

# Borough Monthly

**Issue 35**

January 2019

***Increased Night time Shelter  
for Bedford's Rough Sleepers...***

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**BEDFORD**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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# Increased Night time Shelter for Bedford's Rough Sleepers



Twenty overnight beds are now available to rough sleepers in our Borough.

Working in partnership with SMART, who run the Prebend Day Centre and extended outreach services, the Council is providing twenty overnight beds which are available every night until 31 March.

These beds are available by referral only, are managed by street outreach teams, and anyone being supported by the Outreach Services is able to register for a bed each night. People who are sleeping rough are encouraged to attend the Prebend Day centre to receive support from outreach teams, which enables them to access the winter beds.

If you see someone sleeping rough, you can let the outreach teams know by reporting it through the national rough sleeping report website [www.streetlink.org.uk](http://www.streetlink.org.uk). This will ensure that individuals are contacted by outreach teams each day.

Following a bid by the Council to the Government's Rough Sleeper Initiative fund, Bedford Borough Council has been able to expand its provision for those rough sleeping and has introduced a number of initiatives, including these overnight beds.

Outreach teams have already supported 12 people off the streets and into long-term accommodation. A number of rough sleepers have also been supported into temporary accommodation including 8 people moved off the streets and into accommodation provided by our partners 'The Kings Arms Project', with intense support to find employment and long-term accommodation.

This is in addition to the well-established severe winter provision, run by the Salvation Army and supported by Bedford Borough Council. This shelter opens when the temperatures are forecast below freezing for three or more consecutive nights. This year the shelter is at the Salvation Army outreach centre on Kennedy Road, off Elstow Road Bedford and works in partnership with the 20 bed provision.

Cllr Anthony Forth, Portfolio Holder for Adults Services and Operational Housing said *"Having these beds open every night over the winter will allow the Council and our partners to provide more support to people who are sleeping rough. Our aim is not just to ensure that individuals have shelter for the night, but to support people to find long-term accommodation and employment so can they move onwards and upwards."*

## Adoption in Bedford Borough

You don't have to live in Bedford to adopt a Bedford Borough Child

Start your adoption journey with us today



Give us a call today

01234 718718

Or drop us an email

[adoptionandfostering@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:adoptionandfostering@bedford.gov.uk)

[www.bedford.gov.uk/adoption](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/adoption)



# Introducing the Bedford Festival of Motoring

**Saturday 1 and Sunday 2 June 2019**

Bedford's beautiful Embankment will this year play host to the first ever Bedford Festival of Motoring, which will take place alongside the regular Bedford International Kite Festival in Russell Park on the first weekend of June.

The inaugural Bedford Festival of Motoring is being brought to the town by Bedford Borough Council in partnership with Adrian Grubb of Events with Panache. Adrian has previously been involved with the successful launch and management of the Stratford-upon-Avon Festival of Motoring.

The Festival will ultimately endeavour to embrace all things motoring in the UK with special displays of vehicles, from the ultra-modern, luxurious and bizarre, to the iconic and soon forgotten, motor sport in all their guises, motorcycles, bicycles, commercial, agricultural and military but most of all, Classic Cars!

These two Festivals each celebrate a unique passion, and will come together to enhance the existing tradition of the International Kite Festival in Bedford. The weekend will feature kite-flying displays with kites

never seen before in the UK, family entertainment and attractions, a variety of trade including the popular craft marquee, and the opportunity to get up close to an impressive range of iconic cars and motorcycles.

Another new element for this year's Kite Festival will be a Saturday evening 'chill-out' music set, hosted by the team behind the dance stage at 2018 River Festival. Visitors can enjoy the spectacle of night kite-flying to the sounds of ambient dance music, a unique way to spend a summer's evening.

Cllr Sarah-Jayne Gallagher, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture said *"This new Bedford Festival of Motoring and the International Kite Festival are sure to start summer off with a bang here in Bedford. It is really exciting to see our popular Kite Festival develop, with more things to see and enjoy throughout the weekend."*

For further information please contact [events@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:events@bedford.gov.uk) or visit [www.bedford.gov.uk/kitefestival](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/kitefestival) & [www.bedfordfestivalofmotoring.com](http://www.bedfordfestivalofmotoring.com).

## Have you registered to vote yet?

In May, there will be elections for the Mayor, all 40 Councillors and for Parish Councils. It's quick and easy to register, taking just a few minutes. Register online today at [www.bedford.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/register-to-vote).

**YOUR VOTE MATTERS**  
**MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN**



## Winter Updates

With a cold nights ahead to find out when our gritting teams are heading out.

You can visit <http://apps.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates/> for updates. We will also post updates on facebook on twitter.



## Report It

Remember, it's easy to report things to us via our website like a missed bin, fly tipping, or a pothole. Find out more here <https://bit.ly/2HgAhT3>.

# Try Something New this New Year

Bedford Borough Council's 'Over 70s' programme has returned this New Year.

These gentle exercise classes and activities are a great opportunity to keep moving, try something different, and meet some new people.

There are a range of exercise classes for the over 70s, including chair-based fitness Pilates, table tennis, badminton, and stretch and balance classes.

These classes are well-established at Bedford Central Library, and Bedford International Athletic Stadium, with a new session coming to John Bunyan Sports and Fitness from Tuesday 8 January.

There is no need to book in advance, and the sessions cost £4 each which includes a tea or coffee afterwards. All equipment is provided, participants are just asked to wear comfortable clothing and footwear, and bring a drink.

Cllr Sarah-Jayne Gallagher, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture said "It couldn't be easier to give one of these sessions a try, just go along for some gentle exercise and maybe try something new. All abilities are welcome."

To find out more about these classes, please visit [www.bedford.gov.uk/over70s](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/over70s) or pick up a flyer at Bedford Central Library.



## Over 70s Gentle Exercise Classes and Chair-based Fitness Pilates

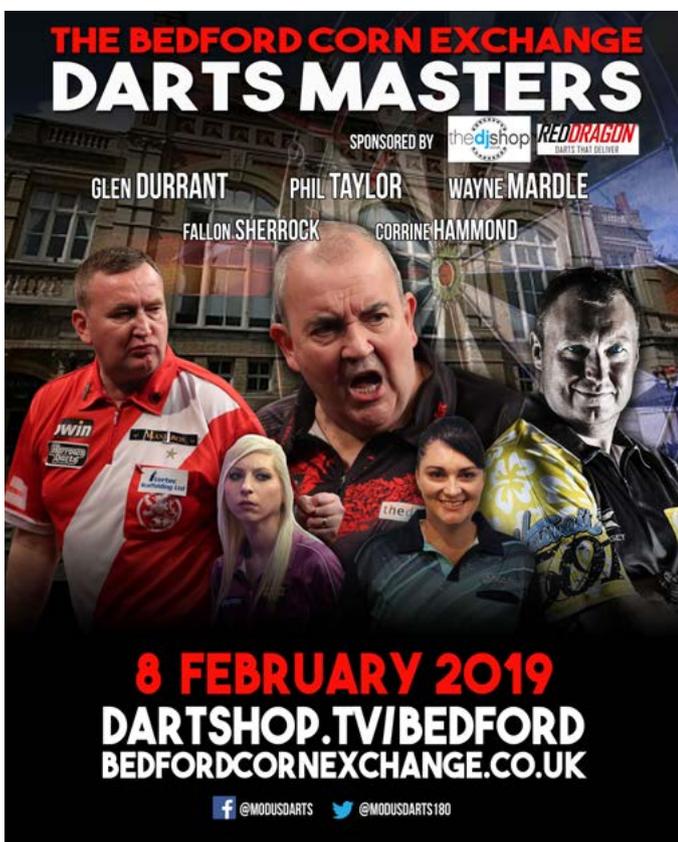


# Darts Masters at Bedford Corn Exchange

Friday 8 February, 7.30 pm

Legendary darts ace Phil 'The Power' Taylor will be the star attraction when the Darts Masters returns in 2019. Sixteen times World Champion Taylor, who is widely regarded as the greatest player ever to pick up a dart, will appear alongside other arrows aces: two times World Champion Glen Durrant, entertaining former pro turned premier pundit Wayne Mardle and top female stars Corrine Hammond, of Australia, and Milton Keynes based Fallon Sherrock. 'I'm really looking forward to this event' said Taylor, who retired following the 2018 World Championship final.

For more information or to book tickets, please visit [www.bedfordcornexchange.co.uk](http://www.bedfordcornexchange.co.uk) or call the Box Office on 01234 718044.



**THE BEDFORD CORN EXCHANGE**  
**DARTS MASTERS**  
 SPONSORED BY **thedjshop** **RED DRAGON**  
 GLEN DURRANT PHIL TAYLOR WAYNE MARDLE  
 FALLON SHERROCK CORRINE HAMMOND  
**8 FEBRUARY 2019**  
**DARTSHOP.TV/BEDFORD**  
**BEDFORDCORNEXCHANGE.CO.UK**  
 @MODUSDARTS @MODUSDARTS180

# OUTing the Past Festival

**Festival of LGBT History at The Higgins Bedford  
Saturday 16 February, 11am till 4pm**

**Keynote Speaker: Stuart Milk – Global LGBT Rights Activist,  
Veteran Campaigner and Nephew of Harvey Milk**

February marks the beginning of LGBT History Month and the theme this year is Peace, Reconciliation and Activism. As part of LGBT History Month, The Higgins Bedford is very excited to be a hub venue for the OUTing the Past Festival for the second year running.

From 11am till 4pm at The Higgins Bedford there will be stall holders with information on LGBT History, as well as LGBT rights, support and activism. Confirmed stalls include Schools Out UK, Q Youth Bedford and the Terrence Higgins Trust.

At 11.30am Stuart Milk, co-founder of the Harvey Milk Foundation, veteran campaigner and LGBT human rights activist will

speaking about his work and continuing the work of his uncle.

In 2009, Stuart successfully led the campaign for the establishment of the now annual Harvey Milk Day state holiday in California, and he accepted the highest civilian honour in the US, the Medal of Freedom, on behalf of his uncle from President Obama. Stuart Milk has worked alongside hundreds of youth and grass roots activists.

The day continues with a dynamic range of speakers, with talks on the hidden histories of Victorian activists, the history of sex education in the UK, trans-rights activism and finally the mythology of mermaids. Lunch will also be provided.

Cllr Sarah-Jayne Gallagher said *“For the second year in row, The Higgins Bedford is a hub venue for the OUTing the Past Festival. The nationwide festival is going to towns and cities across the UK and Ireland, and we are delighted that it is returning to our local museum and art gallery.”*

OUTing The Past Festival is free to attend. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Booking via [thehiggins@bedford.gov.uk](mailto:thehiggins@bedford.gov.uk) or on 01234 718618. Further programme details are available at [www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk](http://www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk).

## Could you be a Reablement Support Worker?

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# Edward Bawden: Home and Abroad

9 February 2019 to 26 January 2020 at The Higgins Bedford  
Edward Bawden Gallery, Free Entry

British artist and designer Edward Bawden's work (1903-1989) is the focus of the new 'Home and Abroad' exhibition at The Higgins Bedford.

This exhibition focuses on how Bawden's immediate surroundings and overseas travels influenced his art.

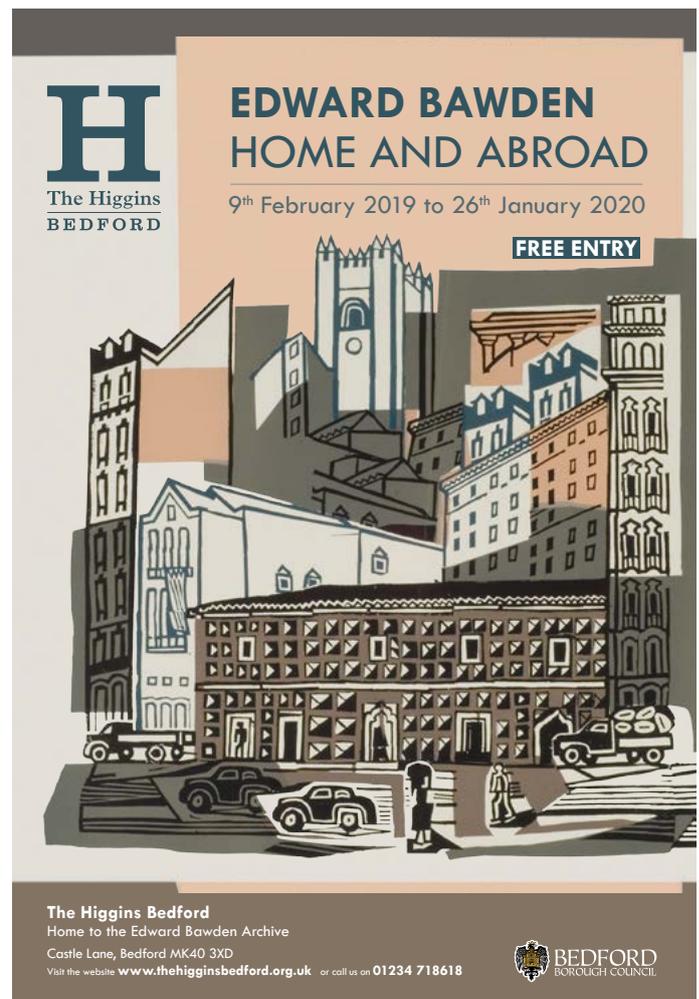
Bawden often chose home subjects which included the villages, churches and country lanes of his native rural Essex. London, where Bawden spent much of his working life, was another inspiration. He celebrated its landmarks and monuments, its parks and gardens, and its bridges and stations. Liverpool Street Station was the subject of one of his earliest copper engravings, and it re-appears in Bawden's monumental Liverpool Street Station linocut (1960), with its intricate wrought iron ceiling which in his view was 'one of the wonders of London'.

Bawden embarked on his first trip abroad to Italy aged 22, an experience which he recalled, 'gave me the biggest shock of my life'. He returned there during the Second World War, while serving as an Official War Artist, a role which also took him to many parts of Africa and the Middle East.

Bawden's wartime observations and experiences influenced his artistic style and technique. It gave him a new visual repertoire, which he continued to use in his post-war work and left him with a taste for adventure, which meant many more trips abroad.

While teaching in Canada (1949-50), log cabins, coniferous forests and jagged mountain tops also featured in Bawden's work. A 1962 Portugal visit resulted in 'Edward Bawden In Portugal', a lithograph series of Portuguese towns which were printed in Motif magazine. Bawden used few colours and a mixture of collage, linocut and drawing to create these stunning and original compositions.

Cllr Sarah-Jayne Gallagher, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Culture said "Edward Bawden donated the contents of his studio to the Cecil Higgins Art Gallery during the 1980s. This exhibition in the heart of the town centre is a great opportunity to see and experience his work, and is completely free to visit."



**H**  
The Higgins  
BEDFORD

**EDWARD BAWDEN  
HOME AND ABROAD**

9<sup>th</sup> February 2019 to 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020

**FREE ENTRY**

The Higgins Bedford  
Home to the Edward Bawden Archive  
Castle Lane, Bedford MK40 3XD  
Visit the website [www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk](http://www.thehigginsbedford.org.uk) or call us on 01234 718618

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and via our website, [www.bedford.gov.uk](http://www.bedford.gov.uk).

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# Shared Lives Bedford

Would you like to work from home and be paid to make a difference to someone's life?

Shared Lives Bedford is looking for people to provide a family environment which can help someone who needs extra support to get the best out of life.

Shared Lives Carers in Bedford open their homes to support people from the age of 16, with learning disabilities.

Previous care experiences is not necessary as shared lives carers, undergo an assessment and training programme. Many carers provide Shared Lives in addition to their current employment.

You can make a real difference and transform someone's life.

For more information call the Shared Lives Bedford team on 01234 228560 or visit [www.bedford.gov.uk/sharedlives](http://www.bedford.gov.uk/sharedlives).



## It's not too late to have your flu jab!



### Did you know you can transfer the flu virus to someone you look after?

Public Health are urging people in Bedfordshire to have the flu jab well before winter and say it is especially important for those at risk of more serious health complications. Even if we don't suffer from the effects of flu ourselves we can still pass on the virus those around us.

**Catch it - Bin it - Kill it** - Remember to stop the spread of germs - use a tissue and wash your hands thoroughly.

**Free Flu jabs** - Remember carers are entitled to a free flu jab if they are in receipt of the carers allowance for looking after vulnerable adult or children.

## Do you need help with design? Want to get something printed? Use Bedford Borough Council's ICT Design & Repro Team



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