

Neighbours doing it for themselves

Environmental Project



A LOT of people whinge about graffiti in their streets, but one group of neighbours rolled up their sleeves and cleaned it up.

The Bell Tower Community Association, formed two years ago, regarded graffiti in the Central Reading neighbourhood as a problem. And they asked what they could do about it.

They called on the council – not to clean up the graffiti for them – but for training and information about how they could do it up themselves.

David Neale of the association said: "It is very important for people to understand that they can do things for themselves."

They soon set about the clean-up.

Mr Neale said: "Everyone can get involved, even if it just by allowing us to connect our hosepipes to their taps."

Nowadays they are out there scrubbing off the graffiti long before the council can get there.

The group has a membership of 550 households and produces a lively newsletter to keep everyone in touch. Their nominator described them as simply "inspirational"



GROUP ACTION – Teresa Collias, far left, and David Neale, far right, of the Bell Tower Community Association with nominator Chris Bloomfield and Chris Tarrant