



## City park plan to go ahead

Our plans to create a Park at the Heart in Bradford city centre will continue, despite the disappointment of missing out on a grant from the Big Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks programme.

At its meeting before Christmas the Council's Executive agreed to continue with the scheme presented to the lottery, at an estimated cost of £24 million. Chief Executive Tony Reeves reported that agreement had been reached with regional

development agency Yorkshire Forward and English Partnerships for each of the three organisations to provide £500,000 towards the cost of detailed designs.

Park at the Heart would see the creation alongside City Hall of a world-class public park and mirror pool. It would host high-quality community events, increase visitor numbers and bring social and economic benefits to the district by providing more jobs and office space.

Coun Andrew Mallinson, Executive Member for Regeneration, said: "The people of Bradford district

showed tremendous support and input into the Park at the Heart plans and we are determined to deliver what they want.

"It is about driving forward the economy and is important for the cohesion of the district, to bring people together and create a fun place to be."

Terry Hodgkinson, chair of Yorkshire Forward: "We were hugely disappointed by the Big Lottery Fund's decision not to invest in the magnificent project put forward by Bradford Council. We will now do everything we can to help ensure that

the Park at the Heart project can still go ahead with funding from other sources."

Visit [www.parkattheheart.co.uk](http://www.parkattheheart.co.uk) for more information.

● A new bridge for pedestrians and cyclists, including pupils at Newby Primary School, will be built over Manchester Road after Sustrans' Connect2 project won the The People's £50 Million Lottery Giveaway after a public vote.

The sustainable transport charity will use the money to improve local travel in 79 communities across the UK, including Bradford, by building bridges and new crossings over barriers such as busy roads, rivers and railway lines.

## Competition

### East meets West

*East is East* was a massive success at the cinema box offices in 1999 with its touching and at times hilarious depiction of racial culture clash in 1970s Salford.



Its author, Ayub Khan-Din, has returned to similar territory – contemporary working-class Bolton this time – with *Rafta, Rafta*, a warm-hearted comic depiction of Indian domestic life.

*Rafta, Rafta* is now on tour after a successful run at the National Theatre and stops off at the Alhambra on 5-14 March. Community Pride has two pairs of tickets to give away for the opening night on Wednesday, 5 March (7.30pm). Just answer the simple question below.

Entries must be received by noon on Monday, 4 February 2008. If you are posting your entry please remember to use a stamp. Two winners will be drawn from all the correct entries. The competition is open to residents of the City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council area only. The Editor's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into.

● Jean Wilby, of Keighley, won a family ticket for *Peter Pan* at the Alhambra after winning our November competition. The correct answer was Tinkerbell.

#### Rafta, Rafta Competition

Name .....

Address .....

Contact number .....

e-mail .....

**Question:** In which town is *Rafta, Rafta* set?

Answer .....

Return to: **Rafta, Rafta Competition, Community Pride, Room 19, City Hall, Bradford BD1 1HY** by noon on the closing date of Monday, 4 February 2008.

Bradford Theatres are happy to send you information about forthcoming events. If you wish to be added to our mailing list please tick this box.

## Feeding your children well for 100 years

**Contrary to popular opinion, celebrity chef Jamie Oliver is not the first to advocate healthy eating in schools.**

Children at Green Lane School were eating well-balanced meals a hundred years ago.

A booklet written in 1908 containing 17 sample menus used in the kitchens at the Manningham school reveals that they were eating meat and potato hash with haricot beans and gravy, or fish and potato pie with green peas. They even had vegetarian meals such as baked lentil savoury with brown bean sauce and Yorkshire cheese pudding.

Bradford served the first school meals in the country at Green Lane in October 1907 after the Education (Provision of Meals) Act 1906 was passed.

And our school catering team is still leading the way. They provide around 35,000 meals a day at 185 schools. All the menus feature dishes that meet the Government's new food-based standards for school lunches and many more meals are now made from fresh, locally-sourced poultry, meat and vegetables.

These days children can choose from dishes including tuna pasta bake, chicken casserole with dumplings and vegetable curry, as well as tasty healthy desserts.

Having provided meals at the school right through to the present day, our school catering service got together with Green Lane pupils past and present to celebrate the centenary of school meals in Bradford.

Children dressed up in Edwardian costumes and ate food from a typical 1907 menu served by catering staff dressed in period clothes. The youngsters also got the chance to write on slates and play games such as hoops and whip and top.



Eager anticipation... school dinners a century ago.



Tucking in... youngsters at Green Lane enjoy school dinners 2007-style.

Fittingly the primary and nursery school also has a new kitchen and dining room, alongside extra classrooms, in its brand new £3.5 million Priestley Building. It was built on the site of the original kitchen where those original ground-breaking school meals were created.

Coun Andrew Mallinson, Executive Member for Regeneration and Economy, said: "It's hard to imagine how children coped getting through the school day a 100 years ago without a dinner break.

"With the developments made by the modern service it's good to see that school meals in the district continue to be delivered by innovative, caring and committed people."

**This newsletter is also available in audio format, in Braille or as a Word document. Please contact 01274 432020.**



**recycle for Bradford** Please recycle Community Pride when everyone has read it.

# Community Pride

[www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk)



## Balloons fly fjord-er than you think

Panto star Billy Pearce took time off from playing Mr Smee in *Peter Pan* at the Alhambra to help local schoolchildren launch 1,000 colourful balloons from Centenary Square.

The balloon launch was celebrating the success of our Parental Involvement Programme which, since 2003, has been encouraging parents to take an active role in their children's education. The programme offers opportunities for parents to take part in activities in schools to support children's learning and to learn new skills themselves.

It now operates in 80 schools. Each balloon was labelled with a school's name and address. The school whose balloon was returned from the furthest distance from Bradford will win a prize.

Remarkably, as *Community Pride* went to print, a balloon had been returned from as far away as Drangedal, around 100 miles south of Oslo in Norway.

## New online information for BSL users

We are leading the way amongst local authorities by dedicating a section of our website especially for people who use British Sign Language (BSL).

The 'Welcome to Bradford Council' part of the [www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk) site has been created in response to requests from the deaf community.

BSL is a separate language to English and deaf people whose first language is BSL may not be fluent English readers. The best way for them to get information they need is in BSL.

Log on to [www.bradford.gov.uk/bsl](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/bsl) and you will find 27 videos across six topics which tell you about some of our services:

- Our Commitment, which contains an introduction to the Council and general contact details;
- Benefits;
- Council Tax;
- Bins, Waste and Recycling;
- Services for the Deaf; and
- Neighbourhood Support.

The signing is done by a deaf person from Bradford, Susie Farrar, a qualified BSL trainer and assessor. The videos are subtitled as well as signed, for people who are hard of hearing. And, if you prefer to get your information in written form, these scripts are available to read by selecting the link below each picture.

'Welcome to Bradford Council' is the newest addition to the ever-increasing range of services and information we provide for you on our website. Find out more on page 2.

Council Leader Kris Hopkins said: "We are committed to making it as easy as possible for everyone in the district to communicate with the Council, request services, pay bills and get hold of information they need – in a way that best suits their busy lifestyles.

"More and more people choose to do this via the internet rather than by post, by telephone or face to face at our offices. We are constantly improving and expanding the content of our website to cater for that changing demand, but without reducing the other ways people can contact us."



Front page... Susie Farrar takes centre stage.



**Beacon Authority**  
2006-2007  
Improving Rural Services:  
Empowering Communities

Inside

Page 2  
Council services online



Centre Bradford Diversity Exchange



Pull-out  
Be active, be healthy



### Contact the Council

**Switchboard:** 01274 432111 (8am-5pm Mon-Fri)

**COUNCIL CONTACT**

To report a fault, request a Council service or information, make a complaint or even give us a pat on the back, Council Contact is the first port of call for a rapid response.

By phone: **01274 431000** (8am to 6pm Monday to Friday. Outside these hours please follow the instructions on the automated system).  
By fax: **01274 740456**  
By text message: **07786 208100** (charged at phone companies' standard rates)  
Online: [www.bradford.gov.uk/contactus](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/contactus)

**FACE TO FACE**

Visit the **bdirect Customer Service Centre at Centenary Court, Bradford** (8.30am-5pm Monday to Friday). Pedestrian access is via the cobbled ramp which leads from Cheapside towards Forster Square railway station.

The centre is a one-stop shop where you can make enquiries and access services provided by **Bradford Council, HM Revenue and Customs, West Yorkshire Police, NHS, Pensions Service, Bradford Council for Voluntary Service, Jobcentre Plus and Citizens Advice Bureau**. Alternatively, use the [www.bdirect.org.uk](http://www.bdirect.org.uk) website.

You can also access a wide range of Council services at: **Keighley Customer Service Centre, Town Hall, Bow Street 01274 431000;** **Manningham One-Stop Centre, 1 Carlisle Road 01274 432772;** **Benefits and Council Tax Enquiry Office, Shipley Town Hall, Windsor Road 01274 432772;** **Bingley Council Shop, 146 Main Street 01274 437016;** and **Shipley Information Centre, 2A Wellcroft 01274 437016.**

**Community Pride is published six times a year by Public Affairs and Communications, City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council.**

To contact the editor write to **Community Pride, Room 19, City Hall, Bradford BD1 1HY;** e-mail [community.pride@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:community.pride@bradford.gov.uk) or phone **01274 434290.**

# Getting to the nitty gritty of our online services



You can also request a particular road or footpath to be gritted. Although we cannot guarantee being able to act on every request, this information will help us to identify trouble spots and plan future work.

"It is just one of many services and facilities that can be accessed through the Council website. As the number of people with internet access continues to increase we are constantly looking at offering local people the choice of getting in touch with us online about a greater range of services and activities.

**Getting around on the district's roads during winter is a major consideration for many people.**

Now you can check online how we will be keeping the roads free of snow and ice this winter. A new section of the [www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk) website will give information about our winter maintenance operations and advice on what you can do to stay safe in the potentially hazardous conditions.

Log on to [www.bradford.gov.uk/winter](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/winter) or follow the Winter Maintenance Service link on the homepage.

Coun Mohammad Masood, Executive Member for Corporate, said: "This addition to our online services provides residents with really useful information on how hard we work in the winter to make sure people can use the roads and footpaths safely.

Recently we also launched an online way for you to check what day your general waste bin will be emptied. The facility enables you to search our list of rounds by postcode or street name. We hope to extend the facility soon to include recycling rounds.

Log on to [www.bradford.gov.uk/bins](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/bins) or follow the 'I am looking for...' Online Services link on the homepage.

## Your council online

[www.bradford.gov.uk/onlineservices](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/onlineservices) (or follow the 'I am looking for...' Online Services link on the homepage).

For some of our most requested online services, such as:

- reporting problems on streets, including fly-tipping, litter, graffiti, faulty street lighting, potholes, blocked gullies, dog fouling or grass verges that need cutting;
- reporting benefit fraud;
- planning enquiries;
- bulk waste collection requests;
- join library (over 16s only);
- apply for a place at one of the district's schools;
- viewing your Council Tax or Business Rates balance;
- paying your bills by debit card or direct debit;
- complaints and compliments; and
- applying for a job with Bradford Council.

If the subject of your enquiry isn't covered there please try... [www.bradford.gov.uk/forms](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/forms)

This gives you access to online and downloadable application and enquiry forms for an even wider range of service areas, including:

- Benefits (including applications for housing benefit and council tax benefit, free school meals and school

- clothing allowance)
- Car Parking Permits
- Early Years and Childcare Service
- Electoral Services
- Environmental Health (including food and food business complaints)
- Housing
- Libraries
- Licensing
- Markets
- Neighbourhood Support
- Register Offices
- Social Services
- Skills for Work
- Sport and Leisure
- Waste Management (including reporting a missed collection, ordering a recycling bin or garden waste bag).

If you still cannot find the form you are looking for use our general enquiries form which is also available on the /forms page.

Of course if you do not have internet access you can use one of the computers in our libraries. You can also still telephone, text or fax Council Contact to report a fault, make a complaint or request a Council service or information. See Contact the Council panel.



## Regional award for your newspaper

Community Pride, our newspaper for you, won a gold award for Best Newspaper or Magazine at the 2007 Chartered Institute of Public Relations' (CIPR) Yorkshire and Lincolnshire PRide Awards.

Pride@Work, the Council's quarterly staff newsletter, was a finalist in the same category. Both publications are produced by our Public Affairs and Communications team.

The judges said Community Pride, which now goes forward to the CIPR national PRide Awards in March 2008, was a "superb example of what a council newspaper should be".

They added: "Bright and lively, it engages with the community in a way that many media outlets could only dream of. It combines news with a clear effort to inform the population about how their money is being spent."

Community Pride is delivered six times a year to every household in the district. Each copy costs less than 14p to produce and deliver – that's just 84p a year to stay informed about Bradford Council and the services we provide for you.

If you have any views on how we could improve Community Pride even more drop the Editor a line at:

Community Pride, Room 19, City Hall, Bradford BD1 1HY or e-mail [community.pride@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:community.pride@bradford.gov.uk)



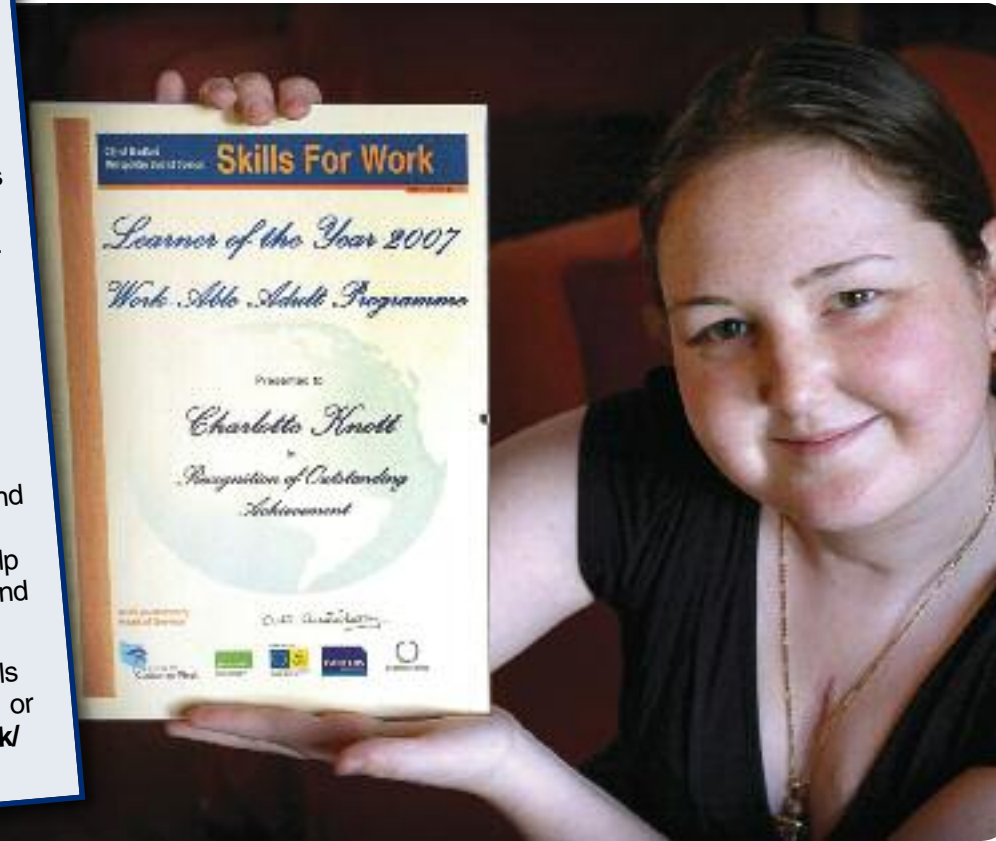
### Skills for Work fact file:

● Skills for Work provides training and employment support for local people to obtain skills, qualifications and jobs. It also trains and supports employed adults to gain NVQ qualifications to help them progress in their current jobs.

● A range of learning centres offer vocational training in office, shop and warehouse work, customer care including call centre training, and health and social care occupations.

● Staff work with other Council departments, local businesses and other training organisations to provide support services and help learners find work placements and permanent jobs.

For more information about Skills for Work contact **01274 432691** or log on to [www.bradford.gov.uk/skillsforwork](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/skillsforwork)



**Charlotte Knott... has overcome health problems to become Skills for Work's Learner of the Year.**

# Charlotte's not one to be beaten

**Charlotte Knott's determination to overcome a rare heart condition has earned the title of Learner of the Year from our Skills for Work service.**

The 21-year-old from Odsal had a heart and double lung transplant four years ago to combat primary pulmonary hypertension, which left her unable to breathe.

The operation was a success but the former Wyke Manor School pupil must take drugs for the rest of her life to make sure her body does not reject the new organs.

Charlotte tires easily and sometimes still struggles to breathe, but she went back to her studies through our WorkAble adult learning programme and has landed

her first job. She passed the nationally-recognised Clait ICT qualification and is now working as an administrator at mailing firm Pitney Bowes.

Charlotte, who missed a lot of her school education because of her health problems, said: "I'm really happy about winning this award and it's a big step in my life. I'd lost a lot of confidence after the operation and I didn't like to go out of the house but the staff on the course were fantastic and really helpful."

Her mother, Wendy, who joined her at the Skills for Work awards ceremony at City Hall, added: "She was given five years minimum to live and the doctors said anything after that was a bonus. I am very, very proud of her."

Avril Austerberry, Head of Skills for Work, said:

"Charlotte is an example of the huge efforts put in by many of our learners to overcome their own personal challenges along the road to success."

- Other awards were presented to:
- Anisa Kauser** – Learner of the Year, WorkAble e2e programmes.
  - Samantha Kirk** – Learner of the Year, Neal Street/Mitre Court Training Centres.
  - Kieron Maloney** – Learner of the Year, Keighley Training Group.
  - Aotoofa Malik** – Learner of the Year, Appleton House Training Centre.
  - Christine Drake** – Learner of the Year, Train to Gain.
  - Susan Sharpe**, Cancer Research Bradford – Work Placement Provider of the Year.
  - Heron Contract Hire** – Employer of the Year.

## Fighting fires with prevention

Prevention is the key when it comes to reducing the number of injuries to people over 50 caused by accidents in the home, particularly from cooking and other fires.

Ruth Johnson's post as fire safety co-ordinator for Bradford Older People's Partnership is the first of its kind in the district.

She works closely with our Adult Services department and the other agencies which make up the Partnership to support its priority to develop and promote accident prevention schemes linked to home accidents.

That means looking at ways of improving how organisations across the district share information to help those most at risk of accidents in the home and to raise awareness of

the potential hazards in the home that could put people at risk.

Ruth, who is based at Bradford Fire Station, said: "We are particularly keen to raise awareness of the need for people to take greater care in their kitchens, as this is where most accidents and fires in the home happen.

"There were 45 chip pan fires and 125 other cooking fires in the district in the first six months of this year. Unfortunately these cooking fires resulted in 39 injuries. With some advice on kitchen safety, delivered in the home by Fire Service staff, this type of injury could be prevented."

Anyone can book a free home fire safety check, which usually includes the installation of smoke alarms, by calling **0800 587 4536** or visiting

[www.westyorksfire.gov.uk](http://www.westyorksfire.gov.uk)

● Ruth is also promoting fire safety awareness training for frontline staff working in organisations which deliver services to older people.

Staff from the Council's library service to the housebound, Telecare, Age Concern, Bradford and Airedale Community Equipment Service, Anchor Staying Put and voluntary workers supporting eastern European communities have already received this training.

Ruth, whose post has been funded for two years through the district's Local Area Agreement, is keen to make contact with other organisations in the district to look at ways of working together to reduce accidents in the home. You can contact her on **01274 385450.**



**Spreading the word... firefighters from West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service launch 'Rob and Vince's Guide to Home Fire Safety', a DVD promoting awareness of the dangers of accidents in the home.**

**An inspector calls**

The Council is improving in the way it uses its resources, according to independent watchdog the Audit Commission.

Following this year's assessment we have received an overall score of three out of four which means we are performing well and consistently above minimum requirements.

This is an improvement from last year's score of two. We were scored on five themes – financial management, financial standing, internal control, financial reporting and value for money.

The use of resources score forms part of our annual Comprehensive Performance Assessment score in which we have received a three-star rating – the second-highest on a five-point scale – for the last five years.

For two weeks starting on 28 January we will also have our Corporate Assessment by the Audit Commission. This is a major inspection which will look at how effectively the Council is managed and how we work with partners to deliver effective and value-for-money services and improve the quality of people's lives.

In our last one, in 2002, we got a score of three out of four. Since then we have been acting on the inspectors' suggestions to improve our performance. This year the test has been revised and made harder.

The inspectors will be focusing on areas such as transport, services to older people, services to children and young people, how we help to make safer and stronger communities, and how we support communities.

**Private Fostering**

Are you looking after a child who is not your own? Private Fostering is when a child or young person under the age of 16 (18 if the young person has a disability) is looked after for 28 or more consecutive days in a year by someone who is not a close relative, guardian or a person with parental responsibility. Close relatives can include step-parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles.

If the arrangement has been made by the Children's Care Services for using an approved foster carer or childminder, you do not need to do anything.

If you think you are in a private fostering arrangement you must, by law, inform Children's Care Services six weeks before the arrangement is due to start. If the child already lives with you, you must contact the Children's Initial Contact Point immediately on **01274 437500**.

# Celebrating your diversity

**Over 430 groups across the district have come together since 2005 to share activities, common interests and learn more about each other as part of the innovative Linking Communities project.**

The project crosses boundaries of age, ethnicity, sexuality, geography and culture. As a result more than 5,000 local people from all walks of life have met others who are different to themselves and who they would not otherwise have had the opportunity to meet.

For example, the over 60s lunch and activities club at the Anchor Project, St Clement's Church, Barkerend, linked up last year with the nearby Shree Krishna Elderly Day Centre to learn about Diwali and see the new Hindu Temple on Leeds Road.



A return visit focused on learning more about Christmas and a visit to the church. More than 60 people took part in the link-up and, a year on, the two groups are still meeting.

Supporting the Linking Communities project is one of the key areas of work for Bradford District Diversity Exchange, an independent project, supported by Neighbourhood Renewal Fund cash.

The Exchange aims to be a district-wide centre of excellence and expertise on issues of diversity and dialogue between communities. It supports creative and innovative projects by other organisations to bring communities across the district together.

Another project it has supported linked Year 6 pupils from Heaton St Barnabas CE Primary School with the local Mothers Union to learn about each other and share a traditional English meal.

The children all played a part, from peeling vegetables to learning more about someone they didn't know, and the women from the Mothers Union enjoyed sharing their experiences of life with the youngsters.

Diversity Exchange manager, Liz Hanney, said: "It is clear from feedback over the last couple of years that we need to continue our support for groups to develop the links made in one-off activities. The second stage of Linking Communities will help to develop relationships and build understanding between groups and organisations that share a common goal, aim or interest."

"We are currently working on two pilot projects. One brings together different faith communities in the BD3 area and the other is about sharing our history and heritage using the creative arts."

For more information contact **01274 777339**, **sophie@bradforddiversityexchange.com** or log on to **www.bradforddiversityexchange.com**

**Linking communities... and making new friends.**



**Sharing experiences... youngsters from Heaton St Barnabas CE Primary School cooked for members of the local Mothers Union.**



## Recognising community role models

Are there any activities or schemes in your area which help to build respect and understanding between different communities? If there are we would like to hear from you.

Our sixth Community Harmony Awards will once again recognise and celebrate those who contribute towards promoting good relations and harmony between different parts of the district's community.

This year's awards will be launched on 4 February and the judges are looking for nominations for individuals, groups or organisations.

You can nominate yourself or others under any one of four categories: Individuals, Groups/Organisations, Businesses and Employees. The judging panel can make other awards at its own discretion.

Last year the judges introduced

three additional categories – Lifetime Achievement, Commendation and Young People.

The winners in 2007 included Jean Walker, a tireless campaigner for the district's older population; Wahid Iqbal, a teacher who had brought together three Manningham primary schools through out-of-school activities; Jamil Food Store; the Re-Invention theatre group; George Deane, equality and diversity manager at Stoney Ridge Hospital, Bingley; and Bradford Trident's Youth Forum Development Team.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, 7 March. The awards – which are supported by the Council and the Telegraph & Argus – will be presented at a ceremony in City Hall on 16 April.

From 4 February you can get a nomination form from the Equalities Service, 7th floor, Jacobs Well, Bradford BD1 5RW; by telephoning **01274 434455**; or as a download from **www.bradford.gov.uk/communityawards**

## News in brief

### Creative Pathways

Are you an artist or arts organisation working in the district's arts industry? Would attending a training course, purchasing new equipment or software, developing new promotional material or paying for business advice help you?

Then a Creative Pathways bursary could be just up your street.

Bursaries of up to £500 are available until March 2008 (subject to availability) to help creative individuals and businesses do things that will result in increased work opportunities. The project is a partnership between our Department of Culture, Tourism and Sport, Artworks and FABRIC (Forum for the Arts in Bradford).

For more information contact Karen Lewis on **01274 432416** or **karen.lewis@bradford.gov.uk**



### Coats for Kids

Has your child outgrown their winter coat, or received a new one for Christmas? Then why not donate their unwanted one to this year's 'Coats 4 Kids' Appeal, supported by Bradford and Kirklees councils' recycling teams, The Pulse and Johnsons dry cleaners.

You can take coats to your local Johnsons branch. They will be cleaned and distributed to organisations such as Gingerbread and Keighley Women's Refuge for youngsters who otherwise might be shivering through the winter.

### Fairtrade Fortnight

The Council will once again be supporting Fairtrade Fortnight, which this year runs from 25 February to 9 March.

There will be a range of events across the district and an updated 2008 version of the Bradford Fairtrade Directory will be launched.

For details or to download the directory log on to **www.bradford.gov.uk/fair\_trade**



**Khalil**



**Dyfrig**



**Saima**

## I am Bradford District

**You will have seen one or more of our 'I am Bradford District' posters in prominent locations around the district before Christmas.**

Did they make you think about the make up of the community you live in? About the variety of people you come across in your daily lives? And about how we rarely match the stereotypes with which we are all too often labelled?

The posters featured eight ordinary Bradfordians from a variety of cultures, backgrounds and ages. They were pictured at work and play and were designed to challenge assumptions about people's lifestyles or beliefs and show how people and place have become interwoven.

Council Leader Kris Hopkins said: "This campaign showed a range of people who are proud to call themselves Bradfordians. The images showed the energy and diversity we have across the district and demonstrated that people won't be pigeonholed or stereotyped."

"It is the people who are the heart and soul of this district. What these images showed is the modern face of the Bradford district, an ever-changing district."

For example, Khalil Hussain was pictured at Valley Parade, proudly sporting his Bradford City shirt and scarf.

He loves football and believes it has the power to bring people together.

He said: "For me Bradford is home and I am a Yorkshireman through and through. I love the diversity of the people who live and share this great city. As Bradford is my home, I am a Bradford City fan. Football can break down the barriers between communities and build lasting friendships."

Meanwhile, Dyfrig Lewis-Smith is a solicitor with Bradford Council, who is visually impaired. He said: "Bradford is an interesting place – the multilingualness of the place reminds me of growing up in Wales."

Other images featured:

- Adam Wilber, a young man who is passionate about volunteering at the Keighey and Worth Valley Railway.
- Saima Hussain, a practising Muslim who plays rugby league for England.
- Georgina Webster and her partner Jan Smithies, who love walking in the moorland around Haworth.
- Rev Tony Parry, a minister with the Pentecostal Church.
- Ghurmit Singh, who loves riding horses in the district's beautiful countryside.

Watch out for a second poster campaign in March with a stronger focus on togetherness.

## Have you considered car sharing yet?

The first motorway car share lane in the UK will open near Bradford at the end of February.

The 1.7-mile lane will link the southbound M606 to the eastbound M62 towards Leeds allowing vehicles with more than one occupant to bypass traffic at the busy Chain Bar junction. Car sharers will save up to eight minutes on their journeys.

Graham Riley, from the Highways Agency, said: "Studies show that up to

84% of vehicles at Chain Bar have only one occupant. We hope the new car share lane will allow drivers to save money and time – and help the environment – by sharing their cars, particularly for peak-time commuting journeys into Leeds."



Is it time for you to consider whether you could car share on your journeys to or from work? Log on to **www.bradfordcarshare.com** for more information.

● Our staff now have the use of the Council's first eco-friendly pool car as part of our commitment to address climate change and reduce our carbon emissions by 20% by 2010/11.

We have leased a Toyota Prius, which claims to be the most environmentally-friendly car on the market. Its engine intelligently switches from using a petrol engine to an electric motor according to driving demands and is virtually emission-free in urban areas.

What's On 2007

**Until 27 Jan, Peter Pan** (Alhambra): Panto starring Billy Pearce. Various performances. From £6.

 Signed performance: 25 January, 7.15pm.  
 Captioned performance: 19 January, 2.30pm.

**Until 24 February, Busbys** (Bradford Industrial Museum): An exhibition celebrating the former department store in Bradford. 01274 435900.

**Until 28 February 2008, Seasons** (Bracken Hall Countryside Centre, Baildon): Mixed media exhibition. Exhibits will change to reflect each season. 01274 584140.

**Until 2 March, Top Dog** (Bradford1 Gallery, Centenary Square): New work for pets and wildlife created by top UK designers. Free. 01274 437800.

**Until 17 March 2008, Field of Centres – Michael Brennand-Wood** (Cartwright Hall): Pattern-making at the interface of painting and textiles. 01274 431212.

**Until 1 April 2008, Living with the Tudors** (Bolling Hall): Exhibition about Tudor life. 01274 431826.

**Until 20 April 2008, Molecules, minerals, matter** (Cliffe Castle, Keighley): Artist Jane Foale explores the connection between minerals and pigments through experimentation with paint media. 01535 618231.

January

 **18, Ricky Tomlinson's Laughter Show** (St George's Hall): 7.30pm. £15.

**21-26, Outside Edge** (Keighley Playhouse): By Richard Harris. 08451 267859.

**22-26, Thoroughly Modern Millie** (St George's Hall): Musical set in 1920s New York, performed by Buttershaw St Paul's AODS. 7.15pm, Sat mat 2.15pm. From £10.

**24, Older People's Focus Group** (Victoria Hall, Saltaire): 11am. 01274 431573.

**25, Holocaust Memorial** (City Hall, Bradford): 10.30am in the Banqueting Hall. **25, Mark Simpson** (Bradford Cathedral): With the Carducci String Quartet. Part of the Bradford Chamber season. 7.30pm. £9 and £11, concs £2.50 off. Tickets from Bradford Theatres box office.

**28, Shakespeare 4 Kidz – Hamlet** (St George's Hall): Ideal for those studying Shakespeare at Key Stage 2 and 3. 10.30am and 1.30pm. £13.50 adults, £8.50 children.

February

**1, Julie Edwards-Kevin Dearden Quintet** (The Priestley): Jazz night. £6/£5 members. Doors open 7.45pm. 01274 543547 or 07950 533581.




**5, Jethro** (St George's Hall): Cornish comic. 7.30pm. £16 and £17.50.

**6-7, Russian State Ballet of Siberia** (St George's Hall): Tchiakovsky's The Nutcracker. 7.30pm, Sat mat 2.30pm. From £10.50. **6, Organ Recital** (Bradford Cathedral): Andrew Teague. Free. 1.05pm. 01274 777723.

**8, Soweto Gospel Choir** (St George's Hall): 7.30pm. from £18.

**9, Public Lecture** (Bradford Central Library): 'Sacred Gardens and the Path' by Robert Woolley. Hosted by Bradford Theosophical Society. Free. 2.30 pm. 01274 598455.

**11 Feb-5 April, Chitty Chitty Bang Bang** (Alhambra): Award-winning musical show heads for Bradford after four years wowing adults and children alike at the London Palladium. Various performances.

 Signed perfs: Sat, 8 March, 2.30pm and Thurs, 3 April, 7.30pm.  
 Captioned performance: Sat, 22 March, 2.30pm.  
 Audio-described performance: Sat, 29 March, 2.30pm.

**12, The Basil Brush Show** (St George's Hall): 2pm. £12.

Hey Presto – it's magic

It's the 60th anniversary of Bradford Magic Circle this year and an exhibition 'Magic Bradford' at the Industrial Museum between 1 March and 13 April will mark the occasion.



Bradford Magic Circle is also hosting its annual Hey Presto Magic Show at Bingley Arts Centre on Saturday, 8 March (7.30pm). The family show will be compered by past British magical champion John Hotowka and will feature illusionists Amethyst (pictured), the Spotlight Dancers, Roy Davenport (prizewinner in the World Magical Championships in Germany), jugglers Secret Circus Co, youngster Jack Gleadow and children's entertainer Paul Sunderland.

Tickets cost from £6 (£5 children and concessions) and are available from Bradford Theatres box office or any Bradford Council ticket agency. For more information about the show log on to [www.bradfordmagiccircle.co.uk](http://www.bradfordmagiccircle.co.uk)

● **Community Pride has a family ticket (five seats) for the Hey Presto Magic Show to give away to a lucky reader.** To enter simply send the answer to the question below on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope to 'Hey Presto' competition, Community Pride, Room 19, City Hall, Bradford BD1 1HY or e-mail [community.pride@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:community.pride@bradford.gov.uk) by noon on Monday, 4 February 2008. One winner will be picked from all the correct entries. Usual Community Pride rules apply.

**Question:** How many years has Bradford Magic Circle been running?

**13, Lorna Luft** (St George's Hall): Celebrating her mother, Judy Garland. 7.30pm. £17.50 and £19.50.

**15, Dave Spikey** (St George's Hall): On the Best Medicine Tour. 8pm. £16 and £17.50.

**16-17, Spring Gala** (Keighley & Worth Valley Railway): Steam trains from Keighley, Ingrow, Damems and Oakworth stations to Haworth and Oxenhope. 01535 645214.

**19, Older People's Focus Group** (Victoria Hall, Keighley): 11am. 01274 431573.


**29, Bradford International Film Festival** (National Media Museum): 0870 7010200 or [www.nationalmediamuseum.org.uk](http://www.nationalmediamuseum.org.uk)


March

**3-8, Of Mice and Men** (Keighley Playhouse): By John Steinbeck. 08451 267859.

**5-14, Rafta, Rafta** (St George's Hall): 7.30pm, mats 8 March 2.30pm, 9 March 3pm and 13 March 2pm.

From £12.50.

 Captioned performance: Sat, 8 March 2.30pm.

 Audio-described performance: Sun, 9 March 3pm.

**Win tickets – back page.**

**7, Kungsbacka Piano Trio** (Bradford Cathedral): Part of the Bradford Chamber season. 7.30pm. £9 and £11, concs £2.50 off. Tickets from Bradford Theatres box office.

**14, Alun Cochrane** (Alhambra Studio): Perrier nominated comedian. 8pm. £10, £8 concessions.

**18, Bjorn Again** (St George's Hall): 7.30pm. £14 and £16.

A booking fee will apply to all Bradford Theatres ticket sales. For more information about these and other performances at the Alhambra, Studio or St George's Hall contact 01274 432000 or [www.bradford-theatres.co.uk](http://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk)

Bradford Council cannot guarantee inclusion of all events submitted or accept responsibility for cancellations or changes to details after publication.

Co-ordinator's Office 01535 618008:

**January** – 15, Steeton/Eastburn; 17, Silsden; 23, Laycock; 24, East Morton; 30, Oakworth. **February** – 5, Bracken Bank/Ingrow (9.30am); 7, Lawkholme; 19, Holycroft/Lund Park; 20, Riddlesden (11am). **March** – 4, Addingham; 5, Dalton Lane/Stockbridge; 6, Beechcliffe/Utley; 11, Fell Lane; 13, Cross Roads.

**Shipley Area (7.30pm unless stated, Area Co-ordinator's Office 01274 437146 or e-mail [shipleyneighbourhoodforums@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:shipleyneighbourhoodforums@bradford.gov.uk)):**

**January** – 17, Burley-in-Wharfedale; 21, Wrose; 24, Windill & West Royd (3.30pm); 30, Eldwick & Gilstead (7pm). **February** – 6, Baildon Village, Menston; 7, Crossflatts & Micklethwaite (2pm); 18, Shipley Central (7pm); 20, Lower Baildon (7pm); 21, Bingley Town (2pm); 25, Valley Road (6pm). **March** – 4, Hirst Wood (7pm); 5, Nab Wood, Moorhead & Northcliffe; 6, Crag, Owlet & Bolton Woods (3.30pm); 10, Cottingley; 11, Harden; 13, Middle Baildon & Ferniehurst (7pm).

Give us your views at a Neighbourhood Forum

Neighbourhood Forums are open meetings for you, held twice a year in most neighbourhoods.

You can comment on plans for the area and talk about your ideas and concerns with service providers. Voluntary and community groups can promote their work and recruit volunteers.

The following forums will take place before mid March 2008. To find out where they are being held and to request an agenda contact the relevant Area Co-ordinator's Office or visit [www.bradford.gov.uk/nss](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/nss)

**Bradford North Area (7pm unless stated, Area Co-ordinator's Office 01274 431066):**

**January** – 16, Fagley; 23, Bradford Moor & Thornbury (Women, 1pm); 24, Pollard Park & Otley Road, Thorpe Edge; 29, Idle Village, Kings Park. **February** – 6, Barkerend (Women, 1.30pm), Thornbury; 7, Barkerend, Thackley; 19, Bolton,

Manningham; 20, Ravenscliffe & Greengates; 26, East Bowling; 27, Eccleshill. **March** – 4, Undercliffe; 5, Manningham (Women, 1pm), Bradford Moor.

**Bradford South Area (7pm unless stated, Area Co-ordinator's Office 01274 431155):**

**January** – 24, Tong Village. **February** – 12, Holme Wood; 20, Bierley; 21, Sutton (10am, Councillors' Surgery), Clayton Heights; 26, Buttershaw. **March** – 4, Ambler Thorn & Queensbury; 6, Ambler Thorn & Queensbury (1.30pm); 11, Low Moor.

**Bradford West Area (7pm unless stated, Area Co-ordinator's Office 01274 432597):**

**February** – 7, Thornton. **March** – 4, Clayton; 6, Heaton Village, Lilycroft; 12, Fairweather Green, Horton Grange; 13, Allerton; 19, Girlington (Women's, 11am).

**Keighley Area (7pm unless stated, Area**

# Clusters of success

Our extended services programme to strengthen links between schools, families and local communities continues to go from strength to strength.

Twenty-four 'clusters' now cover 194 of the district's 207 schools and almost half of schools are delivering a full range of services.

The programme involves schools and other local organisations working together to give children, their families and the wider community access to a wide range of opportunities and support to help people to raise educational attainment and participate fully in society.

Clusters are formed of a number of schools in an area, with a project manager for each cluster, who supports the schools and other organisations to provide services. The range of services in each cluster is driven by the needs of pupils, parents and the wider community in that area and services will only be delivered if a clear need is shown.

Breakfast and out-of-school clubs, mother and toddler groups and computer classes have been set up in many clusters. Sports activities, DJ clubs, a variety of dance classes and science weeks have also proved popular.

Here are just a few examples of the type of opportunities available to you and your child.

**BD6/7 cluster**  
● Fortnightly Open University study sessions are held at Hollingwood Primary School.

● Regular after-school basketball sessions on Mondays at three schools.  
● A weekly after-school multi-sports club on Thursdays at Brackenhill Primary.  
● Great Horton Village Hall hosted a community cinema night in December.

**Wyke cluster**  
● DJ-ing on Wednesday evenings.  
**Allerton/Girlington cluster**  
● Homework and activities club on Saturday mornings at Girlington Community Centre.

**Education Plus cluster in BD2/10**

● Out of school hours childcare club every day at Parkland Primary, taking children from three schools.

**Heaton cluster**

● A weekly football project at Belle Vue Boys' School on Friday evenings has been developed in partnership with the Neighbourhood Policing Team.  
● Kick boxing every Saturday morning at Heaton Primary.

**Bingley cluster**

● Myrtle Park Playscheme runs during every school holiday from 8am to 6pm, with regular trips and activities.



African drumming... just one of the activities which introduce youngsters to new skills and experiences.

**Worth Valley cluster**

● A chocolate-making session will be held in the Worth Valley cluster of schools on 26 January.

In 2003 Bradford was the only authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region to be selected to run a pilot scheme as part of the Department for Children, Schools and Families' extended schools initiative.

The pilot schemes across the country were successful and the aim is now for all schools to be delivering extended services by 2010.

Coun Colin Gill, Executive Member for Services for Children and Young People, said: "We are delighted that extended services provision continues to grow rapidly.

"Clusters across the district are offering some exciting, and often much-needed, opportunities for children and their families and members of local communities who previously might not have had any contact with the schools on their doorstep."

For more information about extended services in your area contact your local school.

## Giving new businesses a kick start

A new website is designed to help the creation and growth of new businesses across the district.

It will complement our Bradford Kickstart programme which offers expert practical advice and support to new businesses. It has helped nearly 300 start-ups in its first year.

If your business idea is still on the drawing board, or if you are already trading, then visit [www.bradfordkickstart.com](http://www.bradfordkickstart.com) and see what it has to offer.

- Details of the support available.
- The Kickstart Knowledgebase – free information and factsheets covering all areas of business, including legislation, taxation, finance and HR.
- Local business news.
- An up-to-date calendar of training courses, business seminars, workshops and networking events.
- Case studies featuring Bradford Kickstart success stories.
- Online forums, blogs and messaging.
- A free e-mail account and address.

The website launch this month will also feature a competition to find the most enterprising business ideas and the most impressive young companies in the district.

The winner in each of six categories will receive a cash prize to spend on launching or growing their business, with a presentation evening in March.

## Creating Links 2 future jobs

More and more construction workers will be needed over the next few years as the number of regeneration projects across the district increases.

Our Links 2 team, working with developers and local training provider Bradford Youth Build Trust, has already created more than 100 places on general construction taster courses.

The two-week courses give students a taste of skills such as joinery, bricklaying and painting and decorating. A women-only course has been organised in February and accredited plastering courses will start at the end of January.

They are designed to encourage local people to learn the skills they need to work on the planned major developments.

Over 280 companies have already signed up to the Links 2 partnership, including Westfield, Urban Splash, Newmason Properties and

Carillion. They have committed to using local contractors and workers wherever possible.

Links 2 will help with recruitment of those contractors and workers and people who have trained through Links 2 and other local trainers will feature high on the list.

Coun Andrew Mallinson, Executive Member for Regeneration, said: "One of the key elements in our economic strategy is for Bradford to produce a skilled workforce. Links 2 is creating the right opportunities for people to raise their aspirations and gain a foothold on the employment ladder.

"During the coming years there are going to be some excellent opportunities for motivated people to engage in the birth of a new city here in Bradford and across the whole district."

For more information about future courses, or if you are a developer wanting to sign up, contact Links 2 on 01274 432007.



Building skills... trainee construction workers get to grips with bricklaying.

## We welcome breastfeeding



Breast milk provides all the essential nutrients your baby needs for healthy development. It also gives your baby long-term health advantages, such as protection against infections and less risk of obesity or diabetes.

Breastfeeding also reduces mothers' chances of getting certain diseases later in life, including breast and ovarian cancer.

Even breastfeeding for just a few weeks can make a difference. It is recommended that you exclusively breastfeed your baby for the first six months of their life and then continue to breastfeed, as well as giving other foods, for at least the first year.

Breastfeeding rates in Britain are amongst the lowest in Europe with only 78% of babies being breastfed at birth. This figure is even lower in Bradford district at 63%.

Janette Westman, breastfeeding co-ordinator for Bradford and Airedale Teaching Primary Care Trust (tPCT), said: "The challenge in Bradford is to encourage more mothers to choose to breastfeed by providing a supportive environment in which mothers feel

comfortable to breastfeed in public.

That's why the tPCT has launched its 'Breastfeeding Welcome Here' scheme. Local businesses that are open to the public can sign up to show that they welcome breastfeeding mums. They get a window sticker and certificate to demonstrate their support and are also listed on the tPCT website, [www.bradford.nhs.uk/children/babies](http://www.bradford.nhs.uk/children/babies)

"Many new mums in Bradford start breastfeeding but quickly stop," added Janette. "This is often because they feel there is a lack of support, particularly when they want to feed their baby away from home."

"The 'Breastfeeding Welcome Here' scheme is helping to create a culture in which breastfeeding is seen as an acceptable thing to do whether you are out shopping, in the library, at a café, in the park or on the bus."

The Council's Sport and Leisure Service is supporting this initiative and all 19 of its sports centres and swimming pools now welcome breastfeeding mums.

For more information about the scheme or for breastfeeding advice contact Janette on **01274 364583**.



## Kick the habit

Are you one of those people condemned to stand shivering outside the

pub or work since smoking became illegal in all enclosed public places? Then maybe it's time you quit.

The best reason for you to quit – or if you don't smoke, never to start – should be the effect it will have on your health, and other people's. Smoking and physical activity certainly don't mix. It can make you cough, wheeze or feel short of breath when you exercise.

And it's never too late. If you do quit, you will:

- reduce the likelihood of a heart attack;
- reduce cholesterol levels and improve circulation;
- reduce the risk of developing up to 50 other diseases, including a range of cancers, asthma, bronchitis, stomach ulcers,

- and cot death;
- protect your family and friends from the serious hazard of breathing tobacco smoke;
- remove excess, toxic carbon monoxide from the body within 24 hours; and
- have a stronger sense of taste and a fresher smelling body.

There are lots of support services available to help you quit smoking, if willpower isn't enough.

- All GP practices in Bradford and Airedale provide support for patients who want to give up smoking.
- Bradford District Health Development Stop Smoking Service offers confidential free help and support. Contact 01274 363559.
- NHS Smoking Helpline: 0800 169 0169 (7am-11pm daily).
- Quitline: 0800 00 2200 (9am-9pm daily).

For more information visit [www.bradford.nhs.uk/smoking](http://www.bradford.nhs.uk/smoking)



Having a go... Year 10 students from Queensbury High School get to grips with the exercise bikes at Richard Dunn Sports Centre.

## Engaging body, mind and soul

Teenage girls often lose interest in or even drop out of traditional PE lessons in school – for a variety of reasons. As a result many are missing out on the health and other benefits of regular physical activity.

Body, Mind & Soul aims to help to reverse that trend. It offers girls between 14 and 18 an alternative way to enjoy physical activity and also pick up the skills, knowledge and confidence to make positive health choices.

Over 100 girls have already benefited from the programme after being identified by school staff as disengaged or at risk of dropping out of PE.

As a substitute for timetabled PE lessons they attend free Body, Mind & Soul courses in school time or after school, in groups of 10-20, and usually at Council leisure centres.

Instead of hockey, netball or athletics they can try salsa dancing, body combat or have a go in a fitness suite or Shokk gym with a trained instructor and then find out the importance of the exercise, how to feel good about themselves or what a healthy diet is.

Body, Mind and Soul has been developed and is funded by our Sport and Leisure Service and Bradford and Airedale Teaching Primary Care Trust (tPCT).

Claire Masding, from the tPCT, said: "The project aims to break down the barriers to being physically active that some girls experience. It helps them to become more aware of the importance of being physically active and eating well and aims to build self-esteem."

For more information contact Claire Masding on **01274 237624** or Kym Hammond on **01274 432006**.

# Be active, be healthy

[www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk)



## Planning for your active future

Last year we told you that you were amongst the most active people in Yorkshire. A national survey revealed that over 21% of adults in our district were meeting the recommended target of 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise three times a week.

Although this was better than both the national and regional averages it did not hide the fact that almost four out of five adults in the district are not physically active enough to benefit their health.

To make sure that the good work that has already been done to encourage residents to be more physically active is continued, and expanded upon, the Council and its partners



have produced 'b active' – the first Physical Activity and Sport Strategy for the Bradford district.

The strategy provides the framework to create a district where everyone values the importance of, and has the opportunity to be, physically active.

Our overall aim is to increase the number of residents taking part in physical activity and sport and enjoying the health and social benefits that regular participation can bring.

'b active' contains a range of key actions to support our target of increasing participation in sport and active recreation by 1% each year in the build-up to the London Olympics in 2012.

It will also focus on those groups known to participate less – women, older people, people with disabilities, black and

ethnic minority groups and our most socially and economically disadvantaged communities.

But this is not just about traditional team or competitive sport. It also includes informal activities such as walking, cycling, skateboarding and activities aimed at improving health and fitness such as going to the gym and exercise classes.

The 'b active' strategy builds on the work the Sport and Leisure Service and its partners inside and outside the Council have done in recent years to encourage people to be more physically active and increase opportunities for them to take part.

Steve Warner, Head of Sport and Leisure, said: "There are strong indications that, since it was launched in 2003, our *b active* campaign is successfully encouraging more residents of all ages to be more active."

"However, there is clearly still a lot to be done but we believe that the 'b active' strategy will provide a comprehensive framework for that work to happen."

In our next *b active* supplement we will tell you about how the new work we are doing is making a difference and helping to drive up participation rates across the district.

You can download the strategy from [www.bradford.gov.uk/bactivestrategy](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/bactivestrategy)



For more on **bactive** call 01274 431882 or visit [www.bradford.gov.uk/sport](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/sport)

## clubactive

↓

### Win Clubactive membership

Clubactive opens the door to unlimited use of the Council's Sport and Leisure facilities for a whole year for a one-off payment of just £420, and until 10 February 2008 we're offering it for just £333.

Membership gives you unlimited use of our gyms at Richard Dunn, The Leisure Centre, Keighley and Thornton Recreation Centre, plus:

- 10 swimming pools.
- 5 saunas and a steam room.
- Studio cycling.
- Clubactive aerobic and fitness, Body combat, Body Pump and Body Attack classes.
- Free induction and training programme.

It's even cheaper if you win a Clubactive membership. Community Pride has one to give away to a lucky reader who can tell us which city will be hosting the 2012 Olympics (Hint: The answer is somewhere in this Be active, be healthy pull-out).

Send your answer, with your name, address and telephone or e-mail contact details, on a postcard or the back of a sealed envelope to CLUBACTIVE Competition,

Community Pride, Room 19, City Hall, Bradford BD1 1HY by the closing date of noon on Monday, 28 January 2008. Alternatively you can e-mail it to [community.pride@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:community.pride@bradford.gov.uk)

Entrants must be 16 or over. The lucky winner will be drawn from the Editor's kitbag. Normal Community Pride rules apply.

Clubactive membership is available from all Sport and Leisure-managed facilities.

For more information contact Richard Dunn Sports Centre on **01274 307822** or e-mail [sport-and-leisure@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:sport-and-leisure@bradford.gov.uk)

Why not come along to our open days at Richard Dunn, The Leisure Centre, Keighley and Thornton Recreation Centre on Saturday, 26 January 2008?

Check out our facilities, try some activities, meet a celebrity and maybe grab a giveaway. The first 50 visitors at each site will receive a free b active T-shirt and water bottle.

Details from the centres.



# Forging an Olympic link

Beijing in China will host the Olympics and Paralympics this summer. In the build-up to that global sporting extravaganza our Sport and Leisure Service is organising a calendar of Olympic-themed events and activities.

They will be working with other Council departments and a wide range of partners from education, health and the local sporting community to use public enthusiasm for the Olympics to encourage people to adopt healthier lifestyles and increase their participation in sport and other physical activity.

The activities will continue right through until the London Olympics and Paralympics in 2012 under the 'b active together for 2012' banner.

Here are some of the events we are planning.

- District-wide schools events with different age groups competing in football, hockey, basketball, sports hall athletics, hi-5 netball and Kwik Cricket competitions.
- Events and activities aimed at the over 50s such as racquet sports, carpet bowls, walking and swimming. A badminton competition is already up and running and a triathlon is planned for the summer.
- A Paralympic programme will bring able and disabled young people together for activities including boccia, table top (table tennis), table cricket, T-Ball (rounders), goalball and athletics.
- Our sports centres and swimming pools will also be offering recreational and taster sessions for a wide range of popular and less well-known Olympic sports.

For more information contact Pav Singh, community sports and activities development officer, on 01274 522750.

## New grants for junior sport

New one-off *b active* Olympic Junior Club Support grants of up to £500 are now available for voluntary sports clubs and associations to help them increase junior membership and participation.

Applications are particularly welcome from clubs and associations targeting disabled, ethnic minorities and other disadvantaged groups.

For more information, or to get an application form, contact your local sports development officer – Shipley, Stephen Pugh, 01274 438790; Bradford North, Martin Earnshaw, 01274 618978; Bradford South, Mick Driver, 01274 522750; Bradford West, Ikram Butt, 01274 494927; Keighley, Paul Evans, 01535 681763.

Applications must be received by 31 January 2008.



Supporting talent... Council Leader Kris Hopkins (front) launches the awards with (left to right) SportsAid's Rob Clarke and local athletes, rugby player Michael Baltwood and swimmer Sian Morgan.

## Cash boost for local athletes



Talented young athletes from Bradford district are set to benefit from £20,000 funding, thanks to a partnership between sports charity SportsAid and the Council.

Working with SportsAid Yorkshire & Humberside, we will provide financial support for athletes identified as having the potential to go on to compete at senior international level.

Council Leader Kris Hopkins said: "With the 2012 Olympics now fast approaching, we were very keen to direct some funding towards local athletes who have the potential to become the best in their particular field. The Bradford SportsAid *bactive* Awards are the perfect vehicle to allow us to do this. SportsAid are already working with sports governing bodies to identify talented athletes in the district. Our additional money will provide those athletes with even greater financial assistance to achieve their potential, representing the district on the national and hopefully international stages."

Increasing the options open to young people, backed by strong investment, is helping to boost the number of children taking part in physical education and sport in our schools.

The 2006/7 national School Sport Survey showed that 80% of pupils in the district now take part in at least two hours of PE and school sport a week. That's an improvement of 9% since 2005/6. We are meeting Government targets and our rate of improvement is above the national average.

Phil Wagner, strategic manager for physical education and school sport,

## Active schools

said: "The research shows that the days of 'one sport fits all' are over. Secondary schools now offer an average of 21 different sports, ranging from mountaineering to kabbadi, and the average in primary schools is 16, so children now have more opportunities to try out and find a sport which is right for them."

The survey found that familiar sports such as football, dance, gymnastics, athletics and cricket are still the most popular in schools but many are now offering non-traditional activities such as golf, canoeing and orienteering.

## Creating more opportunities

Our facilities continue to rise to the challenge of providing an ever-increasing range of opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to take part in sport and physical activity and adopt a healthier lifestyle.

Since 2002 we have invested £15 million in the district's leisure facilities, using Council funds and working with partners such as the Football Foundation and the Big Lottery Fund.

Work has included refurbishments at Shipley, Bowling and Eccleshill pools, Marley Activities and Coaching Centre in Keighley, Manningham and Grange Sport Centres, as well as our flagship fitness centres at Richard Dunn, The Leisure Centre, Keighley, and Thornton Recreation Centre. Thirty-two multi-accessible community areas have also been created at schools and community venues.

Eccleshill Pool reopened in November after undergoing essential structural repairs and principal facilities manager John Coulton said: "Local residents are now back in the swim and Eccleshill Pool, which is regarded as an exemplar facility for people with disabilities, can now continue to welcome over 150,000 swimmers a year for many years to come."

Our junior gyms at The Leisure Centre, Keighley, and Thornton Recreation Centre have proved extremely popular. The Shokk facility at Keighley signed up its 500th member before Christmas. It was the district's first dedicated gym for under 16s when it opened 12 months ago. It features weight-training equipment, rowers, steppers, cycles and cross-trainers specially designed for young people.

We are now looking to develop other junior gym facilities in the district – in our sports centres or also in our schools.



Already this year Sport and Leisure Service facilities have had 100,000 visits from

Passport to Leisure card-holders taking advantage of reduced prices – an increase of 10% on last year.

Passport to Leisure is our handy card that opens the door for the over 60s, disabled people, students and people on a range of benefits to a variety of offers.

Less than half-price admission to normal public swimming sessions.

25% off swimming lessons. Reduced Clubactive membership fees, and much, much more.

And all for just £2.20 a year for an adult or £1.10 for a child.

You can pick up a Passport to Leisure leaflet and application form at any of our sports centres or swimming pools, one-stop shops, tourist information centres or the St George's Hall box office.

For more information contact 01274 432653 or visit [www.bradford.gov.uk/passporttoleisure](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/passporttoleisure)

## Setting the bog standard

We are flushed with success that our Changing Places facilities at Bowling Pool, Eccleshill Pool and The Leisure Centre, Keighley have just been awarded five stars – that's top marks – in the annual Loo of the Year awards.

The specialist changing rooms at Bingley Pool and Ilkley Pool received four-star grades and Bowling and The Leisure Centre scooped additional awards in the Changing Places category.

Changing Places toilets are designed specifically to make life easier for disabled people and their carers, giving them the right equipment, plenty of space and a safe and clean environment. They are also available at Thornton Recreation Centre and Bradford Central Library, for anyone who needs them, not just customers.

Bradford now has more Changing Places facilities than anywhere else in the country. Visit [www.changing-places.org](http://www.changing-places.org) for more information.

## Schools going swimmingly

Primary school pupils across the district continue to make waves after more of them than ever met National Curriculum standards.

The number achieving the Key Stage 2 standard increased from 4,450 in 2006 to 4,523 in 2007, the fourth successive year the pass rate has increased.

One school that has benefited is Killinghall Primary. Headteacher Gill Edge said: "When our children began their formal lessons in Year 5, many of them had never even visited a public swimming pool. However, thanks to the efforts of instructors, 70% of our children have gained the National Curriculum standard, our highest results ever.

"This year, for the first time, all those children who were unsuccessful in Year 5 continued their lessons on into Year 6, and this has paid off."

More than 300 children across the district took advantage of this Year 6 sweep-up in July and the Sport and Leisure Service also provided extra lessons for schools a week before Christmas and at February half-term.

Since 2003, when the pass rate dropped to below 51%, the Council has invested an extra £100,000 each year into funding extra school swimming lessons for over 4,000 children in 80 schools.



## Are you an Aqua-Phobic?

Have you never learned to swim because you are afraid of the water? Would you like to overcome your fear? Then one of our new Aqua-Phobics sessions with a fully-qualified instructor could be just what you need.

This service is unique to Bradford. The one-off session includes:

- a 15-minute consultation with our experts;
- 30 minutes in the water with an instructor; and
- a discussion about the best way forward for you.

At all times you control the pace of the session. You can go as slow or as fast as you feel comfortable with.

Sessions can be booked at your local pool at a time to suit you.

Contact our Swim Activator, Deborah Wilson, in confidence on 01274 438786 and start on the road to aquatic freedom.

- Informal Aqua-Tots sessions for parents and toddlers will be starting

soon at swimming pools across the district.

Our instructors will be happy to give advice and tips about introducing young children to water, the types of equipment that is available to keep them safe in the water and the availability of lessons.

Watch out for details at your local pool.

## Did you know?

Shipley Pool was the venue for what is believed to be the first world record set in Bradford pool.

When Community Pride went to press his time had yet to be officially confirmed, but City of Salford amputee Richard Howard took over four seconds off the S8 category 200 metres butterfly record when he clocked 2min 32.16 sec at City of Bradford's 25th anniversary Christmas Open Meet.

## Calling all over 50s

Despite attendances for over 50s being at an all-time high, we are holding Young at Heart Well-Being Fairs for the over 50s throughout January.

There will be information about all our *b active* and Big Swim activities and memberships, as well as free Passport to Leisure sign-ups, health trainers, diabetes advice, blood pressure checks, BEEP advisors and instructors from Extend, Healthwise and walking and dance groups.

**Queensbury Pool:** Tuesday, 15 January (9am-3.30pm).

**Richard Dunn Sports Centre:** Friday, 18 January (10am-3pm), including TOFFs session, free to new and existing customers.

**Thornton Recreation Centre/Rhodesway Pool:** Saturday, 19 January (Thornton 1pm-4pm, Rhodesway noon-3pm).

**The Leisure Centre, Keighley:** Monday, 21 January (9am-1pm).

**Bowling Pool:** Thursday, 24 January (4.30pm-6.30pm).

Other dates at Shipley Pool, Eccleshill Pool and Ilkley Pool are still to be confirmed. Watch out for details at the venues or contact Stephen Pugh on 01274 438790.

