

OUR PLACE MK

Bletchley's Sporting Heritage

Swimming and Leisure



Bletchley Leisure Centre

For many years, Bletchley's residents learned to swim in the river Ouzel or even the gravel pits. Then, in 1958, following a long campaign and public subscription, the Queen's Pool was opened in Central Gardens. Soon after, Bletchley Swimming Club was formed and hundreds of local children benefited from the coaching, despite the cold open air facilities. Covered in 1969, it was replaced in 1974 by a revolutionary new leisure centre which provided a range of opportunities for sports participation, though, sadly, no swimming pool. Instead a new recreation pool was built in the award-winning pyramid. For many years, serious swimmers had to use Leon School or go to other parts of the new city to follow their dreams.



Queen's Pool in Central Gardens 1968



Peter Corden awarding prizes at Bletchley Swim Club



Bathing hut at the river near Manor Fields

