

**CIVIC REPORT**

**Councillor Roger Carter – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2018**

DATE	FUNCTION	COMMENTS
30 <sup>th</sup> November	Rotary Short Story Competition	It was a pleasure to support this event. Various entries in the categories, saw a range of talented writers from 9 years old to over 60. All of the winners were worthy.
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Mayor of Verwood Christmas Reception	After a brief tour of the Verwood heritage centre (the village was a centre for pottery and brick making), we were invited to a Christmas feast, that also honoured all the local people involved in Verwood charities. During the meal, local entertainers of all ages appeared on the stage.
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Mayor of Ferndown Civic Christmas Carol Service	A simple but profound service using some film about the Mayor's overseas charities, with Ferndown Upper school students singing and playing
7 <sup>th</sup> December	50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Ted and Angela Aston	Both Mr and Mrs Aston were delighted to receive their card and flowers. It was a pleasure to recognise this special anniversary for two stalwarts of the Blandford community.
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Portland Town Council Christmas Carol Service	In Easton Methodist Church, the service involved glove puppets 'singing' and helping one of the pastors to 'decorate' a Christmas tree. Film was also used to underline the message that if all the gaudy trimmings, presents, decorations and Christmas music/adverts were taken away, it would still be Christmas. The message was also reinforced with singing from local Brownies and The Atlantic Academy school.
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Richard Ely Trust Soiree	A real pleasure to support this trust (now running for 10 years) which seeks to promote and help young local musicians. All the young people were aged between 11 and 18 and all were talented in their musical field. Two of the performers were from the Blandford school.
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Yuletide Festival	A wonderful, well organised evening where the cold wind did not stop everyone from having a very good time. At one point there must have been at least 2000 people singing carols. We were also able to present some of the certificates and prizes to shop owners who had won or had been placed in the Christmas window competition. All were pleased with the recognition.
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Blandford Christmas Tree Festival	Avoiding the popular choice winners (both were fabulously decorated) the Mayor's Scout and I eventually chose the Panda play group's entry because of its reflection of the theme at the young children's level. It was gratifying to see the large number of entries making the Church look wonderful and very 'Christmassy'.
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Blandford Methodist Church Lunch Club – Christmas Lunch	This lunch is the end of year culmination of the Methodist lunch club that runs twice a week and provides a place where people can meet and chat and enjoy themselves. An honour to attend and give recognition to this wonderful community work. I believe there were 80+ people there to eat the delicious traditional Christmas lunch.

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14 <sup>th</sup> December	St John Ambulance Badger Sett Presentation	Maureen Pashen started the Blandford Badgers when Badgers began – 30 years ago. Although the organisation has changed over the years it still provides young people, between the ages of 6 – 11 with important life skills of care, tolerance, resilience and creativity not to mention the life saving skills they also learn. The children are confident and articulate. I was delighted to be invited to this and help to present certificates and badges.
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**Meetings Attended by the Chairman of Council**

None