

From: [Joy Bells](#)
Subject: Volunteer Week (1st week of June)
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Hello,

I hope you will be able to help me.

I am currently planning for Volunteer week which falls in the first week of June. One of the volunteer schemes we operate and are keen to promote is Swindon Circles, a befriending scheme for lonely, Swindon people, many of whom are elderly and immobile. Many of our clients live in older people's bungalows or complexes and may manage a short walk of a few hundred yards with their volunteer when the weather is good.

With this in mind I was hoping to identify 5 or 6 older people's bungalows or older people's complexes in the borough that would benefit from an additional tree. A fruit tree which blossoms and eventually produces fruit would be ideal, and although June isn't the ideal time to plant a tree, we would follow up to ensure the tree is looked after and has the chance to grow and blossom. The tree itself represents the friendships that grow and blossom through Swindon Circles as well as being an attractive addition to the area and helpful to the environment.

Although this is just a tentative inquiry I wonder if you have any locations (as described above) that would benefit from this. We would plan to ask the Mayor or a Councillor to plant the tree, publicise the event and hope to attract new volunteers to our befriending scheme.

I'd appreciate your thoughts on this and would be happy to meet any parish councillors who would like to discuss this idea.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Best wishes

Joy

Joy Bells (JBells@swindon.gov.uk)

The only way to have a friend is to be one

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