

The Big Swindon Knit Summer Tea Party comes to Lydiard Park

Knitters and sewers from all across Swindon will this week gather together to make blankets for people in need.

On Wednesday 27 June, Lydiard Park will play host to a gathering of stitching superstars who will create beautifully handmade blankets for homeless charity Threshold and Swindon Women's Refuge.

The Big Swindon Knit initiative has so far delivered an impressive 158 blankets and knitters of all abilities are encouraged to take part in Wednesday's event.

Councillor Brian Ford, Swindon Borough Council's Cabinet Member for Adult Services, said: "The Big Swindon Knit is a wonderful way of bringing people together and the Summer Tea Party should be hugely enjoyable.

"Whether you are a seasoned pro or a budding enthusiast, we urge people to bring their knitting needles and enjoy the sunshine while helping those most in need.

"By offering people the chance to socialise and learn new skills, the Big Swindon Knit promotes wellbeing in adults and can help tackle loneliness in old age, a problem the council is committed to addressing with a number of support services."

Delicious afternoon tea will be provided by volunteers from Forget Me Not Bakers and Mayor Junab Ali will be in attendance.

The Big Swindon Knit, led by Swindon Borough Council's Community Health and Wellbeing Team, encourages competent knitters to knit for others, but also teaches non-knitters to knit.

The scheme works because it enables people to make a positive difference to the community while honing their skills and learning new ones. It is also a great way to meet people and keep in touch.

The event will be held from 1.30pm until 3.30pm. For more information, contact the livewell hub at livewell@swindon.go.uk.