



Brackley Town Council

Towntalk

Spring 2012

Photo: Jerry Hayden

Helping our residents find work
Job club goes from strength to strength

Focus on the East Ward of Brackley
Read about its history and culture

Diamond Jubilee
How are you going to celebrate?



Last year's event raised valuable funds

A vintage year

Brackley's very own wine festival returns to the Town Hall on Saturday 28th April between 12 and 7pm. The event, organised by the Brackley Rotary Club, provides an opportunity for visitors to taste and buy wine from a worldwide selection and support local charities in the process.

Last year's event raised an impressive £984 for town charities. This year, proceeds from the £5 entrance fee will benefit one of the Mayor's chosen charities - Mind in Brackley. Rotarian and event organiser Trevor Davies said: "The festival provides a tasting opportunity for wine lovers to discover and buy new wines without the risk of the wine not being to their palate."

www.brackleywinefestival.co.uk



On the go!

South Northants Volunteer Bureau is delighted to announce that as part of Village Networks, a new Lottery-funded project, it has taken delivery of a brand new 16-seater minibus. The minibus is available for hire by registered community, voluntary and non-profit groups across South Northamptonshire.

Nick King, Village Networks Coordinator, commented: "So often local groups tell us transport is a real problem. Now we have a solution: a new minibus and trained drivers".

The minibus is a VOSA licensed vehicle with the appropriate insurance and safety checks. All drivers are CRB-checked and Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme trained.

Details can be found at www.snvb.org.uk and are available from Nick King on 01327 353321/358264 or email: nick@snvb.org.uk

A perfect match

Brackley Job Club, based at the Town Hall and run by South Northamptonshire Council, has introduced a new Job Match Service.

The facility gives members access to tailored support that can assist them in finding employment. The Job Match Advisor meets key employers in the area to understand their employment needs and can deliver the latest market information and

vacancies to job hunters direct. It's confidential, free of charge and open to all job club members and local businesses.

To find out more, call the Job Club team on 01327 322266 or email jobclub@southnorthants.gov.uk. Alternatively, come down to a session – times and dates are available online at www.southnorthants.gov.uk/jobclub

Town Council's First Response

Brackley Town Council recently awarded Brackley Community First Responders a grant of £750 towards the purchase of essential new equipment.

The volunteer group is trained by East Midlands Ambulance service to provide life saving support using a defibrillator, oxygen and other equipment – which can cost up to £2,000 per kit.

Although an ambulance will always be sent to emergency calls, if a local responder can get there quicker, even by a matter of minutes, they will be asked to attend.

Frances Reader, group coordinator, said: "Every minute of delay in treating a cardiac arrest can reduce the chances of survival by around 10%. The sooner someone can provide the appropriate treatment the better."



Adam Jeskins with one of the First Responder kits

Photo: Fiona Baker



Photo: Carolyn Hunter

Message from the Mayor

There's an awful lot of coffee in Brackley and the reasons are as various as the blends you might be offered in Brazil! It has long been a tradition that the Mayor holds Coffee Mornings to raise funds for their chosen charities but as others will understand, this would not be the chosen time of day for a night owl to plan activities. Then before I knew it, we were looking at the diary and scheduling in a series of dates throughout the Mayoral year.

It seemed a good idea to get a little help with this new experience so different groups have come along to join me which in turn has helped the work of their own cause. From the first one held for Mind in Brackley the coffee has been flowing for Livability, the Tudor Rose Garden, the First Responders, the Traneker Fund and, appropriately, C.A.F.E. (Creative Activities for Elderly People) Now I've grown accustomed to this gentle social scene and luckily there is still one more to come on March 30th when Brackley European Association will be in charge of the cafes.

Friday morning is Coffee Morning. Come and enjoy in the Town Hall!

Theo Hayward

Cllr Theodora Hayward Mayor (2011-12)

Some Friday mornings may be free for you to book and hold your own organisation's coffee morning. Contact the Town Hall to find out more.



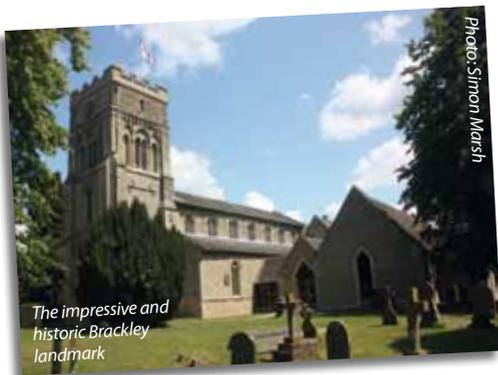
Postcard from the past



The East Ward of Brackley is abundantly rich in history. It's hard to walk far without noticing something of historical significance or cultural value. The Old Town forms the nucleus of the ward and is considered to be so special that it is now part of an extended conservation area consultation.

Did you know that there was a Roman Villa and settlement (under what is now Glebe Drive and its vicinity) or that there are two wells called Golden Spring and St Rumbold's located there?

The glorious St Peter's Church was built in the Norman period. It was added to in the 13th and 14th Century, but traces of original Norman construction remain, particularly in the arch above the South Door. The Church provides a picture postcard backdrop to the fringe of the town and gives us a clue to the rural dimension of Brackley many years ago.



Brackley was also famous for its two hospitals. The first, now Magdalen College, was originally the Hospital of St. James and St. John. It was founded around 1150 by Robert le Bossu, Earl of Leicester. In 1484 it was given to Magdalen College, Oxford, and by 1548 there was a school operating at the site. Its initial purpose, however, was to provide a venue for Oxford college pupils to escape the plague!

The other hospital came about after a public meeting in 1876. Starting with one resident nurse, it continued to grow and in 1877 it was agreed that the nurses' home should be used as a Cottage Hospital. New wards and a kitchen were opened in 1887, and an operating room was added in 1908. Brackley Cottage Hospital became part of the National Health Service in 1948 – although now it's a nursing home.

In more recent times, the Ward was linked directly with London with the arrival of Brackley Central or 'top' station on 15 March 1899. The Great Central Main Line ran from Manchester to London, offering Brackley residents a direct route to the capital in 84 minutes, with seven trains a day! Tragically, the line and station were undeserved victims of the Beeching cull and the station was closed to traffic on 5 September 1966.

East Ward Councillor Corner



Fiona Baker
T: 07972 194680
E: fiona@fionabaker.co.uk

What do you enjoy most about being a councillor? I enjoy meeting new people and working on new projects, and helping to make Brackley a great place to live and work

Favourite TV programme? Downton Abbey

Your ideal Sunday? A Sunday spent watching motor sport at Silverstone is our ideal

Favourite meal? Avocado and prawn salad

Sunday roast or curry? Sunday Roast

Night in or night out? Night in



Elaine Wiltshire
T: 07867 585021
E: ewiltshirebrackleyeast@talktalk.net

Why become a councillor? I wanted to assist in making Brackley a better place to live. I worked in Brackley town for 13 years before retiring in late 2009

Favourite meal? Fillet of Beef en Croute with roast potatoes and vegetables, followed by a sherry trifle

Football or rugby? Rugby, if at all

First car? Ford Fiesta



Peter Rawlinson
T: 07590 046469
E: peter@derbyhouse-brackley.co.uk

Why become a councillor? To become involved in the development of the Town and use my skills to help ensure that the whole town benefits from the growth

Favourite Holiday destination? USA – each part has a different character and there is some really great scenery

Role model growing up? My father

First car? Wolseley 1300, white

Cheeseboard or Sweet trolley? Check the sweet trolley first



Kevin Dixon
T: 01280 702602
E: k_c_dixon@yahoo.co.uk

What do you enjoy most about being a councillor? The privilege of representing others

Favourite TV show? Put Your Money Where Your Mouth Is

Your ideal Sunday? Coffee and croissants for breakfast followed by a phone free day

Favourite book? Screwfix catalogue

Role model growing up? Genghis Khan



Blake Stimpson
T: 01280 702307
E: blake.stimpson@o2.co.uk

What do you enjoy most about being a councillor? The people

First Car? Morris Minor

Football or Rugby? Rugby

Wine or beer? Wine

Trivial pursuit or Monopoly? Neither!

A celebration to remember

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee runs over the weekend of 2nd – 5th June and the Town Council plans to celebrate in style. As the last Diamond Jubilee was over 100 years ago, for Queen Victoria, we plan to make this a celebration to remember!

The town centre will be resplendent in the nation's colours and we're lining up a dazzling array of entertainments, sights and sounds to ensure Brackley is THE place to be to celebrate the occasion.

As a **lasting memento** we've commissioned a specially minted, limited-edition commemorative medal, which will be given to all children educated in Brackley (Reception – Year Six). Additional medals will be available to buy.



Friday 1st June

Brackley and District History Society are hosting an exhibition at **space** on the Market Place that runs until 5th June.

Saturday 2nd June

It will be entertainment galore at the **Brackley Community Carnival**. Many exciting acts have already been booked



and there's even more to come! www.brackley-carnival.co.uk

A glittering **Diamond Jubilee Dinner** will be held at Winchester House School in the presence of Lady Juliet Townsend, the Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire. Spaces are limited – so order your tickets early.

Sunday 3rd June

For those of you who prefer your celebrations to be more active – there's the annual 10k **F1 Chicken Run** around Turweston airfield. www.f1chickenrun.co.uk

The popular **Annual Soap Box Derby** takes place in the town centre from lunchtime. www.brackleysoapbox.org

Another jewel in the town's celebratory crown is the Queen Tribute Concert – performed by Queen II – one of the leading entertainment acts in the UK. Bring a picnic and some drinks and enjoy a summer evening's entertainment and a fantastic firework finale!

Monday 4th June

Motor down memory lane to the **Classic Vehicle Show** – with vehicles from bygone years. If you have a car to

exhibit there's a small exhibitor fee. Entry to the public is free.

In the evening, the **Brackley Male Voice Choir** (and friends) will take over the reins for a thrilling celebration concert. Find out more at www.brackleymalevoicechoir.org.uk

Tuesday 5 June

Join in the family fun at the **Gruffalo Picnic** in Tudor Way Park. Activities include fancy dress competition,

treasure hunt, toy hunt and much more! Bring a picnic and enjoy a relaxed summer's afternoon!

Check out the Town Council website (at the bottom of the page) for details...

Also look out for special Draw tickets that will be on sale with some magnificent prizes... tickets only 50p each.

the countdown begins!



EVENTS AND KEY DATES

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME
24/2/12	Town Mayor's Quiz	Town Hall	7.30pm
9/3/12	Civic Ball	Brackley & District Bowling Club	7 for 7.30pm
12/3/12	Annual Town Meeting <i>Come along and share your views with the council</i>	Town Hall	7.30 pm
30/3/12	Mayor's Coffee Morning <i>(In aid of Brackley European Association)</i>	Town Hall	10am - 12 noon
22/4/12	Brackley Food Festival <i>Contact Julie Moore info@brackley-carnival.co.uk</i>	Town Hall & Piazza	
28/4/12	Rotary Wine Festival	Town Hall & Piazza	12pm – 7pm
12/5/12	Mayor Making	Town Hall	12 noon
18-21/5/12	40th Anniversary of Twinning with Pavillons-sous-Bois <i>Contact Mrs. Anita Robbins. Tel: 01295 712388 Email: anita@robbins226.fsworld.co.uk</i>	Various	
2-5/6/12	Jubilee Celebrations <i>Chris Blunden Tel: 07947 605817 Email: cj.blunden@talktalk.net</i>	Various	

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Radstone Fields

In December 2011, a new Committee was formed to discuss a major development to the north of Brackley – known as Radstone Fields.

Currently, we are in consultation about the legal agreements being drawn up between the developers and South Northamptonshire Council. The Town Council is represented by a specialist firm of solicitors – at no cost to local residents.

The Committee, which meets fortnightly, is required to meet in private until the legal



matters are finalised, after which it's expected most meetings will be held in public.

Chris Blunden, Chairman

Finance and Policy

Recently we have completed a handbook to explain the history and role of the Mayor; a policy for the financial benefit to the community from any future developments was approved and we agreed to allow a Magdalen College School student, who is hoping to study politics, to sit on one of our working parties. The 2012-2013 budget was discussed at length and agreed. Discussions about celebrations for the 40th anniversary of our town twinning, a new website, Town



Talk itself and the celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee are all ongoing.

Caryl Billingham, Chairman

Town Clerk, Sue Crouch (01280 702441)

Deputy Town Clerk, Irene Bennett (01280 702441)

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