

**BRACKNELL TOWN COUNCIL**

# Bracknell Matters

**AUGUST 2015**

*In this issue...*

**Exciting improvements to our parks – see pages 4 & 12**



**Fun for  
all the  
family  
see  
page 11**



**New pavilion at Great Hollands  
see page 4**

**Bracknell in Bloom and Bracknell Your Gardens – see pages 10 & 13**



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Brooke House,  
54 High Street,  
Bracknell RG12 1LL  
Tel: 01344 420079  
Fax: 01344 424015**

Web: [www.bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk)  
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When I grow  
up I want to  
be a Chef!

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Bracknell Town Mayor, Cllr Mark Phillips, and Bracknell Town Mayoress, Catherine Phillips, with Julie Pizzey and Jackie Bailey from Home-Start, raising funds for the charity at the Teddy Bears' Picnic.

## TOWN Mayor

Each May at the Annual Bracknell Town Meeting, the Town Council elects a Mayor. The Town Mayor represents the town at various events throughout the year and raises money for charity. This year's Town Mayor is Cllr Mark Phillips. Cllr Ash Merry is the Deputy Town Mayor.

During his Mayoral year, Cllr Phillips aims to raise funds for Home-Start in Bracknell Forest. This organisation offers free, confidential support, friendship and practical help to parents in the area. Home-Start train volunteers to support families that are finding it difficult to cope with issues such as post-natal depression, their own or their child's illness or disability, isolation or multiple births.

Carefully selected volunteers, who have parenting experience themselves, are assigned to families that need support. Volunteers regularly visit the families they are supporting at home, offering emotional and practical support through difficult times for as long as it is helpful or needed. This friendly parent-to-parent support is a simple yet effective way of enabling families to get back on track.

If you would like to make a donation to the Town Mayor's charity, please bring cash or a cheque to Bracknell Town Council's office, the address is on the front cover of this magazine. Cheques should be made payable to "Mayor's Fund".

If you would like to invite the Town Mayor to an engagement you are organising, please ring Bracknell Town Council on 01344 420079 for further information. Please note, you should submit your request at least two weeks before your event as the Town Mayor may not be able to accept late requests.

## BRACKNELL'S NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

A Bracknell Neighbourhood Plan will be able to influence development in the town and will help ensure that the right infrastructure is put in place for the future, within the framework of the Bracknell Forest produced Local Plan and policies. It could really help protect and develop facilities we value.

We would welcome your thoughts on the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, in particular where:

- additional and different types of housing should be provided
- green spaces need particular investment
- better bus or cycle routes are needed
- neighbourhood centres need improvement
- car parking spaces are insufficient
- storage space in houses is lacking/ garages too small
- more allotments are required

Please do this by emailing, phoning or writing to us – contact details on the cover of this magazine. Thank you.

## New Website COMING SOON

In October we will be launching a new look website. It will be easier to use and link better to our existing Facebook and Twitter accounts. The new website is being developed by Creotec, a local website design and internet services provider. The website address is not going to change and will remain as [www.bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk).



# New Splash Pad and Tennis Court improvements at Jocks Lane Park

Construction of the new splash pad was completed in June. It features water jets, two shallow splash areas, and water recycling. Colourful seating and patio umbrellas have been placed around the splash area, making it a great place to bring small children on a warm day.

Work has now started on refurbishing the Jocks Lane tennis courts. This involves installing new floodlights, re-surfacing the courts and introducing a payment/token system. This work should be complete by the Autumn.



## GREAT HOLLANDS PAVILION –

# Your IDEAS & Suggestions PLEASE!

The Pavilion at Great Hollands Recreation Ground, South Road, is no longer adequate so the Town Council is looking to replace it. The Council has commissioned a feasibility study to suggest options for the new design. It is planned that the new pavilion will have modern facilities including a function room and an improved café.

A consultation is now going to take place over the next few weeks. We will be speaking to residents, clubs and societies that currently use, or could potentially use the pavilion about what they think of the building ideas. They will also be able to comment on the suggestions for the layout of the surrounding recreational spaces.

Once the consultation responses are analysed, we will then decide on the actual specification for the new building, before planning approval is obtained and eventually construction of the new building starts.



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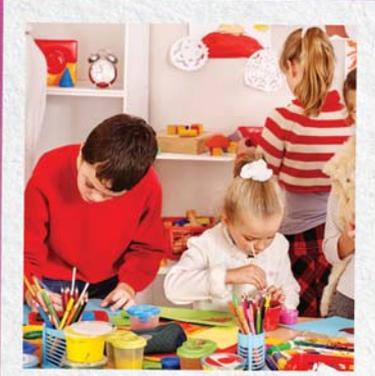
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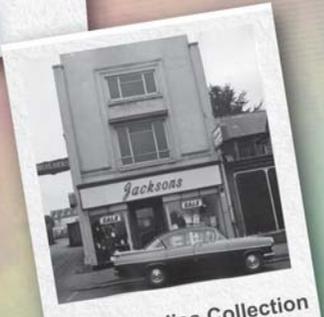
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# IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

**Children's craft club**

**Reference enquiry service**

**Local Studies Collection**



**Family history drop-in sessions**

**Bracknell Library remains open during the Town Centre Regeneration**

Learn new skills and get involved in social events and exciting group activities at any of our 9 branches.



Play Area at Jocks Lane Park



North Lake, South Hill Park

## Green Flag AWARDS

Two parks managed by Bracknell Town Council have been rated as some of the very best in the UK by being awarded a prestigious Green Flag Award.

The Green Flag Award scheme is the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces in the UK. A Green Flag flying overhead is a sign to visitors that the recreational area boasts the highest possible standards, is beautifully maintained and has excellent facilities. Jocks Lane Park and South Hill Park were among a record-breaking 1,582 recreational areas receiving the national award handed out by Keep Britain Tidy.

Councillor Clive Harrison, Chairman of the Bracknell Town Council's

Environmental Services Committee said: "It's wonderful that Jocks Lane Park and South Hill Park have retained their Green Flags. Both parks have a huge impact on the local community and visitors from further afield, who find them great places to relax and enjoy the extensive recreational facilities."

Cllr Harrison added: "I would like to thank all the staff and groups that have worked so hard to ensure these parks are of the highest quality. Taking part in the Green Flag Award scheme helps us raise standards even further."

South Hill Park is managed in partnership between Bracknell Forest Council and Bracknell Town Council.

## COMMUNITY GRANTS

The Town Council has two community grant schemes designed to assist local organisations involved in delivering valued services to the Bracknell community.

### ANNUAL GRANTS

Bracknell organisations can apply for a grant under this scheme to cover capital or revenue costs and is the usual way to apply for a Town Council Community Grant. In the application, organisations must clearly identify what the grant will be used for and must be able to demonstrate sound financial management. To apply for an Annual Grant, an Annual Grant Application Form must be completed and submitted no later than 1st October each year. The Council then considers all the applications that have been received. Organisations which are successful are presented with their cheques at the Annual Town Meeting the following May.

### SMALL GRANTS

Small Grants are available throughout the year and are designed to provide immediate financial assistance to local organisations with an emergency and exceptional funding need. To apply for a Small Grant, a Small Grant Application Form needs to be completed and submitted for consideration.

For more information about either of these community grant schemes or to download an application form, please visit our website or give us a ring (contact details on the front cover of this magazine).

## GARDEN

### Waste Sacks

Doing a bit of gardening and don't have a brown bin for the garden waste?

Bracknell Forest Council's biodegradable garden waste sacks can be bought from Bracknell Town Council's office on the first floor of Brooke House (see the front cover of this magazine for the full address). Sacks cost 50p each and a maximum of ten sacks can be purchased at a time.

Bracknell Forest Council only collects garden waste if it is in one of these sacks or in a brown bin. For more information about Bracknell Forest Council's garden waste collection service, please visit their website: <http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk>, or phone Bracknell Forest Council Customer Services on 01344 352000.



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## Bracknell Leisure Centre

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Email: [blc.enquiries@bracknell-forest.gov.uk](mailto:blc.enquiries@bracknell-forest.gov.uk)  
[www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/be](http://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/be)



**BRACKNELL  
LEISURE CENTRE**

# WHAT DOES Bracknell Town Council do?

Your Town Council is responsible for over 250 acres of public recreational and leisure space and 32 children's play areas. We manage extensive sports facilities including football and rugby pitches, two floodlit synthetic pitches, tennis courts, a cricket square and a bowls green. We run pavilions in a number of the parks providing coffee shop facilities, toilets and halls for hire. The Town Council also manages eight allotment sites, some of Bracknell's bus shelters, Larges Lane Cemetery and provides grants to local organisations and a TV grant scheme for senior citizens and people that are permanently disabled.

## YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Town Council has 27 unpaid councillors representing 12 Wards. They are elected for a four year term. The most recent elections were in May 2015. Town Councillors ensure the services provided by Bracknell Town Council are of high quality, provide value for money, and are what local people wish for. Your Town Councillors are happy to be contacted to discuss any local issues or questions you may have.

Bracknell Town Council meetings are held on Tuesdays at either 6:30pm or 7:30pm in the Council Chamber at Brooke House. Members of the public are welcome to attend the majority of meetings. The schedule of meetings can be found on the Town Council's website (the website address is on the front cover of this magazine) and is on display at Brooke House. Agendas are available on our website or on request from Brooke House.

### Town Councillors & Telephone Numbers

<b>Birch Hill</b>		<b>Hanworth</b>	
Gill Birch	01344 778140	Sandra Ingham	01344 420512
Malcolm Tullett	07486 375185	Mark Phillips	01344 454678
<b>Bullbrook</b>		<b>Harmans Water</b>	
Gareth Barnard	01344 487581	Isabel Mattick	01344 420997
Diane Finch	01344 429660	Ash Merry	07950 996014
Sanjeev Prasad	07551 163166	Chris Turrell	01344 420471
<b>Crown Wood</b>		<b>Old Bracknell</b>	
Marc Brunel-Walker	07711 421950	Peter Heydon	07968 297318
Clive Harrison	07785 702540	Iain McCracken	07919 217185
<b>Garth</b>		Paula-Elizabeth Pooler	07939 202487
Alvin Finch	01344 429660	<b>Priestwood</b>	
Tina McKenzie-Boyle	01344 772255	Paul Bidwell	01344 412492
<b>Great Hollands North</b>		Graham Birch	01252 871485
Peter Hill	01344 225113	<b>Town Centre</b>	
Mary Temperton	01344 426191	Denise Hamilton	01344 420079
<b>Great Hollands South</b>		<b>Wildridings</b>	
Jennie McCracken	01344 831080	Diana Henfrey	01344 426056
Roger Meakes	01344 640035	Michael Skinner	01344 988722
Jo Woodcock	01344 224591		



## GREAT HOLLANDS *Bowls Club*

Great Hollands Bowls Club is a local club which has its green situated at the Great Hollands Recreation Ground. New members, male and female, are always welcome no matter if they are complete novices or experienced bowlers. The green is open to members from April until September for afternoon practice roll ups, and friendly matches are arranged with other local clubs throughout the season. Coaching sessions are available to all members on Saturday mornings to assist with game improvement. The clubhouse is open to members from midday Monday to Friday and from 10:00 at weekends throughout the bowling season and has male and female changing rooms, catering facilities as well as a licenced bar.

Social membership is also available, at a reduced rate, allowing social members use of the club facilities in a non-bowling capacity. Out of season the club holds short-mat sessions in the clubhouse as well as a number of social events for members. The club also has teams in a local cribbage league, has a winter rambling group and is open Sunday lunchtimes for social gatherings. If you are interested and would like a try, contact the club to arrange a session with one of their friendly coaches.

**Great Hollands Bowls Club  
Contact Details:**

Telephone : 01344 300105

Website : <https://sites.google.com/site/greathollandsbowlsclub/home>

# involve

MAKING A DIFFERENCE LOCALLY  
IN BRACKNELL FOREST

We are *Involve*, the central support organisation for the voluntary and community sector in Bracknell Forest, supporting community groups and organisations to grow, develop and thrive. We provide advice, guidance and support to the sector regarding infrastructure, funding, training and volunteering. So, what do we stand for? What are our aims?

We have, at our core, the following:

- Providing support and advice to new and existing community groups in the borough
- Volunteering
- Funding advice
- Community cohesion
- Working with businesses and corporates to get involved in the community
- Acting as a hub of information and a communication channel
- Sourcing and providing training

The work we do here at *Involve* focuses on people working together, communication and inclusion.

As we move forward into 2015, we hope to further empower charities and community groups, as well as working with our friends and partners in the corporate sector, to work together to promote volunteering and community involvement. We are here for our community – we're here for you!

#### How you can get involved

If you would like to volunteer in your local community, come and talk to us. There are lots of different opportunities available. Contact us on **01344 304404** to find out more. Alternatively, take a look at our website:

[www.involve.community](http://www.involve.community) - you may well find your niche!

If you feel you could spare a couple of hours a week to visit a socially isolated person, please contact our Befriending and Community Choices Co-ordinators to find out more about our Befriending Scheme.

If you are looking to start a

community group, we can help you and advise you about what you need to do. Call us and ask to speak to our Community Project Co-ordinator who will be happy to assist you in any way she can.

Already running a voluntary/community group? Need some help or advice? We have a membership of over two hundred groups already on our database. Why not join them to access free support and guidance? If you would like to find out more about the benefits of being a member, please call us on **01344 304404** or pop in to the office to fill out a form.

Has your group or organisation got some good news you want to share or an event to promote? Tell us about it! *Involve's* newsletter goes out to nearly five hundred individuals and groups. We can also put information on our website and help you spread the word via social media.

Keep a look out for *Involve's* regular spot in Bracknell News, where we'll highlight all the wonderful work we do as well as all the fantastic work the voluntary sector does. Check out our website and find us on Facebook and Twitter. If there is anything you would like highlighted in our column, please email

[rebecca.benwell@involve.community](mailto:rebecca.benwell@involve.community)



## BRACKNELL *Parkrun*

The Bracknell Parkrun is held at Bracknell Town Council's Great Hollands Recreation Ground, South Road, RG40 3EE, every Saturday at 9am. Bracknell Parkrun is a 5km timed run, so it's you against the clock. It's FREE to take part, but it's necessary to register before your first run (you can register at [www.parkrun.org.uk/bracknell](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/bracknell)).

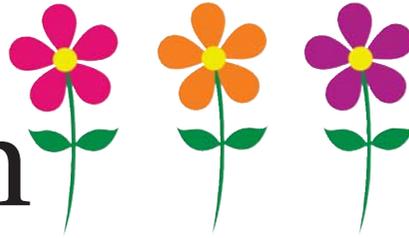
Naomi Aitken, event director, said: "Absolutely anybody can take part - you can walk, run or jog the whole thing. There's no need to be super fit, but obviously the more you do it, the better you get at it. It is not about how fast you run but about how much you participate, and runners are rewarded for attendance. It's so much more than a 5km run, it is about bringing communities together."

For more information and to register visit [www.parkrun.org.uk/bracknell](http://www.parkrun.org.uk/bracknell)



Pictures from Bracknell Parkrun's Facebook page [www.facebook.com/bracknellparkrun](http://www.facebook.com/bracknellparkrun)

# BRACKNELL in Bloom



Bracknell looked blooming beautiful when regional Royal Horticultural Society Britain in Bloom judges visited the town in July.

Judges from Thames and Chilterns in Bloom were first given a short presentation at Bracknell and Wokingham College. The presentation covered the year-round work and activities done under the Bracknell in Bloom umbrella. The judges were told about the improvements that had been done by Bracknell in Bloom at Harmans Water and Wildridings shopping squares, and were very impressed with the new planting schemes and that the majority of the work had been done by local volunteers.

The judges were then taken on a three hour tour of the town to see Bracknell's horticultural highlights. The judges' first visited the Wick Hill Women's Institute flowerbed next to the Station Road roundabout in the town centre. The cupcake shaped flowerbed had been specially planted to celebrate this year's centenary of the Women's Institute. The judges then visited the grounds of sheltered housing complex Edmonds Court, off Sandy Lane; were treated to a tour of the gardening projects being done by Sandy Lane Primary School pupils; and then enjoyed an ice cream at Jocks Lane Recreation Ground, eaten while looking at the hanging baskets made by Bracknell residents.

The judges then visited the 4th Bracknell Cubs and Beavers garden at their Scout hut in Priestwood, and were then taken to see Arlington Square Business Park, Wildridings shopping square and Wroxham Community Garden in Great Hollands. The judges then visited Bracknell Town Council's largest allotment site at Ringmead in Great Hollands, the churchyard at St Michael and St Mary Magdalene church, Easthampstead, and the boardwalk in South Hill Park. They were then taken to Birch Hill and saw the cedar tree stump carving on the corner of Birch Hill Road and Lydney, the communal gardens at Liscombe House, and Jameston Street Garden. The tour finished at South Hill Park, where the judges met over fifty Bracknell in Bloom supporters and sponsors for lunch.

After judging, Allan Moffat, Chair of the Bracknell in Bloom committee and Recreational and Facilities Manager at Bracknell Town Council said: "The

judges were impressed that the whole community is involved in Bracknell in Bloom and they commented on how friendly and welcoming everyone was. They really enjoyed their day in Bracknell."

Allan added: "Many of the hanging baskets on the route had been made by Bracknell residents at workshops held in the Spring. The judges commented on how individual and distinctive these baskets are. They made a nice change to the uniform nursery bought baskets seen in the majority of towns in the region. They also felt making your own baskets was very cost effective, and a wonderful way of getting the public involved with Bracknell in Bloom."

The Bracknell in Bloom committee is hoping the Thames and Chilterns in Bloom judges will award this year's entry with a gold medal. This will better the silver gilt medal Bracknell won last year. The results will be announced at the Thames and Chilterns awards ceremony in September.

The Bracknell in Bloom committee is a partnership of organisations including:- Bracknell Town Council, Bracknell Forest Homes, Bracknell Forest Council, Bracknell Horticultural Association, Bracknell Regeneration Partnership, and The Bracknell Forest Society. Local residents and businesses are also represented on the committee.



*Sandy Lane Primary School pupils with Judge Ben Stanesby*



*The Judges meeting Ringmead allotment holders John and Sue Odell*



*At 4th Bracknell Cubs and Beavers*



*The judges with Bracknell in Bloom supporters in the Italian Garden at South Hill Park. Judging day pictures by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club*



Volunteers from McDonalds helped, they are pictured with the Mayor of the Borough of Bracknell Forest, Cllr Mrs Denise Hamilton, Bracknell Town Mayor, Cllr Mark Phillips, and Bracknell Town Mayoress Mrs Catherine Phillips



# Teddy Bears' Picnic

Hundreds of young residents attended the annual Teddy Bear's Picnic at Jocks Lane Park in June. The event was organised by Bracknell Town Council with help from Prospect Estate Agents who advertised the event, gave a cash prize and also printed the programme. Volunteers from Mill Park McDonalds helped at the picnic. The Pre School Learning Alliance who had previously managed the event collated the prizes and also manned the stall for the Tombola and Raffle. Bracknell Town Council will be donating the proceeds from the raffle to support HAPCA (help a pre-school child appeal). The raffle and tombola prizes were donated by the stalls that attended as well as many local businesses.

Both the Town Mayor Cllr Mark

Phillips, and Bracknell Forest Mayor Cllr Mrs Denise Hamilton attended, and had a lovely time meeting local youngsters. Children were able to enjoy a wide range of activities including bouncy castles, fairground rides, magic shows, arts and crafts, and had the chance to meet lots of farm animals. The event also allowed young children to have a go at the different activities that are available throughout the borough and for the local clubs to promote themselves. This included Baby Ballet, Bracknell Trampoline Club, Little Kickers, Mad Academy, The Creation Station, and many more. The event also offered information on waste recycling as well as free car seat checks from the Bracknell Forest Road Safety team.

Town Mayor Cllr Mark Phillips said: "Many thanks to everyone who



helped make the day such a great success, whether by running the stalls or participating in the many activities provided for our younger residents."



# Play Area REFURBISHMENTS

Over the last year, Bracknell Town Council has refurbished more than a third of its 32 play areas, and has undertaken other equipment improvements across the town. Volunteers have also helped paint play equipment at many of our sites.

In **Wildridings**, at **Mill Park** an outside music mixing deck was installed earlier this year. This amplifies music played from mobile phones. Our grounds team also designed and built some attractive seating, in the play area near the café. The seating was constructed from tree trunks recycled from South Hill Park. At **Ennerdale** a new "accessible for all" roundabout has been installed along with improvements made to the path. At **Threshfield** new tactile play equipment has been installed, for all ages and abilities.

In **Great Hollands**, at the **Home Farm** play area, the equipment installations that were started last year are now complete. New play equipment has also been installed at **Ullswater**. At **Great Hollands Recreation Ground** a fitness trail of outdoor gym equipment has been constructed. At **Ringmead Allotments** the car park has been resurfaced and a new height barrier has been installed.

In **Garth** at **Braybrooke Recreation Ground** a replacement aerial swinger is now installed and the play area has been re-surfaced.

In **Harmans Water** at **Calfridus Way** a new path, shrubs and picnic tables have been added. At **Harmans Water Playing Field** new climbing equipment and a roundabout have been installed as well as surfacing improvements to the play area.

In **Birch Hill** and **Hanworth**, four play areas have benefitted from improvements. At **Quintilis**, a new "buddy swing" has been installed and a floral fence has been planted. The path there has also been upgraded and a new bin and seat installed. At **Dryden Woods**, new skateboard ramps have been installed. **Birch Hill Recreation Ground** has had new play equipment, a new basketball court and goals installed, together with new football and hockey goals and a secure storage area. Finally, at **Hedgehog Park** new equipment has been installed as well as surfacing improvements to the play area.

The Town Council has been grateful to councillors who have funded many of the equipment installations from their shares of Bracknell Forest Council's Member's Initiative Fund.



*Mill Park's music mixing deck*



*The new seating at Mill Park, constructed from tree trunks recycled from South Hill Park*



*Two new pieces of outdoor gym equipment on the fitness trail at Great Hollands Recreation Ground*

# BRACKNELL Your Gardens

Bracknell Your Gardens is Bracknell's annual public gardening competition. It celebrates the glorious gardening achievements of local people, as well as encouraging new or non-gardeners to "have a go". The competition is organised by Bracknell Forest Homes and Bracknell Horticultural Association and is one of the community activities run under the Bracknell in Bloom umbrella.

This year's Bracknell Your Gardens competition has been a huge success, with 51 front garden entrants, double the number that entered last year! Seven streets have entered the street category, a substantial increase on the two that entered last year.

Entry to all the competition categories, apart from the tallest sunflower, has now closed, and judging has begun. You have until the end of August to enter the tallest sunflower competition, when measuring will begin. If you would like to enter, please contact Wendy or Margaret (see contact details below).

Competition results will be announced at the Bracknell Your Gardens Gala Evening, on Wednesday 28 October, at Bracknell and Wokingham College. All competition entrants will be invited, and everyone that entered their garden will receive a medal certificate from the Judges.

The Bracknell Your Gardens competition is supported by Bracknell in Bloom, but only runs thanks to the volunteers that help out with judging, organising the Gala evening, sourcing prizes, and many more tasks. A lot of these volunteers work full-time, so Bracknell Your Gardens is always looking for new volunteers to help. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Wendy or Margaret (contact details below).



*Some of this year's Bracknell Your Gardens entrants*



## Bracknell Your Gardens Contact Details:

Wendy, Bracknell Forest Homes: 01344 382933 (daytime)

Margaret, Bracknell Horticultural Association: 01344 425881 (evening)

Email: [yourgardens@bracknellforesthomes.org.uk](mailto:yourgardens@bracknellforesthomes.org.uk)





## CARING for the Environment

Bracknell Town Council see environmental issues as an important part of delivering high quality recreational facilities for residents. The Town Council employs two Environment Wardens (Mike and Danny) who not only deal with littering and dog fouling but also run education sessions for community groups such as the Scouts, Guides and schools. They are keen to promote responsible fishing and have introduced "Introduction to Fishing" events for people of all ages and a 'next step' fishing day for young people aged 10 – 16 years. Not only are the skills required for fishing taught, but the importance and benefits of looking after our environment are promoted.

A community family fishing club is now being formed at Jean's Pond in Braybrooke Recreation Ground, Garth. The club will promote the benefits of caring for our environment as well as teaching responsible fishing. This includes the pond becoming accessible for people with a range of disabilities, with the goal of being awarded an Approved Fisheries Award by the British Disabled Angling Association. The project also includes plans for an environment education area with information about the various species of trees, plants, birds and fish that can be found there.

If you see Mike or Danny at any of our parks please say hello. If you would like to know more about the fishing club or the services they can provide feel free to contact them on 07714 481535 or email: [environment.warden@bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:environment.warden@bracknelltowncouncil.gov.uk).



*Pictures from some of the fishing events held at our parks*



*ABOVE: Play Day Summer of Fun at Great Hollands Recreation Ground*

*RIGHT: The OBJ Morris Dancers at the Woodland Day in February. Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club*



# Council of the Week

In April, Bracknell Town Council was selected to be the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) "Council of the Week". Other recent winners include Shrewsbury, Folkestone, Sevenoaks and Wokingham Town Councils.

Bracknell Town Council was chosen to be "Council of the Week" because of the excellent recreational facilities it provides, many of which have been mentioned in this newsletter. The collaborative work Bracknell Town Council does with other Bracknell organisations on local initiatives and projects was also highlighted as a great benefit to Bracknell. The NALC was impressed that everyone is working to a shared goal of making Bracknell a great place to live, and one of the best rated places in the country.

The NALC commented on the large number of community events Bracknell Town Council runs and supports throughout the year. In February, Bracknell Town Council ran a successful woodland activity day, with an aim of encouraging everyone to get outside and enjoy Bracknell's beautiful woodland. Families had a fun packed

day learning about woodland crafts including willow weaving and wood carving. Visitors also had the chance to get up close to countryside British birds and bats as well as doing some Morris dancing. Children also always look forward to the "Summer of Fun" activity days run throughout the school holidays. Bracknell Town Council works in partnership with Bracknell Forest Council, Bracknell Forest Homes, and the other Bracknell Forest Parish and Town Councils to put on these days, held at a selection of Bracknell parks. In June, Bracknell Town Council also supported the Bracknell Forest Lions in running the first Bracknell Show for nearly 30 years at Wildridings Playing Field. The Show was very popular, and it is planned to become a regular annual event.

Bracknell Town Council was also selected to be "Council of the Week" because it provides well regarded services to neighbouring Town and Parish Councils, and local schools. The skills of the grounds maintenance team in grass cutting, play equipment assembly and surfacing were noted as being much in demand.



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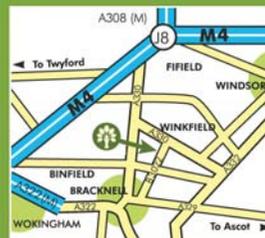
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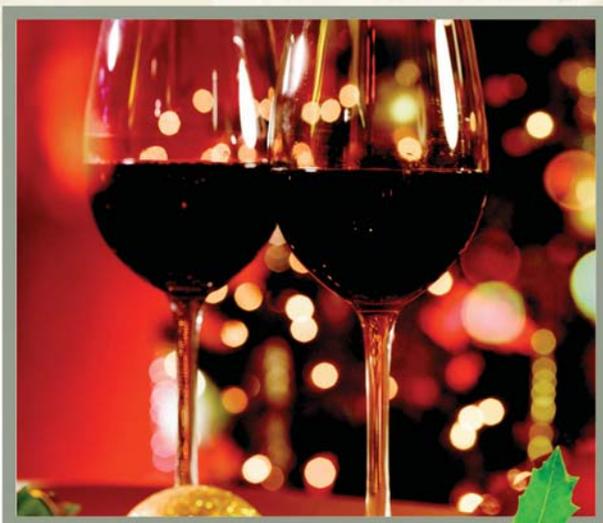
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The other problem with limescale is the constant cleaning of showerheads, shower screens, stainless steel sinks, the whole house can suffer where hard water is concerned. Limescale aggravates skin problems such as eczema and psoriasis.

With a water softener no limescale will get into the house, which means you will have to do less cleaning, stop buying limescale related products, cut washing powder use by up to 75% and have less chance of large bills for potential future problems with your heating system and appliance breakdowns. If you were to purchase an ordinary softener you would have quite a large machine, which requires you to set clocks and lug around a 25kg bag of salt. The TwinTec S3 is different. It is small, requires no electricity and uses block salt (like two house bricks) instead of heavy bags.

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