



PRESS RELEASE

Mayor's Education Project



Gillian Durrant, Mayor of Newbury, has today launched her education project for primary school children in the parish.

The project is aimed at seven and eight year olds and includes information on Newbury's history, the parish boundaries, the activities of the Town Council, and the regalia and role of the Mayor.

Also included are activities for the children, such as paper dolls of the Mayor, Town Crier and a Mace Bearer to be coloured in and cut out, timelines of Newbury to complete, and a picture of the Mayors Pendant to colour in.

Gillian Durrant said "this is something I have wanted to do for some time. I feel it is important for local children to know about the history of Newbury and the importance of democracy. We are also very fortunate to have rich traditions and historic regalia in this town. So many people ask me about the history of the Mayor of Newbury and our wonderful chain that I thought it would be a good idea to introduce these things to schoolchildren, and explain their significance".

In addition to sending the project to the schools within the parish, Gillian has also offered to visit each school to show them some of the regalia and answer their questions.

"Some people do not consider Newbury's traditions and regalia to be relevant in today's world, but I also intend to explain what local government is and how it affects their lives; for example they can all relate to the fact that the Town Council provides many of the playgrounds in the town, and is responsible for keeping the parks clean. They are also interested to learn that we pay for and maintain the Christmas lights in the town. Many primary schools now have School Councils, and I will explain how these are similar to a Town Council, and how decisions are made."

ENDS

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