



MEMORIES OF THE RECREATION GROUND THE GREEN FLAG COMMUNITY AWARD

This year The Recreation Ground is 116 years old and plans are underway to enter The Recreation Ground for a national award that recognises high quality green spaces in England and Wales that are managed by voluntary and community groups – The Green Flag Community Award. The Award is part of The Green Flag Award scheme, the national standard for quality parks and green spaces. Entries for the Community Award are open to parks and green spaces located in the UK, and are judged on the site's own merits and suitability to the community it serves. Awards are given on an annual basis and winners must apply each year to renew their Community Award status.

What is a Green Flag Community Award Site?

All community green spaces are eligible to enter, as long as they are freely accessible to all and unlocked as much as possible although this may not be every day and may be limited to regular, advertised open days. Judges score each green space against a detailed checklist based on the following criteria:

- A welcoming place
- Healthy, safe and secure
- Clean and well maintained
- Sustainability
- Biodiversity and heritage
- Community involvement
- Management/Achievements



It is our aim to continue to involve the community in the increasingly, evolving success of The Recreation Ground, which throughout its history has been a focal point for the community for leisure.

Formerly the home of Hedge End Cricket Club and The Reading Rooms, you may have a memory or a photograph that could be added to the application. Any anecdote would be most welcome and your authorisation to use photographs, especially those that may have been taken in the early 20th Century or maybe of the Carnival Assembly over the years would be very much appreciated.

Perhaps you may be interested in creating a Wildflower Garden with other volunteers at The Recreation Ground - this will be in partnership with the Town Council and its staff, but involving the community in this Biodiversity Project.

If you are interested or have any material that can be published to contribute to the Green Flag Community Award Application, please do not hesitate to Email: deputytc@hedgeend-tc.gov.uk or telephone the undersigned 01489 780440.

We feel sure that you will agree that The Recreation Ground is an open space of which we should be very proud, it provides leisure activities for all ages and has been an important Community amenity throughout an entire century. So please join us to give this park the recognition it deserves.

Denise Lowth
DEPUTY TOWN CLERK



Our black and white photographs are courtesy of one of our most respected Councillors who is depicted enjoying a Charity Cricket Event held on The Recreation Ground in the 1960s.