



Itinerary and Map

RHS Thames & Chilterns in Bloom Judging

Thursday, 9th July 2015



Thank You to Bracknell in Bloom's sponsors and supporters:



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Mill Park Cafe

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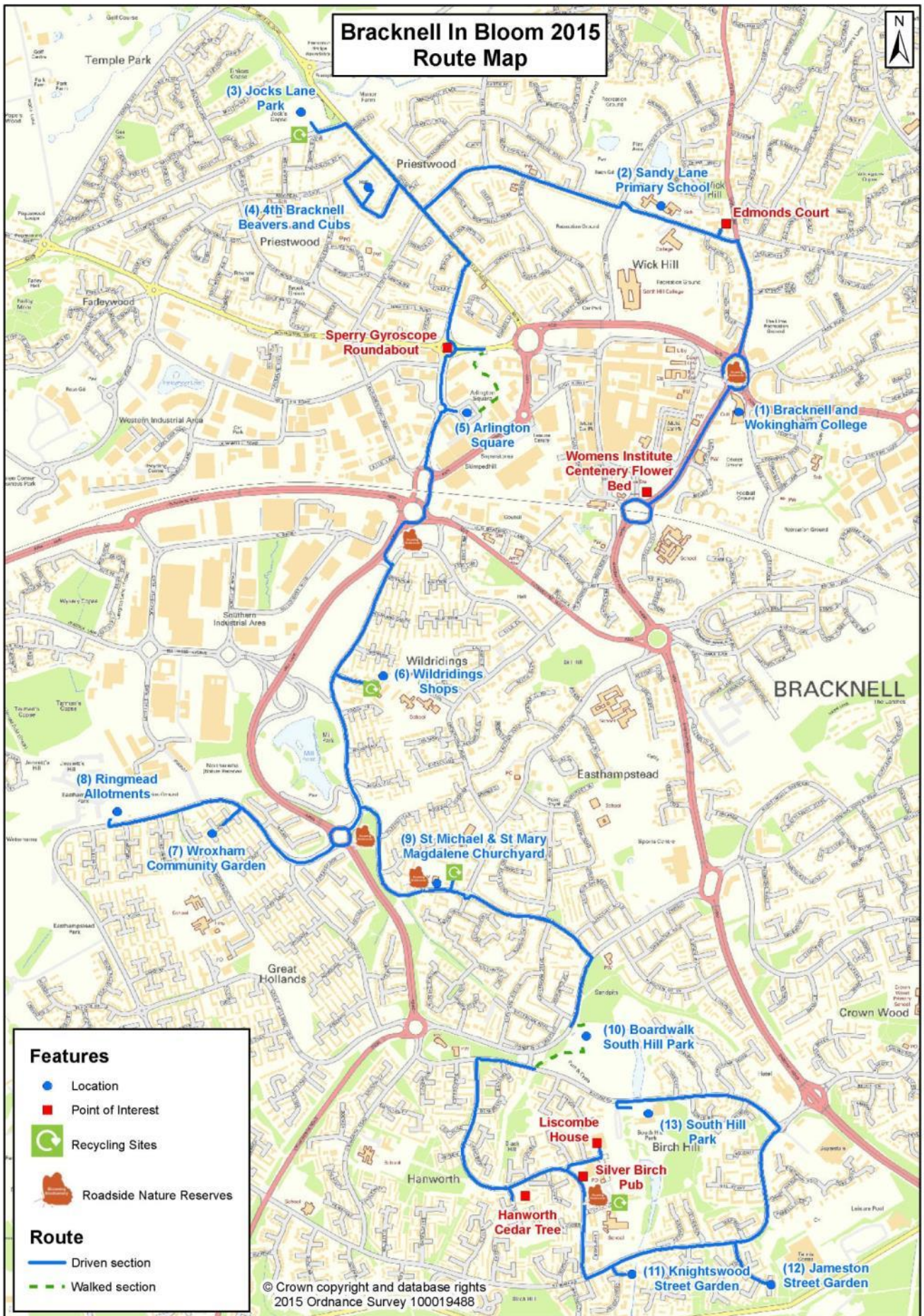


**Holly House
BRACKNELL**



The co-operative funeralcare

Bracknell In Bloom 2015 Route Map



Presentation

The Prow, Bracknell & Wokingham College
(15 minutes)



Evidencing year-round work and plans for future development.

The presentation will take place from The Prow, Bracknell & Wokingham College, where there are spectacular views of the Bracknell town centre regeneration site.

Marking Sections: C1, C2, C3, C4, C5

Notes

History of Bracknell

During the Second World War, London was badly bombed and many houses and factories were destroyed. Rather than just rebuilding in London, Sir Patrick Abercrombie's Greater London Plan of 1944, recommended that satellite towns should be sited around London, beyond the Green Belt. In 1949 the Bracknell Development Corporation (BDC) was set up to develop Bracknell as a New Town. The BDC wanted Bracknell to be a self-contained country town which incorporated the amenities of town life with the benefits of green open spaces. The majority of homes built in Bracknell by the BDC were for rent and were built in neighbourhoods. Initially Bracknell was going to consist of four neighbourhoods, Priestwood, Easthampstead, Bullbrook and Harmans Water. People could also buy plots of land to build their own homes in Wick Hill. Two industrial areas were also planned, the Western and Eastern Industrial Areas.

In 1957 it was decided to extend Bracknell, and planning started for the neighbourhoods of Wildridings, Great Hollands, Hanworth, Birch Hill and Crown Wood. A new industrial area, The Southern Industrial Area, was also built.

Bracknell town centre was first redeveloped in the 1960s. It is currently being regenerated, and a lot of the 1960s buildings are being demolished. The line of the original High Street, with a few old buildings still exists, and will remain after the current regeneration. Most of the town centre to the north of the High Street has been demolished and is currently being re-built. The pedestrianised area, Charles Square, is currently being demolished. Princess Square shopping centre and the shops in Stanley Walk are going to remain and will be open for business during the regeneration.

High Street was part of the old turnpike road running from Virginia Water to Reading. The Red Lion public house (now The Blue's Smokehouse restaurant), was the centre of attention for local inhabitants in 1845, when a coach carrying Queen Victoria stopped to change horses. Over two hundred years earlier, Henry VIII is said to have watched bull baiting outside The Bull public house on the High Street.

Start of Tour (3 hours)

1. Bracknell & Wokingham College



The new Bracknell & Wokingham College building was opened in September 2010 by HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex. The grounds have been attractively landscaped for year-round interest with low maintenance shrubs, giving students a pleasant outside area to enjoy.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A4.

Historical Note: *The College stands on the site of Bracknell's market which started in 1870, a few years after the railway came through the town. The market was held on Thursdays, with both horses and livestock being auctioned.*

Pick up the minibus and drive to Sandy Lane Primary School, passing the Women's Institute Centenary Flower bed, and Edmonds Court

Women's Institute Centenary Flower Bed



Flower bed marks WI centenary

A FLOWER bed to mark 100 years since the establishment of the Women's Institute was revealed to the public last Thursday.

The display will grace Station Road roundabout for two months and was seen as a fitting tribute to the long-standing women's group by the Bracknell Wick branch of the WI.

Designed by WI member Barbara Harlock, the WI joined forces with the Bracknell Regeneration Partnership, Bracknell in Bloom and Continental Gardens to see the flower bed become a reality.

Pamela Oldroyd, the chairman of the Bracknell Wick WI, explained the thinking behind the flower bed and said: "Two of the WI ladies Bea Jones and Sally Barrett with Cllr Isabel Mattick were relaxing after viewing the poppy display outside the Tower of London and the conversation turned to how we might suitably celebrate the WI centenary.

"Bea Jones commented that she had visited Canada when they celebrated the Centenary and many towns had commemorative flower bed.

"Isabel loves a challenge and she



mentioned that Bracknell in Bloom were looking for a project for 2015."

The bed was revealed at a special ceremony with borough mayor Cllr Dee Hamilton in attendance.

Mrs Oldroyd said: "There was a tremendous atmosphere as more than 50 people enjoyed the occasion with cars hooting as they went past.

"Special thanks are also due to Oaktree Nursery who supplied the plants to make the flower bed a truly fitting tribute to commemorate 100 years of the WI."



Bright spot: the flower bed in all its glory

Courtesy of The Bracknell News, 3 June 2015

Edmonds Court



The beautiful communal gardens at Edmonds Court. Housing association Bracknell Forest Homes, manages this sheltered housing complex of 34 units.

2. Sandy Lane Primary School

Gold medal winners in last year's Bracknell Your Gardens competition
Mark Mattock Schools Challenge Highly Commended Award in 2013

During the visit, Sandy Lane Primary School would like to be judged for the Mark Mattock Schools Challenge.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, C2, C3

Primary school pupils show they care about green issues

by Rhodri Andrews

randrews@berksmedia.co.uk

YOUNG gardeners have been rewarded for their contributions to Bracknell's entry for the annual In Bloom competition.

Bracknell Town mayor Cllr Dee Hamilton and members of the Bracknell In Bloom committee visited Sandy Lane Primary School on Tuesday, December 2, to present pupils with their Bracknell Your Gardens competition gold medal certificate and prizes.

The Bracknell Your Gardens competition is designed to get residents involved in gardening and help boost the town's entries in the yearly In Bloom contest.

Allan Moffat, chairman of Bracknell In Bloom, judged the school's garden in the summer term. He said: "The children at Sandy Lane Primary School were very enthusiastic and were interested in caring for the environment with their excellent bird and bat boxes. I do hope Sandy Lane will enter the competition again next year as I'm looking forward to seeing the completed raised beds which were being constructed when I judged this year."

Alli Hatherley, a teacher at the school and its gardening team leader, said: "Sandy Lane children have been involved with Bracknell In Bloom for many years. It is a credit to the children, staff and parents who help us that we were judged to the gold standard again this year. A special mention of thanks to Beryl Henry who organised our garden at short notice this year."



Golden moment: Alan Moffat from Bracknell Town Council, Wendy Smith from Bracknell Homes and Mayor of Bracknell Town Denise Hamilton present the pupils of Sandy Lane School with their Bracknell In Bloom certificate. **PHOTOS: EMMA SHEPPARD 143963**

Courtesy of The Bracknell & Wokingham Weekender, 18 December 2015

Notes

Historical Note: The present school stands on the southern edge of a site occupied by one of the many brickyards in the Bracknell area. Bracknell bricks were of a high quality and suitable for carving into shapes and patterns. Westminster Cathedral and Royal Holloway College at Egham are both built entirely of Bracknell bricks.

Pick up the minibus outside the school and drive to Jocks Lane Park on the edge of Priestwood

3. Jocks Lane Park



Green Flag award winner and winner of a Platinum Loo of the Year Award 2013

Jocks Lane Park is a popular twelve acre family park offering extensive recreational facilities including play areas, sports facilities, woodland walks and a large pavilion. A new splash pad has just been installed at the Park, which will use less water than the paddling pool it has replaced.

Jocks Lane Park is a popular venue for community events, two of the most popular being the teddy bears' picnic in June and a woodland crafts event held in February. This year, Bracknell in Bloom held a Bracknell Your Gardens hanging basket workshop at the Park, which was very popular.

There is a recycling centre in the car park.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A5, B1, B2, C3

Notes

Expert says it with flowers

A HELPFUL gardener handed out useful tips to green-fingered residents on how to create the perfect hanging basket.

Bracknell gardener Freddie Jones led two workshops at Great Hollands Recreation Ground and Jocks Lane Park on Saturday, April 11, and Sunday, April 12, in partnership with Bracknell in Bloom.

Visitors were given advice on the best ways to look after hanging baskets, with 10 baskets designed and planted during the workshops.

The baskets will later be placed along the route through Bracknell which the Thames and Chiltern in Bloom judges will take in July.

Margaret Corridan, from Bracknell Horticultural Association, said: "With the guiding tips provided in these workshops, anyone can create



That's the way: Gardener Freddie Jones (right) gives visitors a workshop in creating colourful hanging baskets.

and maintain a mini garden, hanging in a basket or in a container, you don't even need to have a garden."

For more information about Bracknell in Bloom, or for details about future workshops, visit www.facebook.com/BracknellinBloom or call Anne McKay on 01344 420079.

Courtesy of The Bracknell & Wokingham Weekender, 23 April 2015

Historical Note: The Cut, a small, natural waterway, flows along the north east boundary of the Park. The Cut rises in North Ascot and flows for about 14 miles joining the River Thames near Maidenhead. The river gets its name as it originally flowed eastwards into the River Loddon near Twyford, but has subsequently been re-routed several times.

Resource Management Talk

at the recycling centre by Kim Shaw, Contract Manager, Recycling & Waste Recovery UK, SITA UK Ltd, Suez Environment

Pick up the minibus from the recycling centre and drive to 4th Bracknell Beavers & Cubs Scout Hut in Priestwood.

4. 4th Bracknell Beavers and Cubs

- Entered RHS It's Your Neighbourhood for the first time in 2014 and were judged Thriving.
- Nominated for the RHS Britain in Bloom Young People's Discretionary Award
- Winner of the Best Young Group of Gardeners and Gold medal winners in last year's Bracknell Your Gardens competition.

The Cubs and Beavers have created a wonderful little oasis in the middle of a housing estate. They are committed to conservation and the garden encourages wildlife. There is an allotment area where the children learn how to grow vegetables. The leaders work extremely hard to encourage the Cubs and Beavers in their horticultural efforts and the garden is enjoyed by everyone including the childrens' parents.

Marking Sections:

A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, C3



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club

Notes

Historical Note: Priestwood was the first neighbourhood to be built in Bracknell new town.. The first of the new houses were occupied in 1951. In 1953, to mark the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II an avenue of trees were planted in Priestwood. In 1955 over a thousand houses had been built in Priestwood.

From the Scout Hut drive to Arlington Sqaure Business Park on the edge of Bracknell town centre, passing the Sperry Gyroscope sponsored roundabout.

5. Arlington Square Business Park



Arlington Square is a 22 acre business park close to Bracknell town centre. Originally designed to reflect the proportions of Mayfair's St James Square, the park has been extensively landscaped to provide a quality environment. Features include: - a central square with a lake, fountain and seating areas, and a pleasant footpath linking Bracknell's Peel Shopping Centre to the north of the town.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A4, B3

Notes



There is a sculpture of a gyroscope by Philip Bentham in the centre of the Sperry Gyroscope roundabout, maintained by Arlington Square Business Park.

Historical Note: Arlington Square was the site of another brickyard in Bracknell. Later, the site was occupied by Sperry Gyroscope, the town's largest employer. In the mid 1960s Sperry dramatically increased the size of their factory in Bracknell. Housing for the new workforce was urgently needed so the neighbourhood of Great Hollands was built faster than originally intended, to accommodate them.

At the end of the eighties Arlington acquired the site which consisted of a brown field site and the Honeywell building on the south east corner. The rest of the site was cleared for construction of the Business Park. The first office block was completed in 1992 along with the main infrastructure for the Park.

Board the minibus and drive to Wildridings Shopping Square.

6. Wildridings Shopping Square

Bracknell in Bloom decided to make over Wildridings shopping square as part of the RHS Britain in Bloom campaign "Green Streets: Better Lives". The campaign's aim is to transform grey spaces into green places for the community.

In February, Bracknell in Bloom held a consultation at the Square to find out what improvements local residents and shopkeepers would like. Wildridings Borough councillors helped to fund the project and Bracknell in Bloom's partners have been undertaking the work with help from volunteers from GE Power & Water, McDonalds, and pupils from Wildridings Primary School.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A4, B2, B4, B5, C3, C5

Colourful ideas put forward to improve square

A SHOPPING square in Bracknell is to be spruced up ahead of a campaign aiming to transform grey spaces into blooming beautiful green areas.

Bracknell in Bloom, supported by a host of partners including Bracknell Town Council, will be giving Wildridings Shopping Square a makeover this spring ahead of a visit by Thames and Chilterns in Bloom judges in July.

Wildridings councillors Dee Hamilton, also Bracknell Town mayor, and Emma Barnard will help fund the flowery project by donating money from each their members initiative funds.

On Tuesday last week, the Bracknell in Bloom team held a consultation in the square to

■ by **Rhodri Andrews**
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find out what improvements both residents and shopkeepers would prefer, with suggestions such as colourful planting, re-decorating the buildings and murals on the walls all being mentioned.

The team will take on board any suggestions that have been given and try and incorporate as many ideas as they can in the rejuvenation.

Cllr Hamilton said: "It was a great experience being able to meet with residents of all ages at the consultation last week. There was a range of inspiring and thoughtful ideas that emerged as part of the process.

"I have always strongly supported local shopping, and the

campaign to improve, refurbish and replant Wildridings Square has been a long-term vision.

"I am delighted that this project has had so much support. I am looking forward to seeing a much improved, more colourful and vibrant local shopping area. I would like to thank all the Wildridings shopkeepers and residents for their help with the consultation event and I'd like to thank Image Salon for the use of the facilities."

Anyone with more suggestions or who would like to help with the improvement works, can contact the Bracknell in Bloom co-ordinator Anne McKay by emailing her at anne.mckay@bracknelltown-council.gov.uk or calling her on 01344 420079.



In February, Bracknell in Bloom held a consultation to find out what improvements local people wanted at the shopping square



In June, volunteers from GE Power & Water replanting the flower beds. *Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club*



The flower beds before the makeover

6. Wildridings Shopping Square (continued)

Planting seeds to add a touch of colour to the square

THIS year's campaign to make Bracknell blooming beautiful has been kickstarted with a consultation on how to transform a community square.

The Bracknell in Bloom committee began their 2015 campaign by visiting Wildridings Square on Wednesday last week where improvement work has already begun in earnest.

Residents were asked at the consultation event how they wanted the area improved, with many saying they wanted colourful flowerbeds and the large paved area broken up with planters and picnic benches. The old leggy shrubs in the flowerbeds opposite the shops are already being removed.

Youngsters from Wildridings Primary School also helped at the launch event, planting sunflower and nasturtium seeds, while visitors were shown how to make hanging baskets.

Allan Moffat, chairman of Bracknell in Bloom, said: "The

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Royal Horticultural Society gave us some free nasturtium seeds and we wanted to use them to show the school children how easy it is to plant them. Hopefully this will encourage them to do some planting at home.

"Thank you to everyone who helped at the launch and thanks to all those who attended. Bracknell in Bloom always has huge community support and this launch was no exception."

The Bracknell in Bloom team is going for gold in this year's Thames and Chilterns in Bloom regional competition, improving on the silver gilt award they won last year.

The regional judges will visit Bracknell in July, with Wildridings Square featuring on their three-hour tour of the town.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/BracknellinBloom



Flower power: Bracknell in Bloom 2015 at Wildridings Square.

Pictures: Alanna Harmsworth 146466



Helping hands: Mayor of Bracknell Dee Hamilton and Scott Hamilton with pupils Daniel Powell, nine, Riley Mason, nine, Tanvir Chawdry, 10, and Tommy Smithers, nine.



Green fingers: Freddie Jones, left, and nine-year-old Riley Mason, above, get planting.

Courtesy of The Bracknell News, 29 April 2015

Notes

Historical Note: Wildridings was built when Bracknell expanded to the south of the town centre. The first residents moved in during 1967. The surrounding landscape was very bare as there were hardly any mature trees, so landscaping played an important part of developing the neighbourhood. The shopping square was built in 1969.

Drive from Wildridings shops to Wroxham Community Garden in Great Hollands.

7. Wroxham Community Garden

- RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Outstanding Award as well as receiving an RHS It's Your Neighbourhood National Certificate of Distinction
- Winner of the Best Community Garden and Gold medal winners in last year's Bracknell Your Gardens competition.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A3, B1, B2, C3.

Wroxham Community Garden featured in the Winter 2014/15 issue of RHS Grass Roots as an example of a project to inspire readers to take part in the RHS Green Streets: Better Lives campaign.



Transformation of unwanted concrete bollards into new garden

When: 2011 - 2014

Funding: £100 grant from a local councillor plus small donations from residents

After several unsuccessful attempts to get four unsightly concrete bollards removed from an area between their houses, neighbours in Wroxham took matters into their own hands. The group sought permission to remove the bollards independently, but was refused by the housing association on health and safety grounds and due to there being insufficient funds to provide a skip for the rubble.

"Nine of the residents then agreed we had no alternative but to disguise the structures," says lead coordinator of the group, Eileen Mann. "So my husband Jeff designed and built planters for positioning on and around them."

Each of the nine residents donated a small amount of money towards plants and a local councillor provided a grant to cover the cost of materials.

The group has now taken on caring for more areas of the communal space, planting a mimosa tree, installing a birdbath, dovecot and insect shelter and planting up mixed flower beds. Cowslips, primroses, buttercups and knapweed have been added to the lawn and honeysuckle and wild flowers are grown to attract pollinators. "We were always a friendly group of neighbours,"

says Eileen. "Working on this project has brought us even closer together. What more could anyone wish for."

Top tips:

The group installed a large water butt near the garden to help them keep on top of the summer watering. This is used communally to care for the many pots.

Eileen also recommends planning and implementing one area at a time. "Don't be afraid to adapt your plan if the original one doesn't work or costs too much," she says.

"Talk to your friends about what you hope to achieve, you'll be surprised how many offer cuttings of plants or unwanted decorative plots. And try to incorporate something for all age groups too, leave a space for the very young.

Notes

Courtesy of RHS Grass Roots, Winter 2014/15

Historical Note: Great Hollands was a medieval field name in Easthampstead parish. The neighbourhood of Great Hollands was built to house the employees working at the Sperry Gyroscope factory. The first houses were completed in 1967. Great Hollands neighbourhood was designed so most of the houses were in cul-de-sacs off the ring road, Ringmead. The roads are named after telephone exchanges and are arranged in alphabetical order along Ringmead.

Board the minibus for the short journey to Ringmead Allotments in Great Hollands.

8. Ringmead Allotments

Last year, John and Sue Odell, were joint Best Kept Allotment winners in the Bracknell Your Gardens competition. Their allotment is the first plot on the right as you go through the main gate.



Planting the community orchard, Feb 2013



May 2015



May 2015



Composting bay

This allotment site is managed by Bracknell Town Council and is their largest site with 38 full-sized plots and 60 half-sized plots. There are two composting points at the allotment site, encouraging allotment holders to compost their green waste. There is also a bonfire pit and a community orchard planted by corporate volunteers from Waitrose with help from It's Your Neighbourhood group, Jealott's Hill Community Landshare. The orchard was planted in February 2013.

Marking Sections: A2, A3, B1, B2, C3

Notes

Board the minibus and drive to St Michael & St Mary Magdalene Church in Easthampstead

9. St Michael & St Mary Magdalene Churchyard



The churchyard in April



One of the interpretation boards obtained in 2007 using grant funding from the Historic Churches Trust

The churchyard is one of the few unchanged natural sites left since the development of Bracknell new town in the 1950's. At the entrance is an ancient yew tree which has probably been a feature for over one thousand years. Some of the grass is kept long and cut in rotation to encourage a biodiversity of plant and wildlife. Volunteers from the Easthampstead Living Churchyard group monitor plant and animal life and helped install bird boxes and bat roosts, sited in the trees. The churchyard is home to the rare devil's bit scabious as well as cowslips, holly, butterflies and stag beetles.

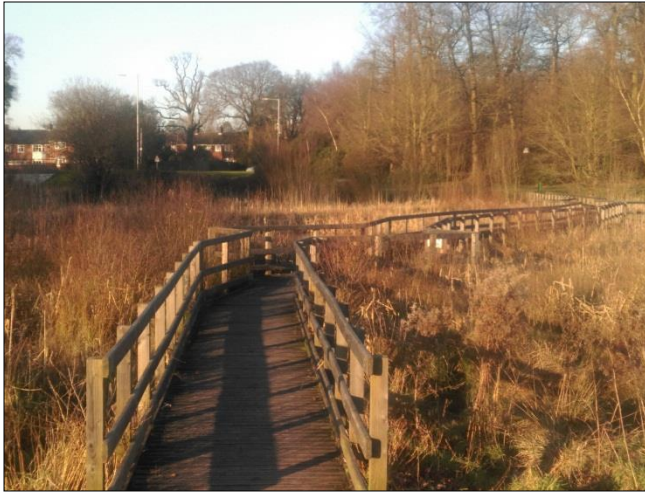
Marking Sections: A3, B1, B2, B3, B5, C3

Notes

Historical Note: Easthampstead (or Lachenstede) was mentioned in the Domesday Book, while the site of the church may have been used for worship at least 300 years earlier. A hunting lodge had been built in the west of the parish in about 1350, and Catherine of Aragon is said to have lived there while waiting for her divorce from Henry VIII. The small village of Easthampstead became the local municipal authority with the establishment of a workhouse in 1834.

Pick up the minibus from the front of the church and drive to South Hill Road play area, South Hill Park.

10. Boardwalk, South Hill Park



The Boardwalk in December



The Boardwalk in June

The South Hill Road play area was upgraded, and the boardwalk was built, with money from the £2.3 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund and Big Lottery Fund awarded to restore South Hill Park (see 13. South Hill Park, later in the itinerary). The 200m boardwalk, completed in 2011, allows the public to enjoy views over the reed marsh. The reed beds were put in to purify the household waste water from South Hill Park Mansion before it entered the local watercourses.

Marking Sections: A5, B1, B3, B4, B5

Notes

Board the minibus and drive to Knightswood Street Garden passing the Hanworth cedar tree carving, Liscombe House and the Silver Birch pub.

Hanworth Cedar Tree

Five years ago a cedar tree in Hanworth was struck by lightning and had to be cut down to 12ft. Local community stalwart Pat Kennewell of Birch Hill Community Association was keen to turn the stump into a play area for children. She secured £6,000 of Big Lottery Fund money as well as £3,500 from Bracknell Forest Homes, Bracknell Town Council, Bracknell Forest Council, Councillor Chas Baily and Liscombe House sheltered housing to fund the revamp. Greenspace woodcarvers turned the stump into a stunning piece of artwork featuring animals, birds and a hidey hole for local children to play in.

Bracknell in Bloom were keen for Pat's efforts to be recognised, and nominated her for a Pride of Bracknell award. The Pride of Bracknell judging committee were extremely impressed with what Pat had done for the local community, and awarded her with the Pride of Bracknell Adult Award.

The tree stump



Greenspace woodcarvers transforming the stump



The finished carving



Pat Kennewell (second left) receiving the Adult Pride of Bracknell 2015 Award. She is photographed with former Wales international footballer Ady Williams, Zinta Krums from Boehringer Ingelheim who sponsored the category, and BBC Radio Berkshire's Andrew Peach. Picture courtesy of Bracknell News

Historical Note: The Hanworth estate was started in 1971. The cedar tree was part of the ornamental planting of the South Hill Park estate. Prime Minister William Gladstone visited South Hill Park in 1893 and planted a tree, but unfortunately there is no record of which one it was!

Liscombe House, Birch Hill

Liscombe house is a sheltered housing complex managed by housing association, Bracknell Forest Homes. It has lovely communal gardens which are greatly enjoyed by residents and visitors.



Summer 2014



Spring 2015

Silver Birch Pub, Birch Hill



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club

Historical Note: The development of Birch Hill neighbourhood began in 1974. It is the most distant neighbourhood from the town centre, so a larger shopping area was built than those built in the other Bracknell neighbourhoods. Birch Hill shops also serve neighbouring Hanworth (to the west) and Crown Wood (to the north-east). The shops and a supermarket (currently Aldi) opened in 1977.

Some of the Birch Hill neighbourhood was built in the South Hill Park estate, and the old walls of the estate's kitchen garden have been retained and form the boundaries of some gardens of housing in Birch Hill.

Notes

11. Knightswood Street Garden

This is the first year that Knightswood will be entering as a street entry in the Bracknell Your Gardens competition. In the past, Sondra Pereira's front garden (number 91) has won the most innovatively designed garden. Her horticultural skills have inspired her neighbours to garden, and Knightswood will be a strong contender in this year's street garden category.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A3, C3



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club

Notes

11. Knightswood Street Garden (continued)



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club

Board the minibus and drive to Jameston Street Garden.

12. Jameston Street Garden

Bracknell Your Gardens First Street Entry

Jameston Street Garden was the first street entry in the Bracknell Your Gardens competition. The driving force behind the garden, John and Jean Davies (number 43), moved to Bracknell from Slough and entered their garden in the front gardens category of the competition. Last year, they encouraged their neighbours to enter Your Gardens as a street entry. The neighbours promoted the Your Gardens competition by appearing on the front of Bracknell Times (see photograph below).

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A3, C3



The Jameston Street Gardeners

Courtesy of The Bracknell Times, 23 July 2014

12. Jameston Street Garden (continued)



Notes

Board the minibus and drive to South Hill Park.

13. South Hill Park

Green Flag award winner



Walk from the front of the mansion through to the Rose Garden and the end of the Yew Walk. Walk past the herbaceous borders to the Italian Garden for the press call.

South Hill Park is attractive, historic parkland of landscaped gardens, lakes and woodland, all of which surround a Grade II listed building which is used as an arts centre. The park has recently been restored back to its former glory, thanks to a £2.3 million grant by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Big Lottery Fund. In July 2012, HRH Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, opened the restored park and unveiled a plaque in the Rose Garden, commemorating his visit.

Many of the park's original heritage features were restored, including the Yew Walk and Italian Garden. Four new waymarked trails were also created. These trails are all named after famous people who have been associated with South Hill Park at some point in its history.

Marking Sections: A1, A2, A5, B1, B2, B3, B4, B5, C2, C3



Thames and Chilterns in Bloom Judging Day 2014
Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club



Historical Note: The original mansion was built in 1760, but the current building dates from 1891. Previous owners have included nobility, a former Prime Minister, the BBC, and The Royal Sea Bathing Hospital from Margate!

13. South Hill Park (continued)



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club



Picture by Jeff Lawrence, Bracknell Camera Club



Picture by local resident, Wendy Booth

Notes

Press Call (15 minutes)