



# Conservatives

## Bedford and Kempston Conservative Association August 2018

**Welcome to your August Newsletter**

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### **Local Election Update**

All current Bedford Conservative councillors, new B&KCA selected candidates for Bedford and Kempston and the Mayoral candidate have been working hard within their wards and the wider Bedford Borough, engaging with residents, finding out about issues and concerns they may have, as well as delivering their newsletters.

Last month all Bedford Borough candidates were invited to a dinner and training with Jonathan Collett, the chair of the Nuneaton Conservative Association, where in their elections in May they gained a fantastic nine seats from the opposition. This was a great chance to share best practice and an opportunity for us all to take ideas from a successful campaign as well as an opportunity for new candidates to get to know the team.

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### **Membership Renewals**

This Spring saw the new changes to membership renewals introduced by CCHQ. Please do look out for emails from CCHQ not B&KCA regarding your upcoming membership renewal details. This is especially important now if you would like to vote at the Parliamentary candidate hustings, as you have to have been a member, continuously, for at least 3 months prior to the 'hustings' to be allowed to vote. Please do not let your membership lapse if you want to have a voice.

Stella from the B&KCA office is, in the short term, following up on any memberships that have expired in case emails from HQ have been missed. There is only a short grace period to help people remain members after their expiry date.

Remember, you can only vote if you are a **continuous** member within the time period before the selection meeting.





We are always adding events to our busy diary. Here is what we have planned so far. More information about each event will be sent closer to the date.

- 5<sup>th</sup> August - Summer Lunch
- 29<sup>th</sup> September - Coffee morning
- 12<sup>th</sup> October - Political Supper
- 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Dinner Dance
- 9<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Drinks

#### *Volunteer Thank you!*

Big thanks go to Jason Whaley a B&KCA member who has volunteered to help the committee manage the B&KCA website.

Please do have a look at the changes we are making and use the site for information.

[www.bedfordandkempston.org.uk](http://www.bedfordandkempston.org.uk)

### **Paella Lunch**

Our sell out event, hosted by Cllr Jon Gambold and Jean was a fantastic afternoon on a hot and sunny day. Thank you to all that came and joined us.

### **Summer Lunch – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August**

Unfortunately booking for this event is now closed. There are always other events in the pipeline – keep up to date through the website. We would love to see you at all events.

### **Future events**

This Autumn continues with our busy calendar of events for B&KCA members. The MP who will speaking at our Political Supper will be announced shortly, and the Christmas Drinks are kindly being hosted by Jennifer Sauboorah, also a B&KCA member, and her family. Both these events are for members only.

The Dinner Dance on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and is open to all that wish to join us, members and non-members. Tickets will be sold individually or in tables of 10.

More information on all these events to follow soon.

### **MEET THE TEAM**

Your B&KCA Executive is made up from members that are volunteers, supported by Stella Jones.

John Watson - President

Margaret Turner - Chair

Peter Hand - Deputy Chair Political

Andrea Spice - Deputy Chair Membership

Bernard Jones - Treasurer

Gianni Carofano - Lead for Campaign Integration

Dee Dite - Chair of Fundraising Committee

John Mingay - Chair of Selection Panel

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