POTTERS PLACE
SANDY LANE
MAPLE GARDENS
RAYMOND CL
ASPEN DRIVE
LOMBARDY CL
THE LEA
FADDOCK GR
OWLS ROAD
MEADOW DR
ORCHARD CL
LAKE ROAD
NEWTOWN ROAD
CLAYLAKE DR
MEADOW WAY
PINE WALK
BLACKTHORN WAY
WHITEBEAM WAY
MONKEY TAY ROAD
WOODLINKEN DRIVE
THE WILLOWS
FARWOOD ROAD
BARBERRY WK
LANERDER CLOSE
THE CHASE
HUNTERS CLOSE
LABURNUM CLOSE
MAGNOLIA CL
ACACIA AVENUE
WISTERIA DRIVE
YANUS WAY
ROBSBERY CLOSE
Enterprise Park
VIRGINIA CLOSE
THE FOREST'S
ROSSGARTH PLACE
HEATHERGARDENS
The Forelle Centre
Verwood Cemetary
PARKLAND CL
RINGWOOD ROAD
FOREST CLOSE
Ebblake
BLACK MOOR ROAD
BRUNEL CL
Ebblake Ho
Ebblake Stream
LAKE ROAD
WOODLINKEN DRIVE
BURN CLOSE
BROOK DRIVE
ROWAN DR
INNER CLOSE
WOODLINKEN WAY
HAZELWOOD DRIVE
POTTERNE WOOD CLOSE
LIEDERBACH DR
KILN WAY
BESSEMER CLOSE
EBBLAKE CLOSE
Surgery
BINGHAM ROAD
BINGHAM DR
BINGHAM CL
MONMOUTH DRIVE
MONMOUTH CL
Pitches
Potterne Park
POTTERNE WAY
Courts
Pavilion
Potterne Wood

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