

Neighbourhood News

from the Bell Tower Community Association

Issue 40 - June 2015



THE STREET PARTY'S BACK IN

NEWPORT ROAD

Saturday 6 June 1.00pm

The Bell Tower Community Association and Newport Road residents will again host a street party for this year's Big Lunch, from 1.00pm to about 4.30pm on Saturday 6 June. The Moderation will be back with its barbecue, or you can bring your own food.

Would you like to sell anything - cakes, jewellery, crafts, bric-a-brac? There will be the opportunity to set up your own stall - just ask us on the day or send us an email in advance to info@bell-tower.org.uk.

We are going to need lots of help, with preparations and on the day. Can you provide any entertainment or would you like to help with activities for children? We also particularly need help with the Bell Tower table and setting up. If you can help please contact David on 07890 118167 or by email at david@bell-tower.org.uk.

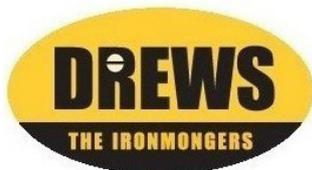
We hope the weather will be on our side, but in the event of bad weather we can still hold a smaller party at the New Hope Centre.

Join the party!

Barbecue food from the Moderation
Bring your own food and drink if you prefer! Children's entertainment, including crafts, games and face painting
Music
Games Quiz

**SATURDAY
6 JUNE 1.00PM
NEWPORT ROAD**

ALL WELCOME!



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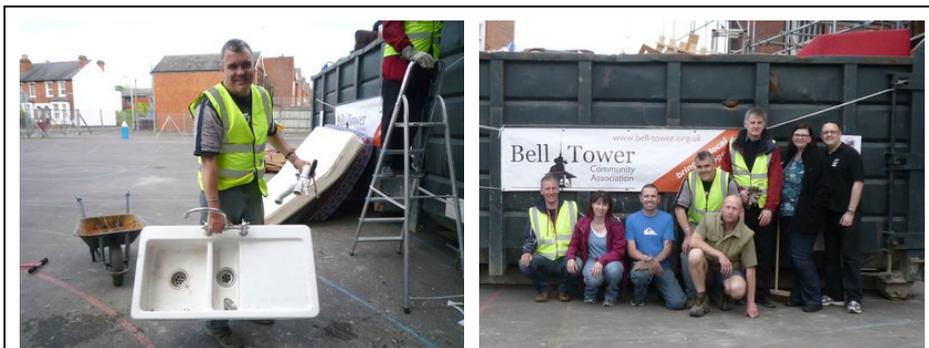


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Everything and the kitchen sink!



TIDYING UP AGAIN: Richard Chandler from Bell Tower with the unwanted kitchen sink and members of the Bell Tower tidy-up team with another full skip

Residents flocked to the Bell Tower Community Association's annual tidy-up event, sponsored by Festival Republic, to dispose of unwanted items in a big skip in the school playground. As well as the usual collection of old furniture, garden tools and mattresses there was a kitchen sink. The event was earlier than usual because of anticipated building work this summer.

As one person's rubbish is another person's treasure there was an element of recycling involved, and

some participants left with new furniture, storage containers and even weightlifting equipment.

Bell Tower chairman Jonathan Dart said: "The 'Big Skip' yet again proved to be a big hit with local residents, and we persuaded a lot of people to join Bell Tower. It was particularly gratifying to have so many volunteers, either loading the skip, collecting rubbish or staffing our stall. Many thanks to them and sponsors Festival Republic for making the day so successful."

TEN YEARS AGO

It is hard to believe that ten years have passed since a meeting was held at the New Hope Centre where we decided to form a community association. The original *Reading Chronicle* article covering the meeting in June 2005 is reprinted below - we expect to include a longer article of our own covering our first ten years in the next edition of *Neighbourhood News*:

Neighbourhood group gets off to thunderous start



Good companions: Chris Bloomfield, community manager, the Rev Jon Westall, minister at the New Hope Centre, Cllr June Orton, organiser Teresa Colliass, Liz Herbert, Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator and organiser Barbara Kendall.

A THUNDERCLAP heralded the start of a new community chapter in one area of Reading when 40 residents met to discuss what they want from their neighbourhood.

Organisers Barbara Kendall and Teresa Colliass sent out leaflets to

more than 550 homes and businesses in Cardiff Road, Swansea Road, York Road and Caversham Road and beyond to invite them to a free forum meeting.

More than 40 Abbey ward electors braved a thunderstorm to

get to the New Hope Community Centre in York Road.

Miss Kendall said: "The aim is to get a community spirit going and to see what could be done to make it a more lively place to live and work in."

News in brief

- In the next few weeks we hope to start our neighbourhood survey. We'll be aiming to knock on doors and ask as many residents as possible about what Bell Tower should be doing to help the local community - so if you have any ideas or feedback for us please be ready to let us know!

- After the recent AGM the Bell Tower committee is now: Jonathan Dart (Chairman), Steve Bale (Vice-Chairman & Membership Secretary) Rod Plinston (Secretary), Sandie Gill (Treasurer), David Neale, Barbara Kendall, Richard Chandler and Rose Brannigan (Minuting Secretary).

We're always looking for more volunteers - if you'd like to join us please feel free to email us at info@bell-tower.org.uk or contact Jonathan at 68 Addison Road, phone 0118 950 9350.

JOIN US NOW

for only £1 per person per year. Don't forget members can claim some great discounts from local businesses! Keep up to date at www.bell-tower.org.uk/membership.htm, where you can also download our membership form.

You can join at any of our events or by contacting Steve Bale at 79 York Road.

FIVE STAR WINES

- ★ National Lottery (Lotto) ★ Pay point
- ★ Gas and electric meter cards & keys
- ★ Bill payments ★ Bus tickets
- ★ Phone top-up ★ TV licensing
- ★ Thames Water bill payments ★ ATM
- ★ Wines, beers and spirits
- ★ Sandwiches, snacks and groceries
- ★ Newspapers and magazines
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