



Bin it: Members of the Bell Tower Community Association with Abbey ward councillor June Orton.



Junk: Bell Tower clean-up organiser David Neale gets physical.

Community clean-up reveals a right load of old rubbish

by **Lucy Thorne**

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MATTRESSES, broken furniture and old Christmas trees were just some of the items dumped at a Reading community group's tidy-up day.

More than 100 residents cleared their sheds, gardens and cluttered corners of their homes, to fill the 40 cubic yard skip in just under four hours.

The Bell Tower Community Association, which represents residents and businesses in the area around E P Collier Primary School in Ross Road, staged the event with the backing of Reading Festival promoters Mean Fiddler.

Organiser David Neale said: "The response was overwhelming.

"After opening the gates I went away to clear some rubbish from my own house and by the time I got back 40 minutes later, the skip was already nearly half full.

"As well as giving residents the chance to clear their houses and gardens, this event has provided a great opportunity for neighbours to work together and get to know each other."

● **Link** www.bell-tower.org.uk