

## Thousands descend on Russel Park for popular kite festival



More than 40,000 people descended on Russell Park over the weekend for the 8th Annual Bedford International Kite Festival.

Organised and run by the events team at Bedford Borough Council and boosted by the early summer weather, the weekend included kite flying experts from countries including: Australia, Bali, China, Japan Switzerland, Germany and Holland.

The Festival was held at Russell Park and proved a great day out for the whole family.

The site was packed with brilliant entertainment, including street theatre, crafts, flying displays, funfair, food stalls and a bar.

This year there was also a special arena for anyone to have a go at flying one of the kites in the middle of the park, alongside the experts from around the world.

Mayor of Bedford Borough, Dave Hodgson, said: "With thousands of people enjoying the free entertainment on offer throughout the weekend there's no doubt this year's Kite Festival was a brilliant success."

"I was at the Festival on Saturday and it was a real pleasure to see so many families enjoying the amazing kites from around the world."

The events team at Bedford Borough Council are now turning their attentions to the River Festival (July 17-18) which is expected to attract around 300,000 people to the Embankment and Russell Park.

For more information on the Kite Festival, the River Festival and any other events happening in Bedford, visit [www.bedfordevents.co.uk](http://www.bedfordevents.co.uk)