

A new Year's message from your Mayor

Well the Christmas break is over, the turkey has finally gone. Those mince pies you bought just in case have been gratefully devoured from the bird table. At the start of the year I look back at 2008 remembering all the wonderful community and private events Elaine and I have been to. One of the main things that impressed us was meeting so many volunteer groups and individuals that look after the welfare and wellbeing of others in the town. It has been a rewarding and privileged experience. Looking back can sometimes be counterproductive and we should all be looking towards a fantastic new year ahead and I know 2009 will be a great year (trust me I'm a Councillor!). I'm not going to be sticking my head in the sand and waiting for someone else to tell me everything is alright. There is not going to be an immediate change for the better, however, I'm sure we will all become more financially astute and far more credit conscious over the months ahead. There will be an even greater effort and a positive determination by Brackley Town Council and its partners to serve its constituents, enhance the town and improve its commerce.

But less of the doom and gloom, let me tell a little story that made me wonder if the credit crunch was just a media hype. Whilst accompanying my wife clothes shopping in a good ladies clothes shop I managed to park myself on a chair near the cashiers desk (by the way, let me quickly explain I do not rate ladies clothes shops by the quality or cost of the garments but by how many chairs are available for their partners to collapse in), as I sat there my peripheral hearing could pick up the amounts asked for by the cashier (it just helped to pass the time you understand). Just 20 minutes later I had totted up over one thousand pounds this prompted a thought of a career change but as I instantly went through my business plan I realised it was a non-starter as I would want more chairs than clothes in my shop and therefore would not be profitable. So no signs of a credit crunch on that day!

Anyway that's enough from me, it just remains for me to wish you all a happy, healthy and 'prosperous' new year.

Councillor Kevin Dixon