



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date: 24 January 2006**

### **Memorial Safety Survey at Shaw Cemetery, Shaw Hill, Newbury.**

Newbury Town Council is to commence a Memorial Safety Survey at Shaw Cemetery, Newbury from 27<sup>th</sup> February 2006. The Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 requires the Council to ensure that memorials are safe and so reduce the potential for injury to those working in or visiting its cemeteries. Although reports of serious incidents involving unsafe memorials are relatively rare nationwide, there have been fatalities and the risk of incident grows with the passing of time and the increase in the number of memorials. The Health and Safety Executive expects burial authorities to have a suitable memorial inspection programme.

The safety survey will include a regular stability test of each memorial in the cemetery and will be an ongoing process. All grave owners will be kept fully informed. Newbury Town Council is committed to ensuring the highest standards of Health & Safety and providing a safe environment for all visitors to Shaw Cemetery.

Additional information is available from the Services Department, Newbury Town Council, Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5AA.