Bob was born in Poole, where all his immediate relatives still reside. He attended Oakdale Junior School and then Poole Grammar School moving on to Poole Technical College for the then "A" Levels. Bob subsequently attended Southampton University studying Philosophy and then Bristol Polytechnic - now University of the South West to gain a Degree in Town Planning. Over the years, Bob has worked for various councils. His planning work has covered Development Management as well as Forward Planning and included a period as an Enterprise Zone Manager and as a Representative on the restoration of the Chesterfield Canal. Now retired Bob's main interests are in history, particularly local history and Archaeology, and he volunteers at Wareham Museum. Other interests are travel, geopolitics, all things "Dorset", music and cooking. Bob, and Sue his wife (a Wareham Volunteer of the Year) have an allotment at Bestwall and have been on the Committee of Wareham Carnival for many years, as well as helping out in many events and societies in Wareham for the past 15 years.