

ROUNABOUT VERWOOD

PAST and PRESENT

Verwood Carnival



Verwood carnival was started in 1929 by the then Vicar's wife, Mrs Jeayes and a group of friends, to replace the annual fair held on Church Hill which had lapsed after 1925. Rev. Wilfrid Arthur Jeayes was the incumbent from 1927 until his early death in 1934 at the age of 45 after an operation in London that tragically went wrong.

The Carnival was suspended during the war years but reinstated in 1946 and continues as an annual event on the late May Bank Holiday Monday.

The photo above taken in 1946 shows the Royal float heading the first Post-World War Two Carnival procession along Ringwood Road. The Carnival Queen was Daphne Sims with attendants Brenda Shearing and Doris Mills facing backwards. Facing forwards are Peggy Reeks on the left and Jean Penny on the right with Ernie Young driving.



May 2017

Amazingly in 2017 and 71 years later nothing much had changed! The Royal float could even have been pulled by the same beautifully preserved tractor and trailer!