



A FULL SKIP: Members of the Bell Tower team. Pictured left to right are David Neale, Rod Plinston, Mary Neale, Jonathan Dart and Steve Bale

Neighbourhood clear-out

EVERYTHING but the kitchen sink appeared at an annual community clear out.

Three toilets and two baths were among the items householders took to the Big Skip event held by Bell Tower Community Association.

These joined the more traditional offerings of sofas, mattresses and other items of furniture no longer required.

The association, which represents 600 households in the neighbourhood between Cardiff Road and Caversham Road, in Central Reading, arranges skips every year with sponsorship from Reading Festival organiser Festival Republic.

The event, on Saturday, August 16, also included an element of recycling with some items, such as a computer table and a cat climbing frame, being taken by neighbours.

A bicycle repair workshop was also operating with several reconditioned bikes finding new owners.

Hardworking volunteers and residents exhausted after lugging around bulky unwanted items were able to recuperate with free tea, coffee and biscuits provided by Crowne Plaza hotel.

Bell Tower chairman David Neale said: "Yet again the Big Skip was one of our most popular and successful events and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all our helpers as well as Festival Republic and Crowne Plaza.

"Unfortunately we were unable to accept electrical goods this year because the skip provider has had to start charging for each item.

"However, we will try and find a partner to take this sort of material for next year's event."