

Borough Monthly

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April 2019

**The Higgins Bedford celebrates RAE
Bedford's Contribution to Concorde**

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BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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Bedford man fined £13k for breaching Building Control Regulations

Mr Mohammed Saleem, of Bromham Road, Bedford, was ordered to pay £13,772.97 after pleading guilty to breaching Building Regulations, including some critical fire safety

requirements while carrying out work to convert an existing office space into flats.

In passing sentence the Court ordered that Mr Saleem pay one fine of £10,000, two of £1,000,

a victim surcharge of £170 and £1,602.97 in legal costs.

If you are considering building works on a property please visit www.bedford.gov.uk/buildingcontrol

New sexual health clinic opens in Central Bedfordshire

A new integrated Contraception and Sexual Health (iCaSH) clinic has opened in Central Bedfordshire, available to all Bedford-based residents.

Located at Dunstable Priory, this is second bespoke hub in the county, bringing all aspects of sexual health under one roof, with increased clinic availability and expanded services. The hub joins the existing i-CaSH clinic on St Johns Street in Bedford.

For more information please visit <http://www.icash.nhs.uk/where-to-go/icash-bedfordshire>.



Council converts buildings into temporary accommodation



More temporary accommodation is being provided for homeless people in Bedford Borough.

The Council has converted a number of vacant properties into temporary accommodation. Five properties have already been refurbished, providing up to 17 bedrooms, with the first families moving in last month.

More properties are expected to follow this spring.

More average speed cameras to be installed across Bedford Borough

Average speed cameras will be installed at seven more locations across Bedford Borough - Bromham, Clapham, Colmworth, Elstow and Willington, alongside Hillgrounds Road in Kempston and Mile Road in Bedford.

These cameras measure the average speed over a length of road, rather than measuring it at a fixed point. This means they have a greater long term effect on how fast people choose to drive, rather than just slowing down for a speed camera. They also help drivers choose a more appropriate lower speed across the road network.

The Council does not make money from the cameras, with the fines being retained by Central Government.



Number 13 is New Home for 'Made in Bedford'



Number 13, St Paul's Square is set to become the new home for 'Made in Bedford' in Bedford's town centre.

'Made in Bedford' is an established movement promoting the work of local artists, designers, makers and producers. Working in partnership with Bedford Borough Council, this new venture will see a shop, café and art display space at Number 13.

With locally sourced produce, a showcase of works by top local artists, designers and makers, and displays of work by local artists this is sure to be a unique experience for locals and visitors to Bedford town centre alike.

Rachel Atkinson from Made in Bedford said "With shelves full of locally designed and created products to buy and a brand new eco-café, Made in Bedford at

Number 13, St Paul's Square, provides a shop window for the work of local artists, makers and producers and an attractive place to enjoy home cooked food and a cup of locally roasted coffee. The light and airy space, with its lovely view of St Paul's Church has great atmosphere and a creative vibe. A place to be enjoyed by Bedford residents and visitors to the town"

The Made in Bedford café and shop is opening later this month. Number 13 will continue to operate as a bar and box office during performances at Bedford Corn Exchange.

The shop and café will be open from Wednesday-Sunday, 9.30am-4.30pm. For more information and updates, visit the Made in Bedford Facebook page.

New look Harpur Centre revealed

The Harpur Centre revealed their sensational new look last month as part of a wider refurbishment project – including a brand new elevator and fresh interior.

Created as a space that provides the local community with a lifestyle and community hub will ensure visitors can enjoy an enhanced shopping experience. The changes include: a revitalised central atrium feature also known as the Harpur Tree, a lift and new stairway from the car park, refreshed ceilings and floor finishes and even new décor. New customer toilets and a brand new open area have also been added to the refurbished Lower Ground floor.



The Higgins Bedford celebrates RAE Bedford's Contribution to Concorde



RAE Bedford's Contribution to Concorde at The Higgins Bedford celebrates RAE Bedford's major, but often unrecognised, contribution to Concorde, the world's first fully operational supersonic airliner.

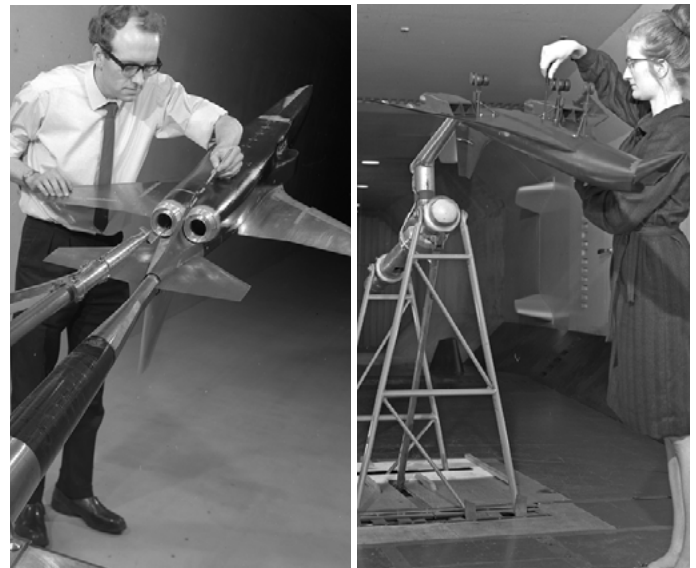
Fifty years ago, on 9 April 1969, the UK's prototype Concorde supersonic airliner made its maiden flight at Filton, near Bristol. This was the culmination of more than 20 years of advanced research at the Royal Aircraft Establishment (RAE) Bedford and elsewhere,

To celebrate this event the Bedford Aeronautical Heritage Group, in collaboration with The Higgins Bedford, has created a display to illustrate the major research contributions made by RAE Bedford to the Concorde project.

RAE Bedford was the UK Government's main centre for flight and wind tunnel research from 1952 to 2001. It was located at two major sites to the north of Bedford, the wind tunnel complex outside Milton Ernest and the research airfield at Thurleigh.

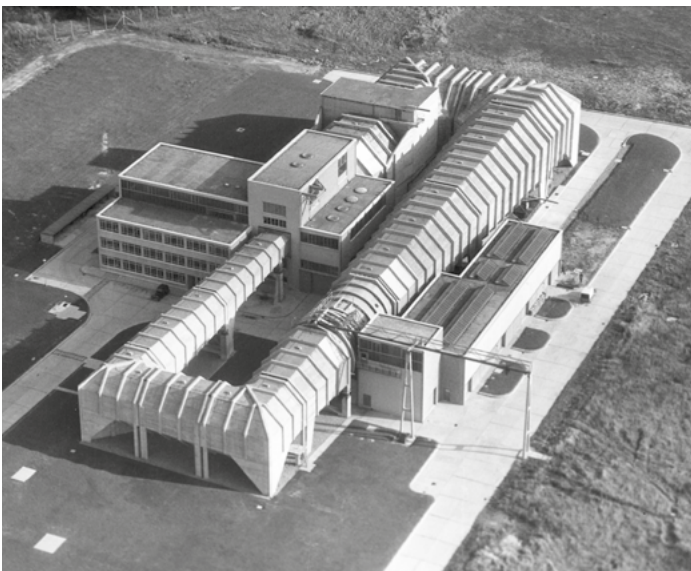
Several hundred models of proposed wing concepts were made and tested in RAE Bedford's world-class wind tunnels to identify a practical wing shape for the Concorde supersonic airliner. Extensive wind tunnel testing was also undertaken of Concorde's engine air intakes, a vital part of its ability to fly at supersonic speeds.

Two unique research aircraft were also built for and tested at RAE Bedford, with great success, contributing greatly to confidence in the flying behaviour of Concorde during take-off and landing and at supersonic speeds.



Barry Tomlinson, a member of the BAHG (Bedford Aeronautical Heritage Group) team who helped prepare the exhibit, said ***"We in BAHG are very pleased to be able to show some of the aeronautical achievements of RAE Bedford. They are part of the heritage of the Bedford area and something of which the local community should be very proud"***.

Tom Perrett, Manager for Libraries and Culture at Bedford Borough Council said ***"The Higgins Bedford is delighted to have the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the contribution of local people on this milestone anniversary for Concorde. This is an important piece of Bedford Borough's heritage, and our thanks go to the Bedford Aeronautical Heritage Group for their work in bringing this display to life."***



LGBT Adoption and Fostering Week

LGBT Adoption and Fostering Week took place back in March, and the Council's Children's Services Department hosted some informal drop-in sessions to encourage prospective adopters and fosterers to come forward.

However, more adopters and foster carers are still needed to provide loving, stable homes for Bedford Borough children, particularly for those children aged over four years old and sibling groups.

If you are interested in becoming one of Bedford Borough's foster carers or adopters, get in touch with the team on 01234 718718 for more information.

Alternatively, email adoptionandfostering@bedford.gov.uk or visit www.bedford.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering.



New Primary School officially opens in Cotton End



Pupils and staff from Cotton End Forest School celebrated the new school opening by sowing seeds and burying a time capsule created by the pupils, staff and governors of the school.

Cotton End Forest School has been designed as a Forest School to embrace outdoor learning. The Council, colleagues from Pick Everard and Wilmot Dixon along with pupils, staff and governors were all involved in creating this unique learning concept, serving local

communities in Cotton End and Shortstown.

Head teacher Karen Headland said

"Children, staff and governors are delighted with our new school. It is a fabulous spacious environment and gives children great opportunities for learning both inside and outside the classrooms. It was a pleasure to welcome colleagues from Bedford Borough and Wilmot Dixon here today to officially open Cotton End Forest School."

Cauldwell School student awarded a new bike



A pupil at Cauldwell School has been awarded a new Frog Bike by Sustrans following last year's Santa Challenge.

The Santa Challenge saw over 2,000 children across Bedford Borough walking, cycling or scooting to school, building up miles towards an imaginary journey all the way to Lapland to meet Santa Claus. Together, Cauldwell School covered more miles than other local schools

Research shows that active travel to school makes children more alert and better prepared to face the school day, than if they had arrived in a car. Walking, cycling or scooting to school wakes up the mind and body.

Heather Watkins, PE Co-ordinator at Cauldwell School said ***"It's the first time Cauldwell have taken part in the Santa Challenge and the children loved it, with a visual display of the imaginary journey to Lapland at the school."***

In school, children were able to track their walking, cycling or scooting each day, and families and staff were able to get involved as a community. The challenge allowed families to monitor their activity levels together. This also encouraged children to ask parents to walk to school instead of travelling by car.

"Congratulations to our winner, David, who was selected randomly from the class who tallied the most miles."

Derek Smulders, Active Travel Officer for Sustrans said 'The Santa Challenge is designed to encourage pupils to continue to travel actively during the winter months. This is the fourth year we've run the challenge and the number of children taking part continues to increase. Sustrans also run the Big Pedal in schools in the spring, which has the same aim and is a national competition with hundreds of other schools in the UK. If your school would like to take part, please contact us at Bedford@Sustrans.org.uk'.

What to do with your garden waste



Garden waste collections resumed this month, so don't forget to put your green-lidded garden waste bin out alongside your recycling bin by 6am on your next recycling collection day.

To check your bin collection calendar please visit our online collection day finder.

Please make sure all of your garden waste is contained and loose within your green lidded bin. The crews will not remove any garden waste that is left out next to your bin.

What can go into your garden waste bin?



Yes please:

Grass cuttings
Plants and weeds
Flowers
Prunings
Hedge clippings



No thanks:

Food waste
DIY waste e.g soil, rubble, wood
Pet waste including bedding
Invasive weeds e.g Japanese Knotweed
Plant pots

Having a clear out in the garden?

If you have more garden waste than you can fit in your green lidded bin please do not overfill your bin or make it too heavy to move.

Instead you can take excess garden waste or larger items such as branches or trees to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane.

Don't forget other items from the garden such as old wooden furniture, soil and plant pots must not be put into the garden waste bin. Please make sure these are also taken to the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane.

Before visiting the Household Waste Recycling Centre on Barkers Lane please check to see if you need a permit for your vehicle or the waste you are disposing of.

Round and Round the Garden: A Celebration of Horticulture in Art

6 April 2019 to 28 September 2019 Wixamtree Gallery - Free Entry



Celebrate gardens and gardening with The Higgins Bedford at the new exhibition 'Round and Round the Garden: A Celebration of Horticulture in Art'.

Featuring works by major artists from the internationally renowned Cecil Higgins Collection, this exhibition celebrates our human fascination with gardens and looks at how gardens and gardening have provided inspiration for many different artists.

Members of the public are also invited to send in photos for the #BedfordLovesGardening display at the exhibition entrance, making this a truly unique exhibition.

Artists have always been inspired by gardens. Pre-Raphaelite John Everett Millais saw them as settings for tragic love stories. Walter Sickert brought the garden inside for his still life pieces, while Joan Eardley braved the weather to paint Scottish wild flowers.

Edward Bawden depicted the large botanical gardens at Kew while Paul Nash painted village gardens. Camden Town artist Charles Ginner painted his own suburban garden, whilst Lucian Freud and Graham Sutherland travelled further afield to paint continental gardens

and exotic plants.

There will also be a sensory installation in the gallery created by the Theatre of Widdershins with The Wynding Wixam Tree, a sculptural piece by local puppet maker and storyteller, Andy Lawrence. Alongside the exhibition there will be garden-themed events including garden tours, plant sales, a British Sign Language tour and workshop with Access Bedford, lunchtime lectures, Easter and May Half-Term holiday activities and more.

Photographs sent in by members of the public may be featured in the #BedfordLovesGardening display, at the exhibition entrance and on The Higgins Bedford Facebook and Instagram pages. Photographs can be sent to thehiggins@bedford.gov.uk or to The Higgins' Bedford Loves Gardens Facebook Group (<http://bit.ly/bedfordlovesgardening>).

The exhibition has been organised in collaboration with Christiana Payne, Professor of History of Art at Oxford Brookes University.

The poster artwork was commissioned from children's illustrator and author Charlotte Voake and supported by the Friends of The Higgins Bedford.



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



- Posters and Flyers
- Business Cards
- Leaflets
- Letterheads/ Compliment Slips
- Brochures
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- Envelopes
- Vinyl banners
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Public Health England launches national Cervical Screening Campaign

Public Health England have launched a national cervical screening campaign which will run until the end of this month, targeted at women (aged 25-64) who are eligible for screening.

This follows reports that attendance is at a 20-year low, with one in four women in the UK not attending their cervical screening. The campaign aims to encourage women in this age group to attend their appointments and to mitigate concerns of embarrassment or discomfort during the screening process.

For more information on cervical screening, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cervical-screening> or check out our Twitter and Facebook (Healthy Bedford Borough Healthy Bedford)



Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

This month is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month. Every 15 minutes in the UK someone is diagnosed with bowel cancer. It's more common in the over 50s but can affect people of all ages. It's also the UK's second biggest cancer killer but it shouldn't be. It's treatable and curable especially if diagnosed early.

Nearly everyone survives bowel cancer if diagnosed at the earliest stage however this drops significantly as the disease develops. Early diagnosis really does save lives. Being aware of the key symptoms and visiting your GP if things don't feel right can help increase chances of an early diagnosis.



#STOPbowelcancer

The symptoms of bowel cancer can include:

- Bleeding from your bottom and/or blood in your poo
- A persistent and unexplained change in bowel habit
- Unexplained weight loss
- Extreme tiredness for no obvious reason
- A pain or lump in your tummy

Most people with these symptoms don't have bowel cancer. Other health problems can cause similar symptoms. If you have one or more of these, or if things just don't feel right, see your GP.

For more information visit www.bowelcanceruk.org.uk.