



VERWOOD & THREE LEGGED CROSS



OFFICIAL GUIDE



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VERWOOD & THREE LEGGED CROSS OFFICIAL GUIDE 2019

Issued with the authority of

VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

28 Vicarage Road, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6DR

Tel: **01202 820880**

Email: **verwoodtc@btconnect.com**

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 14,852 at the last census in 2011. If you stand on the top of Stephens Castle (no castle I am afraid) and look west you would 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 the 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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5 The Old Pottery, Manor Way, Verwood, BH31 6HF
128 Station Road, West Moors, BH22 0JB

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A photograph of a family of five (a man, a woman, and three children) running and playing on a sandy beach. A colorful kite is flying in the sky. The background shows a coastline with hills and the sea.

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VERWOOD TOWN COUNCIL

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

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

Verwood Dewlands North Ward
(2 Councillors)

Verwood Dewlands South Ward
(8 Councillors)

Stephens Castle Ward
(7 Councillors)

Three Legged Cross Ward
(1 Councillor)



The Town Council meets eight times a year at the Town Council Offices, 28 Vicarage Road, Verwood on a Tuesday and three times a year at the Village Hall, Three Legged Cross on a Wednesday.

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

Mrs. Valerie Bright

Assistant Town Clerk

Mrs. Janice Sebire

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Michaela Saunders.



THE COUNCIL OPERATES WITH A NUMBER OF SUB-COMMITTEES WHO EACH REPORT TO THE FULL COUNCIL; THESE ARE:

FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

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

PLANS CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee is a consultative committee and has powers regarding planning applications. It consists of nine members and meets on a three-weekly cycle. Its role is to examine all planning applications affecting the Civil Parish and forward comments to the Dorset Council. The Dorset Council makes the final decision.

AMENITIES COMMITTEE

Consisting of nine members, the Committee meets quarterly after the Finance & General Purposes Committee. Its function is to oversee the day-to-day maintenance of the Cemetery, Recreation Grounds, Open Spaces and Play Areas.

Notices, agendas etc, of all the meetings are posted on the Town Council noticeboards and on the Town Council website. There are five noticeboards, which are situated outside the Town Council offices, on Ferrett Green, at Liederbach Drive, outside the Post Office in Verwood and at Three Legged Cross. All council meetings and sub-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. At the end of the Full Town Council meeting for a period not exceeding fifteen minutes, any electors of the Civil Parish are allowed a maximum of three minutes each to address the Council on a relevant matter or ask a question.

VERWOOD RECREATION GROUND TRUST

(Charity no. 1055101)

The 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. Each Town Councillor takes on the role of Trustee. In this capacity, he or she must act purely for the sole benefit of the Trust and must not be influenced by any other considerations. The Trust meets three times a year in January, May and September. All meetings are held in the Town Council Offices. Members of the public are welcome to attend these meetings but cannot take part. However there is an opportunity to speak on any matter relating to the Recreation Ground as indicated on the agenda. 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.

VERWOOD DOES



**More and more
people in Verwood
are recycling their
bathroom items.**

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/recycling



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OPENING HOURS
MON - FRI: 7.30AM TO 5.00PM
SATURDAY: 8.00AM TO 12.30PM
SUNDAY: CLOSED

01202 823341

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DORSET BH31 6HA

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W: www.flooringelegance.co.uk

DORSET COUNCIL

**ON 1 APRIL 2019 THE
COUNTY'S NINE COUNCILS
WERE REPLACED BY TWO NEW
ORGANISATIONS:**

- Dorset Council
- Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

The new Dorset Council replaced the district and borough councils including East Dorset. Dorset Council now delivers all your local services, working in partnership with parish and town councils.

Details of each service can be found on the 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.



The Dorset Council Councillors representing Verwood and Three Legged Cross currently are:

West Moors and Three Legged Cross

Cllr. Mike Dyer, 4 Wayside Road, St. Leonards, Ringwood BH24 2SH

Tel: **01202 874918**

Email: mike.dyer@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr. David William Shortell, 186 Uplands Road, West Moors, Ferndown BH22 OEY

Tel: **01202 870476**

Email: david.shortell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Verwood

Cllr. Mrs. Toni Coombs, 5 Aggis Farm, Verwood BH31 6QD

Tel: **01202 827376**

Email: cllrtoni.coombs@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr. Spencer Flower, 5 Aggis Farm, Verwood BH31 6QD

Tel: **01202 821231**

Email: cllrspencer.flower@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr. Simon Gibson, 25 St. Stephens Lane, Verwood BH31 7BQ

Tel: **01202 820822**

Email: cllrsimon.gibson@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Main switchboard

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
01305 221000

Online payments

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/your-council/online-payments

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
01202 795031

Building control

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/building-control
01202 795030

Electoral registration

www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
01202 795078

Benefits and council tax

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/benefits
0345 034 4569

Public health issues

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/environmental-health
01202 795185

Licensing

www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/business-consumers-licences
01202 795540



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,
The Stables, White Cliff Gardens, Blandford
Forum, Dorset DT11 YBU
Tel: **01258 452585**

MEPs FOR THE SOUTH WEST REGION

Anne Widdecome
ann.widdecombe@europarl.europa.eu
James Glancy
james.glancy@europarl.europa.eu
Christina Jordan
christina.jordan@europarl.europa.eu
Caroline Voaden
caroline.voaden@europarl.europa.eu
Martin Horwood
martin.horwood@europarl.europa.eu
Molly Scott Cato
office@mollymep.org.uk

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for your free initial consultation on

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www.thesasltd.com



VERWOOD LIBRARY

1 Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DS

Tel: **01202 822972**

Opening times:

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

Parking and access available from Manor Road and Potter's Wheel car park.

Wheelchair accessible.

Everyone is welcome at Verwood Library. Membership is free. To join bring proof of your address.

For our younger members we have Rhyme Time, Library Gets Lively and various other activities during the school holidays. We have a library Reading Group, a Reminiscence Group and a Knit and Natter Group – please contact the library for details of frequency.

For those housebound residents that cannot get into the library due to health or access issues, the Royal Voluntary Service supports the delivery of a Home Library Service. If you know someone that may like to receive this free service on a monthly basis please contact the library for more details of eligibility.

We have internet access with scanning, printing and photocopying facilities. Wi-Fi is available free of charge to library users. Taster I.T. sessions are available throughout the year via our Digital Champion service.

The Citizens Advice Bureau offers a drop-in service on the first, third and fifth (if applicable) Thursday of every month between 10am and 12.30pm. No appointment is necessary.

We have access to online reference material, drama sets and audio books for hire. Books in large print are available for those with poor eyesight.

For more information about times and dates please contact the Verwood Library or visit www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/libraries

BOURNEMOUTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The 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 BUREAUX (C.A.B.)

To ring us with an enquiry please telephone the Dorset Advice Line number in the first instance, between 9:30am and 4pm.
Tel: **0344 245 1291**

If you are an existing client or a third party contact the Wimborne or Ferndown offices:

Wimborne Bureau

Hanham Road, Wimborne BH21 1AS

Tel: **01202 881584**

Opening times:

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday	10am – 3pm
Friday	10am – 3pm
Wednesday	Appointment only

OUTREACH SERVICES

Ferndown Bureau

Pennys Walk, Ferndown BH22 9TH

Tel: **01202 874542**

Opening times:

Tuesday & Thursday	10am – 3pm
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Verwood Library

1 Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DS

Surgeries the 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday of each month from 10am – 12.30pm

Tel: **01202 822972**

Verwood Surgery

Lake Road, Verwood BH31 6EH

By appointment for patients of the practice – alternate Fridays 9.30am – 12.30pm



FIRE BRIGADE

Verwood Fire Station is manned 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** (Reception who will put you through to the Community Safety Department).

POLICE

Verwood Police Station is now closed to the public, but there is a phone outside of the entrance for public use that connects the public to the Police Control room.

Contact details:

EMERGENCY 999

Non-emergency 101

Email: verwoodtownsnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Webpage: www.dorset.police.uk

Facebook: **Verwood Police**

Twitter: **@Verwood Police**

POST OFFICES

Verwood Post Office

11 Manor Road, Verwood BH31 6DS

Tel: **01202 829712**

Hours of opening:

Monday to Friday 8.30am – 6pm

Saturday 9am – 4pm

Three Legged Cross Sub Post Office

Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross BH21 6RJ

Tel: **01202 822452**

Hours of opening:

Monday to Friday 9am – 5.30pm

Saturday 9am – 12.30pm

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

The Register Office, King George V Pavilion,
Peter Grant Way, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 9EN

Tel: **01202 225153**

Email: registrationinformation@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Births, Deaths and Marriages by
appointment only:

Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm
(not Wednesdays)

Saturday 9.15am – 1pm

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AGE Verwood
Concern Friend of Age UK Bournemouth

We meet at the Band Hall,
Moorlands Road, Verwood on

MONDAYS: 10am until 3pm
WEDNESDAYS: 10am until 3pm

The Day Centre was set up to cater for the frail and elderly in the Community particularly those who live alone or those who depend on friends or relatives. We have a minibus to help with transport to and from the Centre. Our services include assistance with transport, refreshments morning and afternoon with a two course mid-day meal. Our activities are centred around our member's abilities and include the occasional outing outside Verwood. If you would like further information please feel free to call us on:

Olivia 01202-823193, Mark 01202-821786

Alternatively call in and have a cup of coffee and a chat.
The Centre is run by volunteers and new helpers are always welcome.

Free collections/deliveries to Verwood residents minimum order £10



Open 8.30am - 5pm Monday to Friday
9am - 1pm on Saturdays

- Dry cleaning, laundry & press only • Curtains, Duvets and other household items cleaned • Repairs & Alterations • Shoe repairs
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01202 826176 • 29 Vicarage Road, Verwood

DOCTORS

The Verwood Surgery

15 Station Road, Verwood

Tel: **01202 825353**

Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 6.30pm

Closed: 1pm – 2pm

Doctors: Snr. Partner, N.K. Sandy;

Helen Devereux; R. Karkera;

A. Polkinghorn; E. Rawsthorne; J. Segal;

M Garrett

Health Visitor: Tel: **01929 557593**

For up to date information visit the website on:

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**

Monday to Friday: 8am – 6.30pm

The Cranborne Practice (Cranborne)

Tel: **01725 517272**

Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 6.30pm

Doctors: Snr. Partner C. Davidson, Dr. B.

Wollard, Dr. A. Levinson.

Health Visitor Tel: **01929 557593**

Three Legged Cross Surgery

Rushmore House, 67/71 Church Road,

Three Legged Cross

Tel: **01202 811860**

The Surgery is a branch surgery of a practice in West Moors.

Doctors Snr. Partner Dr. D. Hennessy,

Dr. V. Gunpath, Dr. J. Horner,

Dr. Jackson holds surgeries at the Three

Legged Cross address.

Practice Nurse:

Wednesday and Friday: 9am – 10.30am

Opening times:

Monday – Friday: 9am – 12noon

Monday and Thursday

afternoons: 2.30pm -5pm

When the surgery is closed telephone the

West Moors Practice: **01202 865800**

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 8.00am on weekdays and all day at weekends and on bank holidays.

If it is not an immediate emergency then call NHS 111 which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It can provide 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 manned 24 hours a day every day of the year.

Tel: **116 123** or **01202 551999**

CHEMISTS

Lloyds Pharmacy Ltd

23 Station Road, Verwood

Tel: **01202 822364**

Monday to Friday: 8.30am – 6.30pm

Saturday: 9.00am – 1.00pm

Sunday: Closed

Morrisons (within the store)

Chiltern Drive, Verwood

Tel: **01202 826555**

Monday to Friday: 9am – 1pm, 2pm – 8pm

Saturday: 9am – 1pm, 2pm – 6pm

Sunday: 10am – 1pm

Verwood Pharmacy (Pharmland Ltd)

Lake Road Surgery, Lake Road Verwood

Tel: **01202 828499**

Email: contact@pharmland.co.uk

Saturday & Monday: 7am – 11pm

Tuesday to Friday: 6.30am – 11.30pm



DENTISTS

123 Dental Verwood

11 The Old Pottery, Manor Way, Verwood
Tel: **01202 827786**

Mrs. E. Ewelinkiersz

Monday: 9am-1pm & 2pm – 5pm
Tuesday: 9am-1pm & 2pm – 5pm
Wednesday: 9am-1pm & 2pm – 5pm
Thursday: 1pm – 5pm (Reception only)

BUPA Dentalcare Verwood

Vicarage Road, Verwood
Dr. L. Peters and Mrs K Merton
Tel: **01202 827272**

Monday: 8.30am – 5pm
Tuesday: 8am – 7.15pm
Wed, Thurs & Fri: 8am – 4pm

Verwood Dental Care

35 Ringwood Road, Verwood
Tel: **01202 824177**
Monday – Thursday: 8.30am – 5.30pm
Friday: 8.30am – 1pm
Closed between 1pm – 2pm

The Lakes Dental Practice

Unit 4a, Old Crossroads,
Station Road, Verwood
Mr. M. Taghizadel and Miss M Korki
Tel: **01202 823345**
Monday – Friday: 8am – 5pm
Closed for lunch 12.30pm – 1.30pm

OPTICIANS

Peacock and Murphy Opticians

27 Vicarage Road, Verwood
Tel: **01202 825448**
Monday – Friday: 9am – 5pm
(Closed 1pm – 2pm)
Saturday: 9am – 1pm
Thursday open late until 7pm

VETERINARY SURGEONS

Cedar Veterinary Group

17 Ringwood Road, Verwood BH31 7AA
Tel: **01202 825217**
Monday – Friday: 8.30am – 6.00pm
Saturday: 8.30am – 12.30pm
Surgery by appointment only.

Lynwood Veterinary Group

19 Station Road, Verwood
Tel: **01202 826956**
Monday to Friday: 8.30am – 6.30pm
Saturday: 8.30am – 12noon
Consultations by appointment
Monday to Friday: 8.30am – 11am,
3pm – 6.30pm
Saturday: 8.30am – 12noon

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**



Specialist Dementia Care Home in Verwood

**RESPIRE
STAYS
AVAILABLE***

**see website for details*



Waypoints Verwood

Waypoints Verwood is a welcoming care home with nursing set in wonderful grounds. At all Waypoints homes residents enjoy a fantastic array of activities and are looked after by our specially trained caring team.



WAYPOINTS

The Dementia Care Specialists

www.waypoints-care.co.uk

“Waypoints Verwood is a very nice care home. Staff are lovely and kind, they treat my husband with dignity.”

Wife of a resident

Call our dementia-friendly team to arrange a viewing and a warm welcome (please mention Verwood Town Guide):

Waypoints Verwood, 42–44 Ringwood Road, Dorset BH31 7AH 01202 923127



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PARISH CHURCHES

St. Michael and All Angels

Church Hill, Verwood

Vicar: The Revd. Deborah Matthews

The Vicarage, 34 Dewlands Way, Verwood

Tel: **01202 823707**

Sunday Services:

8am: Holy Eucharist - Traditional

9.30am: Parish Eucharist – Order 1

11.15am: Network – All ages worship

6pm: Evening Worship – varied

Midweek Services:

8am: Morning Prayer Monday-Thursday

6.30pm: Holy Eucharist Tuesday

All are welcome.

For any further information, please contact the Parish Office Monday – Friday 9am-12noon

01202 813256 or email

stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com

Verwood Methodist Church

Vicarage Road, Verwood, BH31 6DR

'Diverse People One Faith'

Minister: Revd. Nigel Deller

Tel: **01202 822212**

Email: ndeller@btconnect.com

Youth and Schools Worker: Dan Desmond

Church Email:

enquiries@verwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk

Website: www.verwoodmethodistchurch.org.uk

Sunday Services

We warmly welcome you to join us for a variety of services throughout the month – see our website or notice board for further details.

9.30 – 10.30am:

Big Breakfast – especially suitable for families.

We begin with a buffet breakfast followed by songs, a short talk and a craft activity linked with the morning's theme.

(Normally - every Sunday except when Messy Sunday is run)

11am:

Morning Worship - with a variety of styles depending on musicians and who is leading:

Anew - an informal service of worship, fellowship and teaching with the worship band

Morning Worship - a more traditional service with hymns and songs.

Holy Communion - with hymns and songs.

Messy Sunday - for families on Holy Communion Sundays (usually the 4th Sunday). Craft activities offered in the back hall while the service goes on in church.

Afternoons/evenings

Occasional evening services with a service for prayer and healing every two months beginning at 4.30pm (refreshments from 4pm)

Weekly activities include:

Scamps (Parent & Toddler Group on Friday mornings) – Tuesday Prayers 9.45am and 10.15am Coffee morning - Tuesday Afternoon Fellowship – Saturday and Wednesday Lunch Clubs (monthly) - House Groups.

All Saints Church

Saints Close, Three Legged Cross

Sunday Service: 10am Holy Eucharist

Contact details as for St. Michael and All Angels Church

EVANGELICAL CHAPELS

Bethel Chapel Verwood

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.

Verwood Road Evangelical Chapel

Verwood Road, Three Legged Cross

Pastor: Jeremy Andrews

Tel: **01202 813608**

Sunday Services:

10.30am-11.30am Family Service (including Sunday School)

Evening Service: 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Regular Meetings:

Tuesday: Bible study and prayer
7.30pm – 9pm

Thursday: Parent and Toddlers
10.30am – 12.30am

1st Thursday

in month: Cameo Senior Citizens
2.30pm – 4pm

Friday: Coffee and Chat
10.30am – 12.30pm

Saturday: Ladies' Bible Study normally held
2nd Saturday of the month 2pm -3pm.
Newcomers welcome.

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.

Sunday Services

10.45am Morning Worship with Crèche and Junior Church.
Holy Communion on Third Sunday each month and church festivals.

Regular Events

Mondays: Between 10am – 11.30am
Coffee and Chat at the Heritage Centre – all welcome to drop in when and for as long as you can.

Tuesday
(In term time): 9.30am – 11.15am
Parent/Carer and Toddler Group.

Thursday: 9.30am – 11.30am
Church open for quiet reflection and prayer.

Saturday: 10am – 11.30am
Coffee 4 All – a place to meet friends plus Traidcraft stall usually on 4th Saturday each month.

Other activities include Prayer Circle.
Verwood United Reformed Church is a Fair Trade Church.
Further information from the Church Secretary:
Mrs Dorothy Macro **01202 814270** or
Email: verwood@urc-eastdorset.org.uk
Website: www.urc-eastdorset.org.uk/verwood

Three Legged Cross

United Reformed Church

Ringwood Road, Three Legged Cross which was founded in 1891, has an Evening Service every Sunday at 6pm.

Website: www.urc-eastdorset.org.uk/3x

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church

Pinehurst Road, West Moors.

Priest: Father Dylan James

Tel: **01202 874811**

Saturday Mass: 6.30pm 1st Sunday Mass

Sunday Services: 8.30am Mass
11am Mass

Confessions

Saturdays: 10am – 10.15am
6pm – 6.15pm

Email: www.westmoorscatholics.com

VERWOOD CONGREGATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

Village Hall Lane, Three Legged Cross, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 6SG

Contact: Mr. David Legg

Tel: **01202 829118**

Meeting times:

Thursday: 7.15pm

Sunday: 10am

All welcome. No collections.

VERWOOD FAMILY CHURCH

Meets at the Hub, Brock Way, Verwood on Sunday at 10am.

The Church also holds small groups, prayer meetings and runs children's groups, alongside courses and outreach activity. Verwood Family Church is part of the Newfrontiers family of churches.

Lead Elder: Tim Leavers

Administrator: Tamara Hocking

For further information please contact us on **01202 820308** or

Email: office@verwoodfamilychurch.org.uk

Website: www.verwoodfamilychurch.org.uk

VERWOOD SALVATION ARMY CHURCH

Majors: Giorgi (Gia) Salarishvili and Eka Tikaradze

Tel: 01202 822410

Email: verwood@salvationarmy.org.uk

Web site: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/verwood

Sunday Worship: 10.30am-11.45am in the Verwood Memorial Hall. Ringwood Road.

Worship followed by refreshments.

Regular meetings:

WEEKLY: Toddler Group on Monday 9.30am-11.30am during term time in the Verwood Memorial Hall. Mums, Dads, Grandparents and child-minders all welcome.

Prayer & Bible study groups meet in homes.

Fellowship meetings. Meet each Thursday from 2pm – 4pm at Verwood Memorial Hall in the Elizabeth Room except for the 1st Thursday of the month when they will meet in the Verwood Heathland Heritage Centre, Manor Way.

MONTHLY: CAMEO (Come and meet each other) Club every 1st Thursday 2pm – 4pm at Verwood Heathland Heritage Centre. Please contact the above number to check venue as sometimes trips are arranged.

Café Church last Sunday in each month, homemade cakes and a relaxed atmosphere.



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Hillside First School

Hillside Road, Verwood, Dorset BH31 7HE
Head Teacher: Mr. Jeremy Harrison
Tel: **01202 822737**
Email: office@hillsidefirst.dorset.sch.uk

Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School

Church Road, Three Legged Cross, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 6RF
Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Horn
Tel: **01202 822460**
Email: office@3lxschool.com

Trinity CE (VA) First School

Coopers Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 7PG
Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Green
Tel: **01202 821704**
Email: office@trinity.dorset.sch.uk

Verwood CE First & Nursery School

Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6JF
Head Teacher: Mr. A. Parsons
Tel: **01202 822652**
Email: office@verwoodfirst.dorset.sch.uk

MIDDLE SCHOOLS (9-13 years)

Cranborne County Middle School

Cranborne, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 5RP
Head Teacher: Mr. C. Watson
Tel: **01725 517348**
Email: office@cranbornemid.dorset.sch.uk

Emmanuel CE (VA) Middle School

Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6JF
Executive Head Teacher: Mr. Ron Jenkins
Tel: **01202 828100**
Email: office@emmanuel.dorset.sch.uk

West Moors Middle School

Heathfield Way, West Moors, Dorset BH22 ODA
Head Teacher: Mr. J. Reilly
Tel: **01202 872474**
Email: office@westmoorsmid.dorset.sch.uk

UPPER SCHOOLS

Ferndown Upper School

Cherry Grove, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 9EY
Head Teacher: Mr Phillip Jones
Tel: **01202 871243**
Email: school@fernup.dorset.sch.uk

Queen Elizabeth's Upper School

Wimborne Minster, Dorset BH21 4DT
Head Teacher: Mrs. Katie Boyes
Tel: **01202 885233**
Email: office@qe.dorset.sch.uk

UNDER 5's

St. Michael's Parent and Toddler Group

Meets on Thursdays from 9.30am – 11.30am at the Parish Centre, St. Michael's Church.
The Group provides a friendly atmosphere in which to meet other parents. A warm welcome awaits any newcomers. Healthy snacks and song time. Term time only.
Contact: Teresa Steer
Mobile: **07709 637126**

Scamps

Meets on Friday from 9.30am to 11.15am in the Methodist Church rooms, Vicarage Road, Verwood.
The Group provides a friendly meeting place for parents with babies and small children up to school age. All newcomers welcome.
Contact: Val Smith
Tel: **01202 823993**
Email: valeriesmith1414@yahoo.co.uk

Three Legged Cross Evangelical Chapel Parent and Toddler Group

Meets on Thursdays at the Chapel from 10.30am – 12.30pm
Contact: Mrs. R. Andrews
Tel: **01202 813608**

United Reformed Church Parent and Toddler Group

Meets in the United Reformed Church Hall on Tuesdays from 9.30am – 11.15am. It is a small welcoming group providing a happy atmosphere where children (up to their 3rd birthday) with their parents or carers may socialise.

Contact: Helen Kelly
Tel: **07860 367955**

Verwood Salvation Army Church Toddler Group

Meets on Mondays from 9.30am – 11.30am in the Verwood Memorial Hall. For all children up to school age with special baby area provided. Drinks and health snacks available.

Contact: Major Giorgi Salavishvili

Tel: **01202 822410**

Email: verwood@salvationarmy.org.uk

PLAYSCHOOLS

Hillside Pre-School – Early Learning Group

Meet in the new pre-school building in the grounds of Hillside School Monday-Friday am and pm sessions. To provide a happy and

stimulating environment where children learn through play. The group has a 1:5 staff/children ratio and welcomes visits at any time.

Ofsted rated **OUTSTANDING** January 2011 & November 2015.

Contact: Manager, Elaine Ford

Tel: **01202 820679**

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. Open all year round (apart from Christmas week) Monday to Friday, 7.30am to 6pm. They also offer term time pre-school places for children aged 3 – 5 years. Their recent Ofsted inspection was graded **OUTSTANDING**.

Please visit to discuss your requirements.

Contact Debbie or Angela

Tel: **01202 820124**

Verwood CE First & Nursery School

Howe Lane, Verwood, Dorset BH31 6JF

Head Teacher: Mr. A. Parsons

Tel: **01202 822652**

Email: office@verwoodfirst.dorset.sch.uk

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Tel: **01202 822338**
www.verwooddaynursery.com
Email: info@verwooddaynursery.com



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- Graded Outstanding in all areas by Ofsted at our last inspection
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- Rachel the manager is an Early Years Professional with over 20 years' experience
- Our one acre garden with play trail provides opportunities to take risks, encourage the right choices and build self-confidence
- Our edible garden allows children to learn first-hand about the seasons, planting, growing, and respect for living things
- Our baby and toddler unit led by Yelma is perfectly designed to meet the needs of children aged from 3 months to 2 years
- Our pre-school is led by Craig an Early Years Professional who with his team provides the children aged over 2 years with a balance of carefully planned experiences that respect each individual child
- Our online learning journeys keep parents involved in their child's learning and development

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To provide the highest standard of care and nursery education tailored to meet the needs and interests of every child, in an environment where they are understood and respected as individuals.

Sounds good to you? Why not get in touch to arrange a private viewing of the nursery to see first-hand.
Contact Rachel on 01202 822338 or email rachel@verwooddaynursery.com



AGE CONCERN VERWOOD

Age Concern Verwood is an independent charity run entirely by volunteers. Its Day Centre is held at the Band Hall, Moorlands Road, Verwood, BH31 7PD on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am until 3pm. It operates as a lunch and social activities club for the frail and elderly in the community, particularly giving friendship to those who live alone or those who depend on relatives. We have a minibus to provide transport if needed to and from the Centre. Those interested are welcome to call in for a chat and to see what is on offer. New clients and volunteers are always welcome. For further information please contact: Mark Talbot on: **01202 821786** or talbot_tz@yahoo.co.uk

GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

The Guide District includes Verwood and Alderholt, but Three Legged Cross falls under the control of West Moors District. Verwood Guides, Brownies and Rainbows meet in the Guide Hall on Manor Road. District Commissioner is Karin Gould
Tel: **01202 929640**
k.e.gould@btinternet.com

Rainbows

3rd Verwood "Butterfly" & 3rd Verwood "Ladybird" meet alternate Saturdays 9.15am – 10.15am.
Contact: Ms. Sue Parkin Tel: **07548 666144**

Brownies

1st Verwood - meet Monday 6.15pm – 7.45pm.
Contact: Mrs. Sue Portnell Tel: **01202 825593**
2nd Verwood - meet Tuesday 5.15pm – 6.30pm.
Contact: Mrs. Nicola Waters Tel: **01202 829567**
3rd Verwood - meet Saturday 10.30am – 12noon.
Contact: Mrs. Mary Selby Tel: **07919 911582**

Guides

2nd Verwood - meet Wednesday 6.30pm – 8.15pm
Contact: Miss Linda Rose Tel: **01202 826816**
3rd Verwood - meet Tuesday 7pm – 8.30pm
Contact: Mrs. Peggy Ganderton Tel: **01202 822701**

30 | Verwood & Three Legged Cross Official Guide

Three Legged Cross Brownies meet weekly on a Tuesday 6.30pm – 8pm at the West Moors Guide Hall, Ashurst Road, West Moors. For further details contact: Miss Eloise Whitaker on **01202 842653**.
Email: eloisewhitaker@hotmail.com

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Scouts are organised in Districts within which are Scout Groups. A Scout group may include 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 near its junction with Newtown Road. District Commissioner: Mr. McGregor.
Enquiries Tel: **01202 829764**
Email: dc@eastdorsetscouts.org.uk

Beavers

Age 6 – 8 years.
Tuesdays 6pm – 7pm Leader: Fiona Kusel
Tel: **01202 820453**
Fridays 4.30pm – 5.30pm Leader: Carolyn Inge
Tel: **01202 824196**

Mercury Cub Pack

Age 8 – 10½ years
Wednesdays 6pm – 7.30pm
Leader: Alison Milward Tel: **01202 827636**

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: Andrew Maw Tel: **01202 824475**

District Explorer Scouts (Verwood Unit)

Age 14½ - 16½ years Mondays 7.30pm
Contact: Jane Shotliffe Tel: **01202 824930**

BRITISH RED CROSS

Nearest medical loan centre:
Red Cross Portakabin, The Drill Hall , Bartons
Road , Fordingbridge, SP6 1JD
Open Monday to Thursday 10am – 12.00noon.
Tel: **01425 653273**

DORSET MIND

Dorset Mind holds a Wellbeing Mental Health
Peer Support Group on the first & third Tuesday
of each month from 7pm-9pm at Verwood
Connect which is next to the Hub in Jenner
Close, Verwood.

For further information contact:

Lucy on **07497 616647**

email: lucy.crescent@dorsetmind.uk

or wellbeing@dorsetmind.uk

EAST DORSET NATIONAL TRUST ASSOCIATION

East Dorset National Trust Association is
one of the 200 or so local associations
that operate across the UK with the aim of
supporting the National Trust in conserving
buildings, estates and coastline for everyone.
The Association offers a range of activities
to its members, which includes monthly talks
through the winter at the Barrington Centre
in Ferndown and West Moors Memorial Hall,
bridge, other occasional social events and
through the summer months, coach outings
and coffee mornings. For more information
please contact

Mrs. Janet Matthews on **01202 855001** or

Email: eastdorsetnt@btinternet.com

Website: www.ednta.org

THE FAYREWOOD SINGERS

They rehearse at the Verwood Hub every
Tuesday afternoon at 2.00pm with Conductor
Peter Coole, and put on two performances a
year plus some 'mini concerts' by invitation.
There are 30 members who enjoy singing a
variety of music in two/three parts. All voices
welcome. Contact Mo Tel: **01202 826134**

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
work load 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 either
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
local 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

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LADIES FORUM

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Contact: Mrs P Mumford Tel: **01202 825430**

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POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS

Local Branch contacts:

CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

Hold regular social events.
Members' Annual Meeting held in March.
Hon. Sec. Mr. David Townsend
Tel: **01202 821954**
Email: davaltown@talktalk.net

LABOUR PARTY

Contact for information:
Tel: **01202 822133**
Email: verwoodlabour@gmail.com

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS

Contact for information:
Tel: **020 7022 0988**
Email: help@libdems.org.uk
Website: www.libdems.org.uk

SOUTH EAST DORSET GREEN PARTY

Contact for information: Kate Bisson
Tel: **020 7549 0315**
Email: coordinator@sedorset.greenparty.org.uk

UK INDEPENDENCE PARTY

Lexdrum House, King Charles Business Park,
Old Newton Road, Heathfield,
Newton Abbot, Devon TQ12 6UT
Tel: **01626 831 630**
Email: mail@ukip.org

RAF ASSOCIATION

Is a Registered Charity with local Branch and Clubroom at 34 Leigh Road, Wimborne. Full membership open to all serving and ex-service personnel and families. Associate membership also available. Socials, welfare and good company. For further information contact the Secretary on: **01202 823675** or tkelly9380@aol.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
Tel: **01425 475886**
Email: peteransell@onetell.com

THE ROTARY CLUB OF VERWOOD

Verwood Rotary Club meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7pm for 7.30pm at Crane Valley Golf Club for food and fellowship.



On August Bank Holiday of each year we organise the Rotary Rustic Fayre which is held at Potterne Park from 12noon.

Each year we distribute the proceeds from the event to local charities and organisations. Each spring we organise a Swing Band Dance at Verwood Memorial Hall and the proceeds are donated to charities sponsored by our Club President.

During the year we also organise a number of other fund raising events including a charity Golf Day.

As part of Rotary International, which has over one million members worldwide, we also contribute to international projects including 'Shelter Boxes' and 'Aqua Boxes' which are sent to disaster areas around the world as soon as the disaster strikes.

We also contribute to the Rotary International 'Polio Plus' project which has almost entirely eradicated polio throughout the world.

Verwood Rotary is actively seeking new members.

For further information go to our website: www.rotary-ribi.org or contact our Secretary, David Allen on **01202 823541**.

SNAP (SPECIAL NEEDS ABLE PEOPLE) CLUB

This group meets at the Verwood Sports and Social Club on Wednesdays 7pm to 9pm. Club members have use of the social club, licensed bar, pool table and darts. There are termly programmes of games, pop quizzes and arts and crafts.
Secretary: Judy Ingram Tel: **01425 475268**

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.

The Town Council acts in partnership with both groups by holding the community benefit monies on their behalf in ring fenced funds. Payments from these funds are made through the Town Council's bank account but the funds are separate from the Town Council's precept and are only available to be spent as the community groups decide.

THREE LEGGED CROSS DOG TRAINING CLUB

Kennel Club Registered – Established over 50 years. 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 and Beginners' courses. Experienced Instructors available at all times.

Contacts: Rosemary Turner
Tel: **01202 895136**.

THREE LEGGED CROSS PAINTING CLUB

This group is a painting for pleasure group which 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 Mr. W. Mott
Tel: **01202 824246**

THREE LEGGED CROSS SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

The Club – affiliated to "The Dorset Short Mat Bowls Association" meets in the Three Legged Cross Village Hall on Fridays 2pm-6pm and 7pm-10pm.

Beginners (club woods available) to the more experienced bowlers are always welcome.

Secretary: Mr. Turnham Tel: **01202 823440**

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
Tel: **01425 475785**

VERWOOD ALLOTMENT HOLDERS ASSOCIATION

Verwood Allotment Holders Association is happy to say they are now in their fifth year. They have 40 members on ½ and ¼ plots with a healthy waiting list of 12.

Membership forms can be obtained from the Council Offices or for further information contact via email secretary@verwoodallotments.org or see our website www.verwoodallotments.org

VERWOOD & DISTRICT ARTS AND CRAFT SOCIETY

Meet the 2nd 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 and craft stalls, usually in October in the Verwood Memorial Hall. Also there are other social events during the year. New members very welcome.

Contact Ann Aitken on **01202 893659** or Janet Stride on **01725 517434**



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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 bowls to competition at the highest level. For further information please contact the Secretary: Mr Roger Bassett
Tel: **01202 376296**

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
Tel: **01202 826880**

VERWOOD BUSINESS (VB)

The Verwood and District Chamber of Trade established over 45 years ago is now known as **(VB) Verwood Business**. They offer a warm welcome to businesses old and new, large and small. The Chamber is free to join and currently undergoing some major changes. All businesses in the region are welcome and will benefit from the support of other local business people. Other benefits include planning some great social events and, of course, a collective voice for local issues that affect businesses. For more events and other details, please look at the Facebook page for up-to-date information <https://www.facebook.com/verwoodbusiness>
Contact: Chairman - Mike Longshaw from Sure Health and Protect on **01202 830630** or via email mike@surehealthandprotect.co.uk

VERWOOD CHORAL SOCIETY

Practices are held at St. Michael and All Angels Church, Church Hill, Verwood on Mondays at 7.30pm. All voices are welcome, experience not necessary.
Secretary: Mrs Sue Longstaff
Tel: **01202 829212**
Email: sumlon@hotmail.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 – Monday 6:40pm – 7:40pm.
- **Training Band**, for beginners to early intermediate standard of any age – Monday 6:40pm – 7:40pm.
- **Youth Band**, for under 19's – specific weekend rehearsal dates announced as events require.
- **Town Band**, 3rd Section Band, for intermediate to early advanced players – Wednesday 7:30pm – 9:30pm.
- **Verwood Concert Brass Band**, Championship Section Band, for advanced and expert players – Monday & Tuesday or Thursday 8pm – 10pm.

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, Tracy Harris on **07950 890302** or email to: secretaryvcb@gmail.com
More information can be found at: www.verwoodconcertbrass.co.uk and on our Facebook page.

VERWOOD AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Normally meets the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Verwood Memorial Hall. There are talks and slide shows of horticultural interest. The Society also arranges social events for its members. Two shows are held each year. New members welcome.
Contact Mr. Leigh Craig (Chairman)
Tel: **01202 821666** or website www.verwoodhs.co.uk



VERWOOD & DISTRICT RAMBLING CLUB

We are a friendly and active walking group who organise three walks each week: On Tuesdays a three 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 Martyn Kemp on **01202 826403**.

VERWOOD EVENING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD

A small friendly group which meet on the second Thursday of each month at the Methodist Church Hall at 7.30pm and are always looking for new members or visitors. They have a varied programme and if anyone would like more information or to come along please contact: Carol Weaver Tel: **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're new to the area or just have some time, come along and meet some new friends. Contact Annette Williams – **01202 825165**.

VERWOOD FLOWER CLUB

The club meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in the Verwood Memorial Hall. Visitors and new members are very welcome.

At regular monthly meetings both area and national demonstrations are given

on technique, use of flowers, foliage and mechanics.

Workshops are held and classes organised in floral design which range from beginners basics to more advanced topics.

In addition they have other social events that may be convened at other venues. For more information please contact our Chairman, Mrs. Doreen Norton

Email: doreennorton@yahoo.co.uk

VERWOOD FRIENDS OF THE BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Through the winter/spring concert season of the BSO – October to May – monthly visits are arranged for Wednesday evening concerts at The Lighthouse, Poole. Five pick-up points around Verwood start at the Potters Wheel car park, one in Three Legged Cross and two in West Moors. The group is non profit-making and charges cover the concert tickets and the coach.

The group is very friendly and the visits are ideal for couples, friends and people on their own. The programme of visits is available in May each year. Further information and/or to receive a programme please contact:

Mr David Caals Tel: **01202 814743**

VERWOOD FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Club meets the first Thursday afternoon of each month 2-4pm, at Meadow Court and provides a lively afternoon's entertainment and refreshment. The Club is open to all elderly members of the community, so come along and see for yourself. During the summer months they provide additional outings to local places of interest. Transport to and from the meetings can be provided if you cannot make your own way there.

Contact: Anne and Neil Best Tel: **01202 814059** or **07957162511** or **07951921703**

VERWOOD GOOD NEIGHBOURS

If you are over 50 and without transport of your own; if you have difficulty getting to the Surgery, Dentist or Hospital; if you need help with shopping or getting to social events, Verwood Good Neighbours can help. Clients will be asked for a small donation to be provided in a small envelope by cash or cheque payable to V.A.G.N. Their drivers are CRB checked and can only handle the donation envelopes; not cash or cheques.

Their help line **07593 373580** is manned from 10am to midday, Monday to Friday and a message can be left on it 24 hrs a day.

Alternatively, you can call Eddie on **01202 826764** for more information, or perhaps even volunteer to help us. If you are fortunate enough not to need their assistance, but have a relative, a friend or a neighbour who could benefit, please pass this information on to them.

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 then 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 info:

www.verwoodpantomimesociety.co.uk

or call Sue Gardiner **01202 825731**

VERWOOD PROBUS CLUB

Verwood Probus Club is the local branch of a national organisation for retired and semi-retired professional and business men. We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Crane Valley Golf Club for lunch, followed by a guest speaker, as well as organising other social events. For more information please contact the Secretary, Stephen Bennett on **07785 336262** or visit the website www.probusverwood.org.uk

VERWOOD STROKE CLUB

Are you a stroke survivor? Or do you care for a husband, wife, relative, friend or neighbour? If so would you like to join our group?

We are a most friendly and sociable club welcoming stroke victims, carers and helpers who wish to enhance the quality of their lives through social contact and support. We meet at the Evangelical Church, Three Legged Cross from 10am to 12 noon every last Wednesday of the month.

For further information please contact

Brenda Charman Tel: **01202 824654**

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 year per family. 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 TRAD JAZZ CLUB

The Trad Jazz is held at the Ringwood Conservative Club on the third Thursday of each month. Admission is £10 for supporters and £11 for visitors. Doors open at 6.30pm, music from 7.30pm to 10pm. Good bar meals are available, licensed bar and dance floor. No membership required. For more details phone Geoff Rooke **01202 822038** or **07798 721405**



VERWOOD TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP

Come and enjoy a social afternoon. We meet according to programme for interesting talks, demonstrations etc. Further information from: Mrs. Anne Hughes, Secretary Tel: **01202 823327**
Mrs. Valerie Smith, President Tel: **01202 823993**

VERWOOD U3A

Verwood U3A is the local branch of the National University of the Third Age. For an active retirement join our many learning, leisure and social activities. Run by members, for members. No exams, no tests, open to all regardless of background, experience and education. See www.verwoodu3a.org.uk or ring David Allen on **01202 823541**



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VERWOOD & THREE LEGGED CROSS



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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 829222**

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

Twitter: [@VerwoodCC](https://twitter.com/VerwoodCC)

Web: www.verwoodcricketclub.co.uk

FOOTBALL

Verwood Town Football Club

Verwood Football Club is based at Potterne Park in Verwood and has two teams. The 1st team play in the Sydenham Wessex League Division 1- home matches are played at

Potterne Park at 3pm on Saturdays and the Ladies team play in the Dorset women's League – kick off at 2pm @ Cranborne FC ground. 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

Rosgarth 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. CRB 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

Play every Monday at Emmanuel Middle School from 7.30pm to 9pm. All are welcome no matter what the ability, so please come along or contact us on **07912 444099**. The Club also run Tuesday night Ladies Back to Netball sessions 8-9pm indoors in the sports hall at EMS. £5 a session, all welcome. Just turn up, pay and play. Verwood town Junior Netball club meet on Saturday mornings 9.30-11am on the courts at Emmanuel Middle school. Suitable for school years 4-9, any ability welcome. Please contact Viv on **07939 477444**

SWIMMING

Wimborne Wagtails

Swimming For the Disabled

Meet at the Queen Elizabeth Leisure Centre, Wimborne on Saturdays. Swimming session is from 11.15am to 12.30am. Swimming and swim therapy for the disabled, all ages and disabilities. Active social events are arranged. Contact: Alex Tuckey **07425 146716**.

THREE LEGGED CROSS

VILLAGE HALL

Various activities take place at the Hall which include: Art classes, Short Mat Bowls, Dog training groups, Embroidery classes, Karate classes, Line Dancing, Yoga and Zumba classes. They also cater for adult and children's parties. Contact details for any of the above activities: Mr. Turnham Tel: **01202 823440**.

VERWOOD MEMORIAL HALL

Various activities take place in the Hall which include mother and toddler groups, pilates, slimming groups, dance groups and a Friday Market is held each week. Contact details – **01202 828943** or the website: www.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. 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, a shop and exhibition 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. The Rangers organise a huge range of events throughout the year; from pond dipping and fishing to survival days for children and a full programme of Ranger and volunteer led 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 Park Rangers' office: Moors Valley Country Park, Horton Road, Ashley Heath, Nr. Ringwood, Dorset. BH24 2ET Tel: **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

Open for coffee/tea/cake, 9.30am-12.30pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to midday on Saturday. For sale at the Centre are Verwood tea towels, aprons and The History of Verwood book. Changing exhibitions in the mini-museum – entry free but children must be accompanied. For art/craft events and classes please ask at the Centre.

Contact Fran Mollard Tel: **07749 314443**

VERWOOD HUB COMMUNITY AND LEISURE

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 gym 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 housing 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



Brock Way, Verwood
Dorset, BH31 7QE

EVENTS

Cinema, Music & Shows

Here at the Hub, we are always bringing you the latest events and blockbuster films! From sport icons to comedy geniuses and from the best Disney has to offer to the greatest local talent, we can cater for all! Why not enjoy our fully licensed cafe and bar to compliment your evening out perfectly too.



LEISURE

Gym & Classes

With state of the art Technogym equipment, a brand new functional training zone and a large free weights section, our gym is the perfect place to get your fitness fix!

We also have a fantastic selection of fitness classes for all abilities and all interests! Ranging from yoga to spin and pilates to bootcamp, come and see what we can offer!



Regular Events

ROTARY RUSTIC FAYRE

Want to join in on Verwood's favourite day out? Then come along to Potterne Park where you can meet old, and make new friends, in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere. There's a huge display of classic vehicles, car-boot, arena events, stalls, music, and of course, many food and drink options. All this with a purpose, over the years' in excess of £100,000 has been raised for local good causes! Throughout August look out for the free programme which will be in the library, shops, and pubs, all around the area.

The "Rustic" is held every August Bank Holiday Monday; for the latest news, or to support the event in anyway, check-out the website verwoodrotary.org.uk or contact "Rusty" Vern, Chairman. Tel: **01202 824005**.

We look forward to seeing you there!

VERWOOD CARNIVAL

The Carnival is held on the 2nd Bank Holiday in May at the Fuzzy Bit off Crane Drive. Proceeds go to Verwood Charities. Chairman : Shelley Rose Tel: **07855 201532**

VERWOOD CHRISTMAS EXTRAVAGANZA

This event is held on a Saturday before Christmas. It is run by the Town Council, Flameburst, Heathland Heritage Centre,

Verwood Carnival Committee, Verwood Rotary Club and other local organisations. Father Christmas can be seen in his grotto which is provided by Verwood Rotary Club and there is Christmas music, rides for the smallest children, refreshment stalls and other stalls.

VERWOOD FLAMEBURST

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

VERWOOD FRIDAY MARKET

Open 9.30am – 1pm every Friday in the Memorial Hall.

A friendly indoor market comprising only of non-commercial stalls selling handmade gifts and crafts, bakery and produce plus refreshments. A great place to shop for locally grown, made or produced crafts and gifts. Afterwards sit having a chat over a lovely steaming cup of tea/coffee. Free parking and admission. Enquiries contact Derek Taylor Tel: **07746 752238**

Halls for Hire

Band Hall

Sue Ward Tel: **01202 827270**

Helix 17 Moorlands Road

Email: info@helixhallandroomhire.co.uk

Methodist Church Rooms, Vicarage Road

Stephen Mayocock Tel: **01202 813470**

St. Michael & All Angels Parish Rooms

Tel: **01202 813256**

Three Legged Cross Village Hall

Mr. Turnham Tel: **01202 823440**



United Reformed Church Hall, Manor Road

Gill Coates Tel: **01202 828334**

Verwood Memorial Hall adjacent Recreation Ground (answerphone)

Tel: **01202 828943**

Sports & Social Club

Tel: **01202 825521**

Woodlands Village Hall, Woodlands

Winnie Stevens Tel: **01202 813763**

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F. DOWLAND, VERWOOD P.O.

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 all denominations 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.

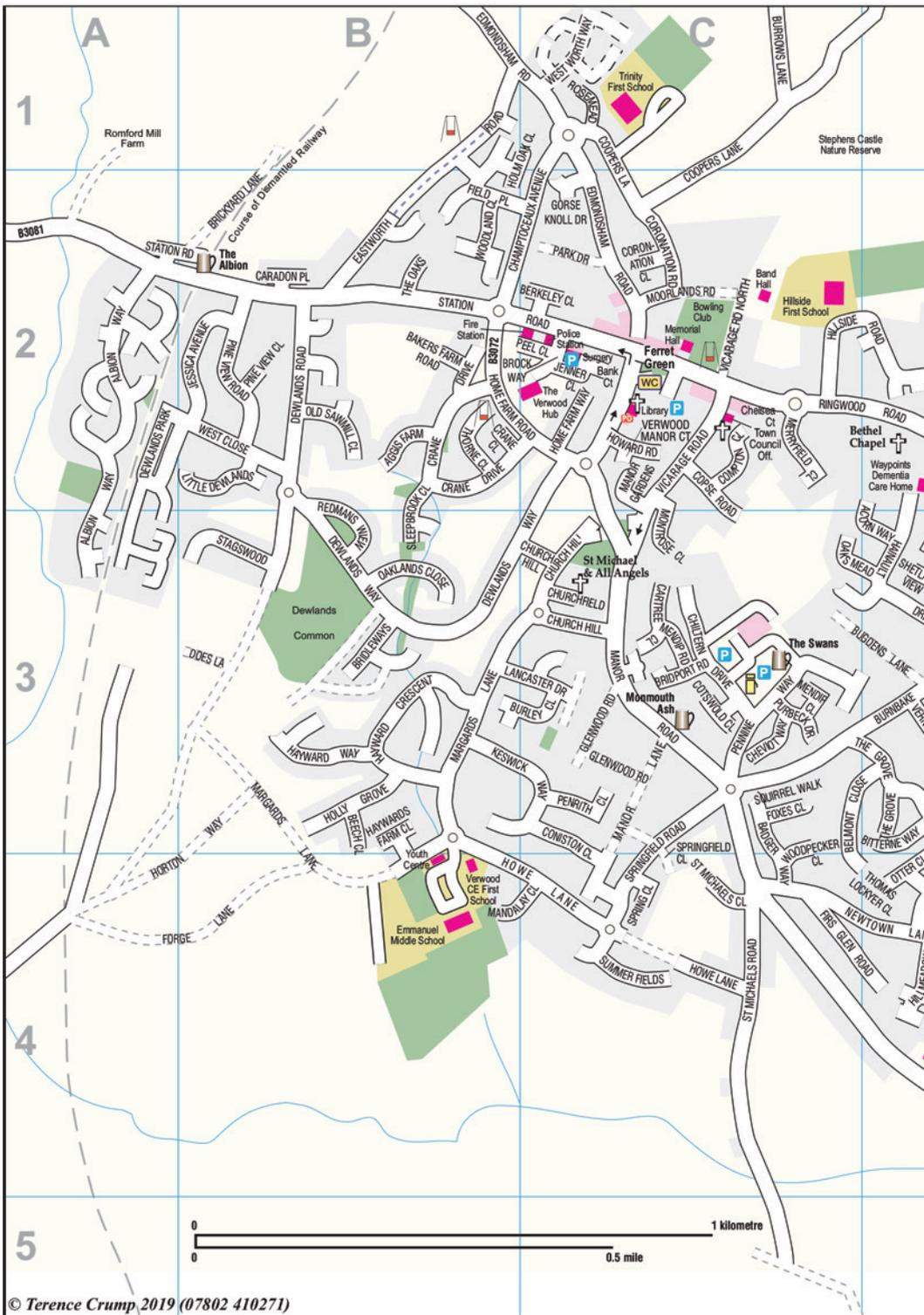
Since Verwood's designation as a

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)



D

E

F



Nature Reserve

Pitches

Potterne Park

Courts Pavilion

Potterne Wood

The Foreste Centre

Verwood Cemetery

EBBLAKE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

ROSSGARTH PL

HEATHER GARARDS

RINGWOOD RD

PHILAND CL

ROAD

BLACK MOOR ROAD

COPSEY CL

BS901

POTTERNE WAY

BR072

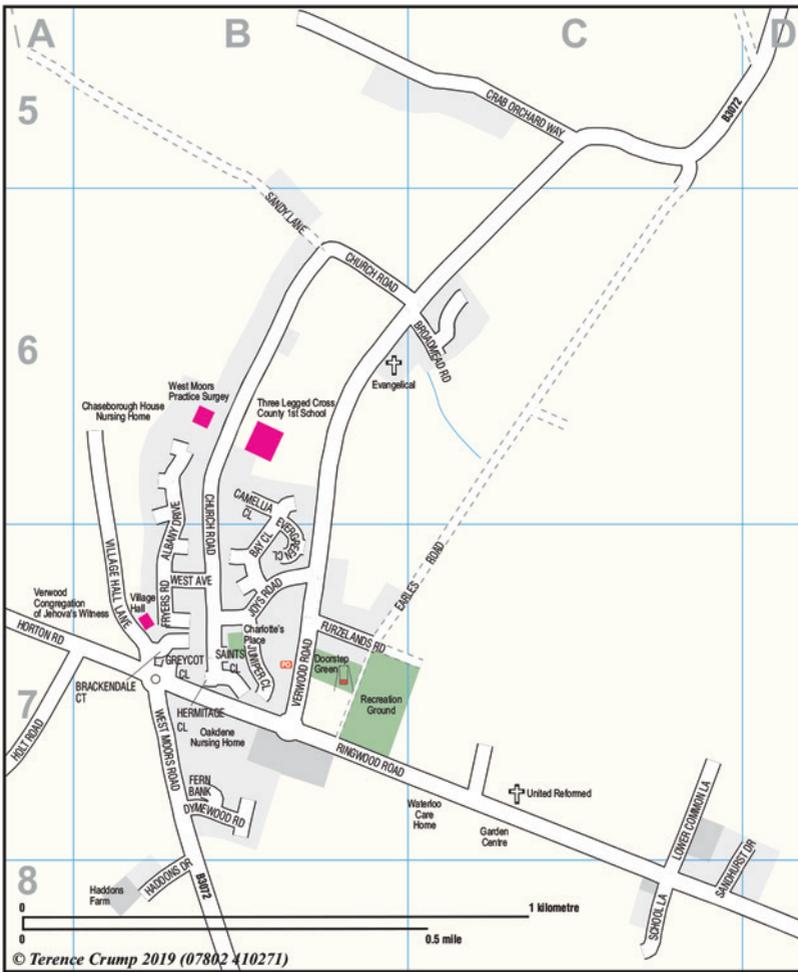
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