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MAY 2008

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News In Brief

The Civic Award winner of 2008 was announced as Peter Mott at this year's Annual Town Meeting, who was chosen for his unerring devotion to the West Berkshire Alzheimer's Society.

Newbury Young Peoples Council are always on the lookout for new committed members. The Council aims to deal with issues that affect the youth of Newbury and are currently debating the need for a teenage café in Newbury and are organising a dual venue concert to showcase many genres of up and coming local bands. Does this sound interesting to you? If so, contact our Junior Mayor, Jenny Moorcroft at nypc-jmoorcroft@hotmail.co.uk or call the Town Hall on 01635 35486

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

VICTORIA PARK TO HOST NEWBURY'S NEWEST SHOW



This summer will see a brand new forum to showcase our beautiful Victoria Park. August Bank Holiday Monday 25th August will see the very first Victoria Park Produce Show and Family Fun Day.

With Newbury Town Council's allotment sites full to bursting, it was requested that a venue be provided so that the allotment holders could show off their produce in a competitive way. With produce shows becoming more and more popular in the West Berkshire area, the Council decided that this could be the way forward in Newbury too.

After a successful grant bid from the "Awards for All" section of the National Lottery, the day will also see a family fun day run in conjunction with the show, so that all the family can enjoy a day out in our beautiful Victoria Park. Many forms of entertainment will be available, from bouncy castles and treasure hunts for the children, to an open day at Newbury Bowls Club, to entice you to have a go at rolling your first end.

Hopefully, a tug of war competition will be staged between our "Men in Uniform". Teams have already been entered from the Newbury Blues Rugby Club and Newbury Fire Brigade at the time of going to print, with more teams from the Police and local gyms to come.

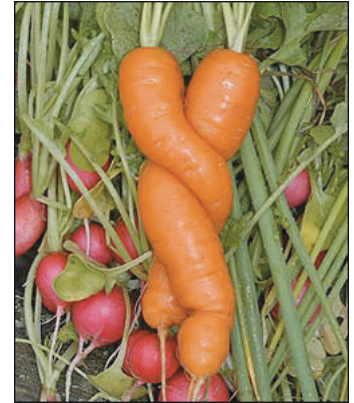
Town council officer, Sue Page, expressed her delight at receiving the grant. "Newbury Town Council is very aware of its responsibility to provide good quality community events for its parishioners and the "Awards for All" grant will enable the day to be a virtually free event. Family days out can become extremely expensive when you have to pay for rides for two or three children and this can sometimes put people off going all together. We, as a Council, would love everybody to mark the 25th August in their diaries now, in the knowledge that it won't cost them a fortune to attend".

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VICTORIA PARK PRODUCE SHOW AND FAMILY FUN DAY contd

There are many different categories to enter in the produce show for adults and children alike and everyone is eligible to enter if they live within the parish boundaries of Newbury. Entry forms and category description are available for download from our website www.newbury.gov.uk or by request from the Town Hall in Market Place, Newbury but here is a selection to wet your competitive appetite!

- **Vegetables**—Tomatoes, carrots, beans, funniest/misshapen vegetable
- **Cut flowers**—Dhalias, sweet peas, vase of cut mixed flowers
- **Cookery**—Savoury scones, man about the house, children’s fairy cakes
- **Handicraft**—Hand knitted garment for a child, cross stitch, woodwork
- **Photography**—Colour or black and white print of a Newbury landmark, “my pet”



Why not give it a go? For more information concerning the show or to validate your address for entry, please call Sue Page on 01635 35486.

FLIPPIN’ GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL AT SOROPTOMIST’S PANCAKE RACES



And they’re off!!



Above- Town Council runners



Left - This year’s winners—Newbury College

Pancake day came early to Newbury’s Market Place with the Newbury Soroptomists staging their annual pancake race. The Town Council entered two teams, who it could be said, were more willing than able!

This year saw 17 teams entered and a multitude of fancy dress costumes from the milkmaids of the Newbury Agricultural Society to the mythical heroes from the Newbury Rugby Club.

The added competition unfortunately outran the council teams and in first place this year were Newbury College, finally ousting Dreweatt Neatte who had won for the previous two years.

The event ended with the traditional throwing of pancakes from the top of St Nicolas church, originally for the poor children of the town but in these modern day times, the children from the Rocking Horse Nursery did the job ably.

Savoury and sweet pancakes were served in the Church hall and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

A resounding success once again, made all the better by over £800 raised for the Royal National Lifeboat Association.

VICTORIA PARK RATS

Last year’s excessively wet and warm summer followed by a mild winter saw the UK rat population increase at an alarming rate. Some Parishioners were reporting that rats were congregating in Victoria Park by the Bandstand making it extremely unpleasant for all.

To survive, rats need food, water and shelter, all of which is unfortunately in plentiful supply in public parks.

Newbury Town Council have employed professional services to control the situation and sought more regular cleaning of adjacent areas to the park, which was contributing to the problem.

If you spot a rat please call our Grounds Maintenance Officer, Steve Attrill on 01635 35486, as any additional information will help solve the problem.



VICTORIA PARK LOTTERY BID

A Heritage Lottery Fund “Parks for People” bid for £2.55 million has been submitted, to provide funds to restore and rejuvenate the Victoria Park. Heritage Lottery timescales mean that, if successful, any work relating to the bid will only start at the earliest in June 2010, but for that amount of money, it is well worth waiting for. Regular maintenance will continue in the meantime.

One of the complexities of the project is the uncertainty still surrounding any building required in Victoria Park. The feasibility or otherwise of the Wharf proposed pavilion is still being established by West Berkshire Council. A separate smaller building just providing critical park facilities is also being considered. However, because of the uncertainty, no building funding has been sought in the lottery bid. A separate funding process will be required in the future, once plans are clearer.



MAYOR'S RECEPTION FOR RETURNING FORCES



Newbury Mayor

Cllr Adrian Edwards

Newbury's close association with 42nd Regiment (Geo), a section of the Royal Engineers, based at Denison Barracks, Hermitage was reaffirmed during an evening reception at the Town Hall on 4th March 2008. Ten years ago the Regiment received the highest accolade that can be bestowed by the Town when they received the Freedom of Newbury Town, an honour which gives them the right to march into the Newbury "with drums beating, colours flying, and bayonets fixed". Historically, to do so without having been granted this rite would have been regarded as an act of aggression.

The evening was arranged by Newbury's Mayor, Cllr Adrian Edwards, to convey the Town's appreciation to returning troops for their ongoing active service in Afghanistan, Iraq and other areas of conflict. During the evening, Mr Edwards made a speech of gratitude to all our troops that continue to help and protect in various parts of the world that are at conflict, before presenting a new scroll in confirmation of this to the commanding officer.

A returning speech was then presented by Lieutenant Colonel Rupert Dash, before presenting the Mayor with a framed print of "The Khyber Survey Party" in full battle on 17th March 1879, to show the unit's appreciation of the evening. After the formalities had ended, both troops, their partners and councillors of the Town Council exchanged personal stories of time spent abroad and the pressure that these absences cause for their families left at home.

This evening allowed a more personal view of our fighting forces and was much appreciated by everyone who attended, with the added beneficial factor of the further strengthening of our ties with the Denison Barracks.

Right—a general view of army personnel with youngsters of Afghanistan



TOWN COUNCILLORS GET THEIR HANDS DIRTY FOR OUR ENVIRONMENT

15th March 2008, saw two of our Town Councillors, Jeff Beck and Tony Stretton, both of Clay Hill Ward, brave the elements as part of the National Rivers and Environmental Spaces Clean-Up.

They were joined by an equally brave group of volunteers to embark on a massive clean-up of the River Lambourn in Newbury, which resulted in the removal of two skips full of rubbish from the River.

Pictured below—wellies to the ready, volunteers and Councillors are ready for action.



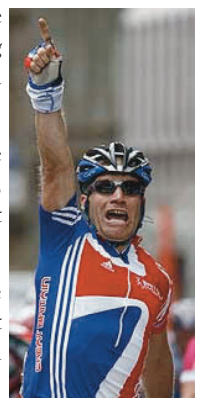
Newbury will be hosting the finish of the second stage of the Tour of Britain cycle race on Monday September 8th. Thousands of spectators are expected to visit the town to see some of the world's leading professional cyclists contest the finish, and a programme of events for all the family is being planned to make it a day to remember.

The Tour of Britain is a major international race, and will be attracting riders and coverage from all over the world. There will be an hour's coverage of each stage during the race on ITV, putting the event alongside the Tour de France. The race begins in the heart of London, then comes to Newbury after a 94 mile route starting in Milton Keynes. It then visits many other regions of the UK before finishing in Liverpool (the 2008 European City of Culture) on Sunday September 14th.

Newbury Town Council have worked together with Greenham Common Trust to secure the stage after a competitive bidding process. "I'm delighted that this prestigious race is coming to Newbury", said Council Leader Ian Grose, "and we look forward to working with West Berkshire Council and the business community to make this a day to remember. It's also a great chance to welcome home some of our Olympic team from Beijing with what we hope will be a large clutch of medals - last year, three of Great Britain's record-breaking track pursuit squad rode in the Tour of Britain, and there will be a strong British presence in this year's Tour"

There will be other benefits too. Thousands of extra people in the town will have an immediate financial benefit for local businesses, and there will be more safe cycling training in schools as a direct result, thanks to Cycling England.

Look out in the Press and the Council's website for more announcements about the day of activities on September 8th. Visit the Tour website (www.tourofbritain.co.uk) for more information about the whole event.





Dates of Future Council Meetings

9 June	2008	– Arts & Leisure
16 June	2008	– Planning & Highways
18 June	2008	– Grants Sub Committee
30 June	2008	– Community Services
7 July	2008	– Planning & Highways
14 July	2008	– Policy & Resources
21 July	2008	– Council
28 July	2008	– Planning & Highways
18 August	2008	– Planning & Highways
1 September	2008	– Arts & Leisure
8 September	2008	– Planning & Highways

All meetings start at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Council Chamber, and EVERYONE is welcome to attend! There is a separate agenda item for public questions, which must be submitted by 2pm on the day of each meeting. Plans are available for inspection at P&H meetings from 7.00pm. Agendas available from our website.

EVERYONE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

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WE'RE ON THE WEB

WWW.NEWBURY.GOV.UK

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 1 The Mews, Lipscombe Close
RG14 5XY 07717 865752 C

Tony Stretton c/o The Town Hall, Newbury, 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 c/o The Town Hall, Newbury 01635 848815 C

Northcroft

Joan Day 17 Cherry Close, RG14 1LS 07703 359884 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 1 The Mews, Lipscombe Close
RG14 5XY 07717 865752 C

Charlotte Savage 5 Sutherlands, RG14 7RL 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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