

## AN EXCITING NEW CHOIR BEGINS IN VERWOOD

**Just Sing Choir, based in Wimborne, has been running for 5 years and now boasts over 120 members.**

Founder Kelly Perry has now begun a new section of choirs called **Just Sing for All**, the first of which being a choir for adults with a learning disability. Kelly is passionate that everyone is able to access and enjoy the community of a choir as well as the physical and mental wellbeing that singing brings. Becky Hamilton, founder of Windward Day Services, is very happy to support this fantastic and unique choir within their setting.

The choir will run in Verwood on a Tuesday morning between 10.30am & 12pm at the newly opened Helix day services.

Open to anyone over 16 with a learning disability, email Kelly at [justsingforall@gmail.com](mailto:justsingforall@gmail.com) for further information.



## ALL CHANGE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN DORSET

**On Thursday the 2nd May electors will go to the polls to elect councillors for the new Unitary Council called the Dorset Council. This new council will be responsible for all of the services previously delivered by either East Dorset District Council or Dorset County Council.**

All of the District Councils in Dorset and the Dorset County Council will be abolished on the 31 March 2019. From the 1 April leading up to the elections two new unitary councils will come into being. The Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council [BCP] and the Dorset Council, which will be the unitary council serving the residents of Verwood.

Previously Verwood had four District Councillors and two County Councillors serving the Town along with the Town Council. From May 2019 Verwood will have three Dorset Council Councillors in one ward covering the whole town. The Three Legged Cross part of the parish has been included in a two member ward along with West Moors.

Across the whole of the Dorset Council area [excluding BCP] the number of councillors will be reduced from 206 to 82, a reduction of 60%.

The initial convergence of the six councils into one council will create annual revenue savings of about £14.0 million pounds year on year, with further significant efficiencies coming in the short to medium term from the redesign and economies of scale from a programme of transformation across all services.

The aim of councillors and officers across Dorset is to bring about change in such a way that vital front-line services are protected and that during the period immediately following the creation of the new councils, the public will see little or no changes to key services.

The role of the Verwood Town Council will remain very much unchanged although there will be the opportunity for new ways of working with the new Dorset Council in future years.

**Cllr. Spencer Flower**

### Verwood Solar Farm Fund



## VERWOOD SOLAR FARM

Prior to the next meeting of the Solar Farm Committee, an AGM will be held and anyone interested in learning about the Committee and the benefits the community has received, is welcome to attend. Date, time and venue to be arranged, contact the Town Council Office for information.

Following the AGM, Committee members will then meet to discuss any grant applications received. Anyone wishing to join the Committee should submit a C.V. to the Town Council Office for the attention of the Chairman, Solar Farm Committee prior to the AGM.

Grant applications need to be received by the end of April - application forms on-line via the Town Council website under Verwood Solar Farm; applications can then be submitted by email. Alternatively, a printed version can be obtained from the Town Council Office.

## GRANT AID 2019/20

**Verwood Town Council is now accepting applications for Grant Aid. Grants are awarded twice a year to local organisations in April and October and the deadlines for applications are 1st March and 1st September.**

**The purpose of any grant given by the Town Council is to support initiatives in the local community and to help create opportunities for the residents of the Parish of Verwood and Three Legged Cross. Applications will be considered for day-to-day running expenses or for a specific purpose.**

**Any organisation who would like to apply for Grant Aid should contact Verwood Town Council.**

Email: [verwoodtc@btconnect.com](mailto:verwoodtc@btconnect.com)

Phone: 01202 820880

## HELP TO KEEP VERWOOD TIDY

**Have you been annoyed by litter left lying around the town? Would you be prepared to help keep Verwood tidy? If the answer is yes then please come and join other volunteers at the monthly community litter picks.**

We will be meeting on the final Saturday of each month at 10.00am outside the entrance to the Verwood Recreation Ground. All of the equipment that you need is provided and people of all ages are welcome.

The litter picks last about an hour and has already made a big difference. Much of the litter that is collected is recycled. If you would like any further information please email [cll.r.gibson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cll.r.gibson@hotmail.co.uk)

The next litter picks are on the following dates: **23rd February, 30th March, 27th April & 25th May.** I hope to see you there! - **Cllr. Simon Gibson**



## 'VERWOOD IN TUNE' CONCERTS NOW IN THE AFTERNOONS!

**Professional keyboard players will entertain at The Hub on the last**

Wednesday of each month at 2pm from February to November. Easy-listening live music with screen showing the hands on the keyboards and the tiered theatre seating means the feet dancing on the pedals can be seen too!

Electronic keyboards can produce a wide variety of sounds from voices to orchestras to individual instruments and will be played in many different styles during the concert. There are facilities for wheelchairs.

Tickets are £8 and can be purchased in advance from The Hub on 01202 828740.



## VERWOOD OUTDOOR BOWLING CLUB

The Verwood Outdoor Bowling Club starts its playing season on Saturday, 13th April and application forms for experienced players are available now from the website

[www.verwoodbowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.verwoodbowlingclub.co.uk) or contact the Secretary, Roger Bassett on **01202 376296**, email [rbc.dcc.123@gmail.com](mailto:rbc.dcc.123@gmail.com)

For those wanting to try the game of bowls, there will be Open Days on the following Saturdays, 27th April, and 4th & 11th May, 10am to 12 noon, and your interest may be registered with Vanessa Curtis on **01202 814355** or by email [vecurtis@gmail.com](mailto:vecurtis@gmail.com)

New members joining after the Open Days are eligible for a reduced fee of £60. The Club is tucked away behind the Memorial Recreation Ground in Moorlands Road and encourages social and league play as well as other social activities.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### COUNCIL MEETINGS Verwood Town Council Offices

Tuesday 26th February 2019

Tuesday 23rd April 2019

Monday 13th May 2019  
(Mayor Making)

Tuesday 14th May 2019

### Three Legged Cross Village Hall

Wednesday 27th March 2019



**Happy New Year to all the Residents of Three Legged Cross from the Committee of 3LX Community Fund**

Homeland Solar Farm has provided a fund for our community since 2014. We, as a committee, have used these funds, from your grant applications to support a number of worthy projects.

Please do have a look on our Facebook page to see what has been achieved.

Could you or your group do something that would improve the environment or facilities of Our village? Or just bring the community together.

If so, apply using our application form, which can be found by following the link on our Facebook page:

**3LX Community Fun**, requesting by email: [tlxsolarfund@hotmail.com](mailto:tlxsolarfund@hotmail.com) or telephone **07818 855806**



**YOUR TOWN COUNCIL****Dewlands North Ward**

Vacant

**Dewlands South Ward****Cllr. C.J. Archibold**

07515 021504

**Cllr. Mrs. L. J. Clark**

01202 822275

**Cllr. Mrs. T. B. Coombs**

01202 827376

**Cllr. S. G. Flower**

01202 821231

**Cllr. Mrs. S. Grove** (Mayor)

01202 826449

**Cllr. S. Hazel**

01202 827010

**Cllr. P. Mann**

01202 820866

**Cllr. Miss K. L. Stephens**

01202 940456

**Stephens Castle Ward****Cllr. A. Biggs**

01202 821186

**Cllr. Mrs. L. Dedden**

01202 824473

**Cllr. S. Gibson**

01202 820822

**Cllr. Mrs. P. Morrow**

01202 814733

**Cllr. M. Parker**

0770 3342 039

**Cllr. Mrs. S. Shaw** (Deputy Mayor)

01202 813526

**Cllr. Mrs. N. Thompson**

01202 828369

**Three Legged Cross****Cllr. M. Hudson**

01202 974654

**Cllr. Ms. J. Russell**

01202 822236

**SENIOR DINING AND FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

**Our Club was formed in 2010 for those people in Verwood who were over 50 and were living a lonely existence, having lost their partners, looking for friendship and a group to dine with.**

Membership now is roughly 26, consisting of male and female members over 50 years with an annual membership cost of £5.00.

Most members live in Verwood, West Moors, Ferndown and Ringwood and they meet at restaurants and public houses to dine together, twice a month.

A list of six month venues is given so members can choose which they prefer. Usually 16 members attend their twice monthly dinners which are appreciated by all. Friends are made and conversation flows. Lonely meals are a thing of the past.

**Why not join them?**

Ring Maureen **01202 824383** or Email: [dawniejones70@gmail.com](mailto:dawniejones70@gmail.com)

**VERWOOD UNIVERSITY OF THE THIRD AGE**

Verwood U3A, or University of the Third Age, have 269 members, who regularly attend 25 group activities covering such things as Art, Bridge, Current Affairs, Table Tennis, Knit & Natter, Digital Photography, Poetry and Spanish.

We have 29 committee members and activity leaders with new things starting most years. There are no entry qualifications, except, as indicated by our "Third Age" name, that members should no longer be in full time employment!

To join or get more information, go to; [www.verwoodu3a.org.uk](http://www.verwoodu3a.org.uk) phone **01202 823541**, or pick up a leaflet in the Library or Council Offices.

**LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2nd MAY 2019**

**Why not be a voice for your community and stand as a Town Councillor in the local elections being held on Thursday 2nd May 2019.**

The Town Council will be holding an information stand at Morrisons Supermarket on Saturday 8th March 2019 in the afternoon and evening where residents can speak to Councillors to find out what it means to become a Town Councillor and how to apply.

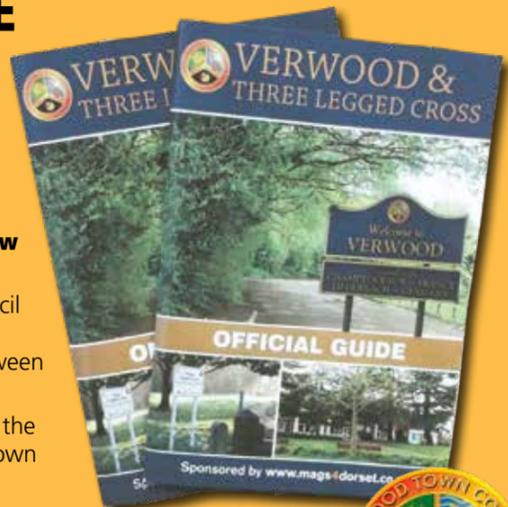
**VERWOOD & THREE LEGGED CROSS OFFICIAL GUIDE**

Between May and June 2019 the Town Council will be putting together a new Verwood & Three Legged Cross Official Town Guide for distribution from July.

**Do you want your club/organisation to appear in the new Guide?**

If so please contact the Town Council on **01202 820880** or email; [verwoodtc@btconnect.com](mailto:verwoodtc@btconnect.com) between those dates?

Or if your organisation is already in the present Guide please contact the Town Council to update your details.



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

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

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**I would like first of all to wish you all a very happy and healthy New Year. Since my last report Clive and I have had a wonderful three months visiting local communities and our towns within Dorset.**

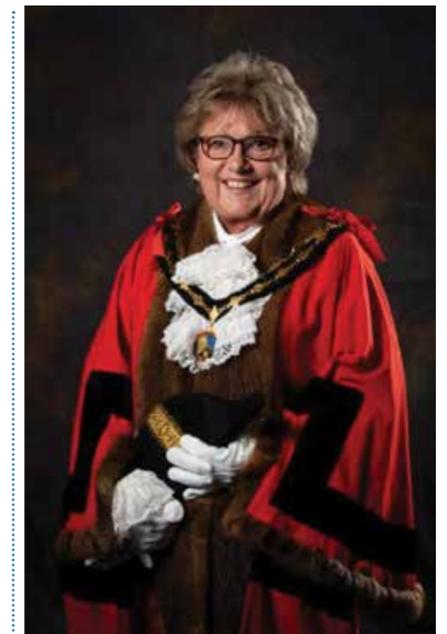
We have visited the Memorial Hall and seen the renovations which have made such a difference to the upkeep of this special hall. The Salvation Army Band concert is always a special event and Gia and Eka make everyone so welcome. The Arts and Crafts Exhibition is not to be missed along with the Horticultural Show, the biggest ever this year. We had the privilege of visiting Aurora Boveridge College to their commemoration service for the WW1 anniversary. This college has only been open a short while and provides education to special needs youths.

Our own 100th Celebrations were really special and I feel very privileged to have been part of such an event. I would like to thank all the people who knitted poppies along with all the other organisations, shops etc. who helped to make the day so special. After our special celebrations we were invited to the Lighthouse for a wonderful performance by the Symphony Orchestra of Always Remembered, then back to our own special Hub for a very poignant and graphic film called Journeys End, which really portrayed the horror of war. The Fireside Theatre presented 'Peace in our Time' to commemorate the 100 years and had really researched individuals which gave a totally different perspective.

My Evening of Song charity event turned out to be a really enjoyable evening and a huge thank you to my team of ladies and their partners who work so hard to make it so. We have attended school walking Zone projects, have been present at Scouting presentations with the scouting movement growing stronger and stronger within Dorset, attended the students awards presentations at Queen Elizabeth's School, listened to the Verwood Choral Society, The Fayrewood Singers and the Verwood Community Choir all of which have given us wonderful evenings of entertainment especially at Christmas.

The Mayoral Civic Day went really well with many Mayors from within Dorset attending, along with many local organisations. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Linda Munn for making the experience at the Verwood Heathland Heritage Centre so special. This event is to promote our Town of Verwood. Unfortunately, our own Christmas Extravaganza this year was a complete wash out due to the horrible weather. So much hard work and thought goes into this event and I would like to thank Verwood Brass Band and especially the Choral Society who continued singing throughout the rain and wind. We were invited to the Sweet Charity Choir concert who have been approached to sing at Carnegie Hall in America, and attended our own Verwood Concert Brass Band Christmas concert which is always so special.

At Christmas I approached the schools and asked if the children could design a Christmas card for me. The card I chose was of a Reindeer flying, designed by Jessica Johnson from Hillside First School. I would like to thank all the children who took part. I also approached the Day Care Centre to ask if they could design a bauble or Christmas memento for me. This was so hard to judge but a number of the clients had made a Christmas card out of chip board which stood approx. 3ft tall with a fireplace stockings etc. it was superb and was on show in the Council Offices over Christmas. A huge thank you to all who took part and to Sue and her team who made it possible. The Christmas concerts at Hillside and Trinity First Schools this year were beautiful, all so different and all so special. We were also invited to the Lions Club Christmas parcel delivery. Each year people are put forward from organisations and doctors to receive a Christmas parcel with seasonal food. This is a really special event with the Lions paying for all of the goods and delivering them personally.



These are some of the many special events Clive and I have attended within Verwood.

We have also had the privilege of attending many events throughout East Dorset. We have visited Christchurch and heard about the Battle Of Mundeford. Seen Athelhampton House which is a grade 1 listed building and visited Langham a wonderful local winery. Visited Portland Museum and seen a young man making a success of producing sea salt which was once a thriving business on Portland and which he is now bringing back to life. Seen the renovation of alms houses and old cinemas and visited The Leonardo Helicopter Company and had the wonderful privilege of being present as the Rifles were given the Freedom of the Town of Sherborne. These are some of our wonderful memories.

I am so sorry to finish my report on a sad note, but Verwood lost one of their Honorary Freeman last year, Pam Reeks. She was a very special person and a prominent figure in Verwood, always there with a helping hand, she will be sorely missed.

