



NEWBURY TOWN NEWS



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JUNE 2007

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Special points of interest:

Our congratulations to Angela Spellman who was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List for her contribution to charitable events in Newbury. Angela has been ably organising the Mayor's drive for over 22 years now. This event matches volunteer drivers to the elderly of Newbury, taking them on a countryside mystery tour and finishing with tea, cakes and company in the grounds of a local house. Many residents of Newbury have cause to be grateful to Angela, so it is nice to see her efforts so publicly rewarded.

Newbury Town Council is officially ten years old. The event was celebrated in April by a reception held at the Town Hall. Past and present staff, Councillors, Mayors and representatives of the many companies associated with the council attended. Presentation boards showed the achievements that the council had made over the last decade, which included Fair Trade status, Quality Parish Council status and the soaring success of all our allotment sites.

Welcome to Newbury Town Council's Newsletter, the newsletter of your local Parish Council

MEET YOUR NEW COUNCIL STAFF



2007 has seen some major changes in staff at the Town Council. 2006 had seen the departure of permanent service officers and their replacement by temporary staff. It also saw the retirement of Brian Burton, the Grounds Maintenance Officer due to ill health and early on in 2007, the retirement of Dennis Brindley, Services Manager. We are pleased to announce that due to a very successful recruitment drive, the following people are now in situ

Granville Taylor—Services Manager

Granville is used to dealing with complex situations that need firm guidance and excellent customer relationship skills after a long and varied career in the Home Office. His cheerful demeanour and efficient running of the Services team has already brought a noticeable "team spirit" to the Town Council.



Steve Attrill—Grounds Maintenance Officer

Steve has been in the employ of South Wight Borough Council and Surrey Heath Borough Council and has just relocated from Kings Lynn, where he was in charge of the gardening team at the local borough council. He brings with him a wealth of experience, which has been truly appreciated by the services department.



Caroline Parkinson—Services Officer

Caroline is born and bred in Newbury and therefore is very familiar with our town and places within. She has had significant customer services experience from working with both Vodafone and the HSBC bank and has recently returned to her home town after a five year break in Australia.



Joanne Lempriere—Services Officer

Joanne has had a variety of customer services and administration positions in various parts of the country, including London and Essex. She now lives in Thatcham.



The Services Officers are jointly responsible for allotments, cemeteries, market stalls, Victoria Park bookings, footway lighting and public seating in our Parish.

The new team has already integrated into Town Council life and are becoming familiar faces around town. Their integration was however fully completed by their willingness to dress up as pirates for the annual Soroptomist's Pancake Race in the Market Square!!

NEWBURY IN BLOOM GOES GREEN



This year Newbury In Bloom enters its 10th year and to celebrate this great achievement judges will be looking for evidence of a more environmentally friendly style of gardening from entrants, in addition to colourful and creative displays.

For the first time local people will have the chance to score extra points with judges with such items as peat free composts, home made fertilisers and evidence of collected rain water for watering purposes and recycled materials for containers, such as old tyres, washing up bowls, etc. Sue Page, Newbury In Bloom Co-ordinator explains,

“This change is aimed at encouraging best practice. We already see evidence of entrants becoming more environmentally aware with the use of recycled materials and composts being used, but we would like to encourage more awareness in today’s environmentally challenged world.

Horticultural competitions are often criticised for rewarding best results alone and this can mean an environment unfriendly approach, maybe using chemicals or lots of hanging baskets that encourage the material that lines them to be dumped into rubbish bins and then on to landfill.

We are now actively encouraging a more responsible approach to gardening and to our competition. Of course, encouraging better practise in our own competition can only help

Newbury’s case when the Royal Horticultural Society sends its judges to appraise the town in the national “Britain in Bloom” competition later this year.”

Sponsors this year include Breathe Pictures, who are best known for their photographic exhibition “Best of Newbury” held at the Corn Exchange in the Autumn, they have pledged to take professional photos of all the winners in their winning environment, a beautiful reminder of all that hard work to cherish forever. Southbys Allotment Association, Gandlake Computers and Palady Homes have all sponsored categories in the competition and Try Wines and the King Charles Tavern will be providing quality food and wine for the presentation evening in September.

There are 11 categories in the Newbury In Bloom competition, ranging from Best Wildlife Garden, Best Garden Tended by Children through to Best Allotment and the Tallest Sunflower. Closing date for entries is 29th June. For further information, entry forms and details of sponsorship opportunities, contact Sue Page at Newbury Town Council on 01635 35486, email admin@newbury.gov.uk or see our website www.newbury.gov.uk

NEWBURY CARNIVAL

What a Carry On!!

As you may be aware, last year’s Carnival was easily one of the best days in Newbury’s calendar, made even better by the fact that the Town Council won the “Best Business Entry” category with our fabulous float.

This year, we are out to retain our title. The theme of the whole Carnival, which will take place through Newbury town centre on Sunday 1st July, is “Celebrating Stage and Screen”.

After much deliberation, we have decided to resurrect the much loved Carry On films focussing on “Carry On Cleo” incorporating the Newbury Mosaic, “Carry On Screaming”, representing the cemeteries, “Carry On Camping”, Victoria Park and open spaces, “Carry On Up the Jungle”, (look out for our West Mills allotments steward, George Russell, complete with loincloth!) and lastly “Carry On at Your Convenience” to represent our public services department.

Hopefully the sun will shine and 2007 will be just as good fun—we are looking forward to it already—For further details log on to www.newburycarnival.org.uk



HERITAGE PRESERVATION

The Conservation of Historic Buildings Working Group continues to protect the character of Newbury by researching historic buildings and Conservation Areas. In March Cllr Gina Houghton presented a 98 page report on the Newtown Road Conservation Area, with a proposal to extend the boundary eastwards. The Report includes the history of the building of the Newtown Road to form a better approach to Newbury, the enclosure of the East Fields and the planned development of a new Victorian/Edwardian residential suburb, complete with St John's Church, the cemetery, schools and almshouses. Several landmark buildings in the area will be proposed for protection by the 'Local List' - this new status protects buildings which do not merit 'National Listing'. The Working Group are currently preparing National Listing applications for the Post Office in Cheap Street, the Old Library and the Coxedd and Pearce Almshouses in Enborne Road. The Newtown Road Conservation Area Report has also been given to the Museum, where local residents can read about the history of their neighbourhood. For more details please contact Cllr Gina Houghton on 01635 33932.

DOES REAL CHARITY BEGIN ON THE STREETS OF NEWBURY?

The rise in numbers of charity workers touting for donations in Northbrook Street has been a cause for concern.

The Town Council frequently has members of the public coming into the reception complaining of their “bully boy tactics” to get people to sign up to direct debit contributions. Chief Executive Graham Hunt states,

“These people really aren’t interested in the Charities they are representing, only the commission they receive for each sign up. Their use of verbal abuse and on occasion physical force is of real concern to me and I really think it is time that someone put a stop to them, but the only real way for this to happen is for the public not to give in to ‘Chuggers’. We recommend that donations are made directly to the Charity of your choice, in a far more tax efficient way”.

If you have had a nasty experience with these people, please email chiefexec@newbury.gov.uk or call the Town Hall on 01635 35486

New Junior Mayor for Newbury's Youth Council



Laurence Parker (pictured right) became the new Junior Mayor of Newbury, taking over from Gemma Legg, who had served in the position for the previous fourteen months.

His new commitments include the Youth for Europe

week, which also incorporates the Junior Mayor's concert. The youth council have also been involved with conservation works on Greenham Common and continue to be the voice of the Youth of Newbury. If you have any comments that you wish to raise at one of the NYPC's monthly meetings, please contact either Sue Page or Karen Hutt at the Town Council either by telephone on 01635 35486 or email accounts@newbury.gov.uk. Meetings are open to everyone, so why not come along and air any views concerning issues that you feel are affecting the youth of Newbury.

Newbury's Newest Bands to play at Racecourse Concert

After the success of last year's "Talking Rubbish" school's concert at the Vodafone Pavilion, the youth council have decided to see what they can do with a concert of their own.

23 August 2007 will see their efforts come to fruition as they stage the Junior Mayor's Charity Gig in aid of the Naomi House Children's Hospice. Newbury Racecourse have allowed the council to use their new grandstand as the venue and the intention is to show case many up and coming Newbury Bands.

The line up will include Red Light Rescue, The Habit, Paradox, Dayzed, The Lock Up and Han Solo and will be compered by Kick FM's James O'Neill.

Junior Mayor, Laurence Parker is very excited at the prospect of such a high profile concert.

"All the members of the Newbury Young People's Council have participated in some way to the organisation of the concert from contacting the bands, to designing the posters. It shows how young people today can do some worthwhile, we don't all just hang about the streets and cause trouble. We are exceptionally grateful to Newbury Racecourse for providing the venue and to Kick FM, who always support the NYPC"

The date again for your diary is 23 August 2007 and it will all kick off when the doors open at 5pm. Entry is strictly by wristband only and the organisers reserve the right to refuse entry if seen fit. Wristbands are available for £4 from the Town Hall in Newbury during office hours or will be available from the Town Hall steps during councillor surgery every Saturday between 10am and 12 noon.

"Youth for Europe" comes to Newbury

This year the NYPC are playing host to Youth for Europe. This is a yearly event in which all our twin towns take it in turn to entertain and inform guests from Feltre in Italy, Braunfels in Germany, Bagnols Sur Ceze in France and Eeklo in Belgium. This year's theme is "music as a common language" and each country will be asked to submit a presentation on this theme.

Also included in a frenetic week of activities is an international picnic in Victoria Park, a sightseeing trip to London; a tour of Oxford is also planned, as well as an "It's a knockout" competition. This year's accommodation has been kindly provided by St Barts School, where international meals prepared by the students from each country will be served. The fortnight begins on 18 August and culminates with a day at Newbury Races on 24 August, kindly sponsored by the Racecourse as a relaxation day after the previous evening's concert (see below).

Hopefully the weather will be kind to everyone, to ensure the event is a roaring success. Good luck to all the junior councillors who have been involved in all the organisation, no mean feat. Our thanks also Joyce Lewis, Civic Manager and Rachel Haslam and Jim Johnston from the Twin Town Association for all their help and support.



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Dates of Future Council Meetings

25 June	2007 –	Planning & Highways
2 July	2007 –	Community Services
9 July	2007 –	Policy & Resources
16 July	2007 –	Planning & Highways
27 July	2007 –	Council
6 August	2007 –	Planning & Highways
29 August	2007 –	Planning & Highways
10 September	2007 –	Arts & Leisure
17 September	2007 –	Planning & Highways
24 September	2007 –	Community Services
8 October	2007 –	Planning & Highways

All meetings start at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Council Chamber, and EVERYBODY is welcome to attend! There is a separate agenda item for public questions (submitted by 2pm) at every meeting. Plans are available for inspection at P&H meetings from 7:00pm.

Agendas available from our website.

EVERYBODY WELCOME TO ATTEND!

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Market Place
Newbury

Phone: 01635 35486
Fax: 01635 40484

Email: towncouncil@newbury.gov.uk

WE'RE ON THE WEB

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Councillor Information

Brummell Grove

Julie Csala 20 Digby Road, RG14 1TT 01635 820373 LD

Clay Hill

Phil Barnett 60 New Road, Greenham, RG14 7RU 01635 42150 LD

Jeff Beck 1 Sycamore Rise, RG14 2LZ 01635 44770 C

Dave Goff c/o Newbury Town Council 01635 35486 C

Tony Stretton 21 Walton Way, RG14 2LL 07766 486097 C

Falkland

Howard Bairstow 10 Glendale Avenue, RG14 6RU 01635 44642 C

Adrian Edwards 56 Fifth Road, RG14 6DR 01635 45033 C

Marion Fenn 11 Stuart Road, RG14 6QX 01635 47916 C

Kuldip Singh 40 Fifth Road, RG14 6DL 01635 848815 C

Northcroft

Joan Day 17 Cherry Close, RG14 1LS 01256 892061 LD

Ian Grose 7 Rockingham Road, RG14 5PD 01635 36816 LD

Gina Houghton Falmer House, Hill Road, RG14 1RP 01635 33932 LD

Martha Vickers 62 Craven Road, RG14 5NJ 01635 230046 LD

Pyle Hill

Arthur Johnson 3 The Nightingales, Greenham, RG14 7UT 01635 34738 LD

Julian Swift-Hook 12 Warwick Drive, Greenham RG14 7TT 01635 524080 LD

St Johns

Mike Johnston 58 York Road, RG14 7NR 01635 582463 C

Richard Kingsley The Vineyard, Garden Close Lane, RG14 6PR 01635 40993 C

Evans c/o Newbury Town Council 01635 35486 C

Charlotte Savage 5 Sutherlands, RG14 7RL 01635 45978 C

Ieuan Tuck 01635 45978 C

Victoria

David Allen 66 Greenham Road, RG14 7HX 01635 47235 LD

Bernard Eggleton 62 Hambridge Road, RG14 5TA 01635 45402 LD

Gabrielle McGarvey 42 Howard Road, RG14 7QD 01635 550824 LD

Ifor Sheldon 5 Wentworth Court, RG14 7JB 01635 827415 LD

Councillor surgeries are held from 10am to 12 noon on the Town Hall Steps, every Saturday, come rain or shine!!

Please feel free to come and air your views to your local Councillors and Junior Councillors.

● Accidents ● Crime ● Disputes ● Employment ● Conveyancing
● Childcare ● Divorce & Separation ● Mediation ● Commercial
● Housing & Property ● Wills & Probate ● Contracts
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THANK YOU FOR READING THE NEWBURY TOWN NEWS

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE CONTENT PLEASE CALL SUE PAGE ON 01635 35486

Meet Your New Councillors

CLAY HILL



Dave Goff is a project manager at Vodafone and is also governor of Robert Sandilands Primary School. He enjoys walking and is a member of Berkshire Walkers.



Born and raised in West Berkshire, **Phil Barnett** has previously served for 4 years as a Town Councillor and became Mayor in 1994.



Tony Stretton is a trained chef and has lived in Newbury for 15 years. He is keen to see a reduction in anti social behaviour in the town and to keep Newbury as a prosperous, vibrant market town.



Jeff Beck is a retired engineer and has lived in Newbury for nearly 40 years, has served both as town and district councillor and is active in many other committees.

FALKLAND



Howard Bairstow has lived in the ward for 30 years. He works in technical sales and is keen to keep any changes to Newbury within the "Vision of Newbury" spectrum. He is married with two grown sons.



Adrian Edwards has lived in the ward for more than 30 years and has served on both town and district councils. He has also been Mayor, and governor of John Rankin Junior School for the last 20 years.



Marion Fenn has lived in Wash Common for 30 years. Previously a midwife, Marion is now involved in many roles in the community and is very interested in gaining suitable recreation facilities for all age groups.



Kuldip Singh has lived in Newbury for 18 years and is well known for running the Fifth Road Stores during this period. He is now semi-retired and works for Newbury GPO and is looking forward to serving the local community.

NORTHCROFT



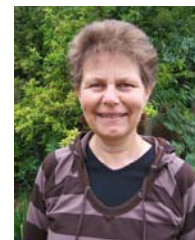
Joan Day was born and grew up in Newbury. She returned 16 years ago after a spell of teaching in Kent. She currently teaches Maths in Hampshire. Joan has long been a Liberal Democrat supporter and is keen to serve Newbury well as a newly elected Town Councillor.



Ian Grose is Leader of the Town Council. He is a science teacher at Kennet School and first joined the Council in 2003 because he felt that Newbury had been good to him and he wanted to put something back. He lives in Rockingham Road and enjoys gardening and cycling.



Gina Houghton has been very active in the local community since coming to Newbury in 1983 with her family. As a town councillor, Gina led the team which wrote the much praised Newbury Town Design Statement.



Martha Vickers was Mayor of Newbury in 1997 when Newbury Town Council first came into existence. After a short break she has decided to add Town Councillor to her numerous roles in many outside organisations including being founder member of the cycling organisation Spokes.

VICTORIA



Bernard Eggleton has lived in Newbury for most of his life. He is a member of the Newbury Society and represents them on the Town Trail Steering Group, who are responsible for the new sculptures in Newbury.



Gabrielle McGarvey joined the Town Council as a councillor in 2003. She successfully led Newbury's campaign to become a Fairtrade Town. Originally from Belgium, Gabrielle has lived in Newbury for many years.



Ifor Sheldon has lived in Newbury for 12 years and has always worked in the National Health Service until 2004 when he transferred to the private sector, currently working at West Berkshire Community Hospital.



David Allen has worked in the printing industry for 30 years and is a member of the Royal British Legion and West Berkshire Spokes. He has lived in Newbury for over 20 years and is looking forward to serving as a Councillor.

ST JOHNS



Formally an army officer, **Mike Johnston** now works in telecommunications. He is currently leader of the Town Council conservative group and joined as a Town Councillor in 2003, he is also a member of the Round Table.



Richard Kingsley Evans has an accountancy background and is keen to ensure the most effective use of Town Council resources. He is also a governor at Falkland Primary School.



Charlotte Savage was born in Hampshire and is currently training at Speenhamland school. She lives in the West Fields area of Newbury with her son and partner. This is her first time as a councillor.



Ieuan Tuck has lived in the ward for more than 30 years and works as a teacher. He has also previously been a Mayor and chairman of the local branch of the Chamber of the Commerce

PYLE HILL

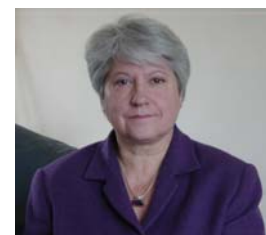


Arthur Johnson moved to Newbury in 1979 and has been a Town Councillor for 4 years. He is also actively involved with the Newbury Carnival Committee and is a football referee in his spare time.



Julian Swift-Hook has lived in the ward for more than 20 years and has served as a Town Councillor for the past 10. He is very interested in "green" issues.

BRUMMEL GROVE



Julie Csala is a first time Councillor. Formally a Personal Advisor and Events Organiser at Bayer, Julie has been retired for 2 years. She has lived in Newbury for 30 years and has 2 children and 5 grandchildren.