# NTC NEWS

## JULY 2025 | ISSUE 79





#### MEETINGS AT THE TOWN HALL

**Monday 7 July** Planning & Highways Committee

Wednesday 9 July Victoria Park Sub-Committee

Monday 14 July Community Services Committee

**Monday 4 August** Planning & Highways Meeting

#### TOWN HALL AVAILABLE FOR HIRE FOR YOUR EVENT AND WEDDINGS!

The Town Hall Chamber is a remarkable historic room, featuring a grand vaulted ceiling, stone fireplaces, and numerous original Victorian characteristics.

The Chamber is available for hire, with options to include the use of the Town Hall's ceremonial front doors and the magnificent

sweeping staircase.



For details contact us: towncouncil@newbury.gov.uk or call 01635 35486

#### WHAT'S ON AT VICTORIA PARK

Saturday 5 July 3-5pm The Rokkits on the Bandstand

> Sunday 6 July 3-5pm Tadley Concert Brass

Saturday 12 July 12 - 6:30pm Newbury Pride Event

> Sunday 13 July 3-5pm Blue Sky Big Band

Sunday 20 July 3-5pm Blewbury Brass Band

Sunday 27 July 3-5pm Jubilee Brass Band

## VJ 80 DAY COMMEMORATIONS IN NEWBURY

Preparations are underway to commemorate VJ Day 80 on Friday 15 August.

VJ Day, Victory over Japan Day (August 15, 1945) marked the end of the fighting which had continued in the pacific after VE Day. This followed the surrender by the Japanese on August 14, 1945.

Following the celebrations of VE Day in the UK on May 8, 1945, the celebrations for VJ Day were rather subdued and seem to have continued in a similar manner.



This year, a service of commemoration for VJ80 will be held at the Newbury War Memorial at 11am on Friday 15 August.

We want to hear from local residents if they have any special recollections of family members who were involved in the Pacific Operations or to whom VJ Day has extra special meaning.

If you have a story please get in touch: <u>mayor@newbury.gov.uk</u> or write to The Mayor of Newbury, Town Hall, Market Place, RG14 5AA.

Stories sent may be featured in an event at the Town Hall as part of the commemorations.

# A PROUD DAY FOR NEWBURY: ROYAL ENGINEERS CELEBRATE 200 YEARS OF SERVICE



On Saturday 28 June, the streets of Newbury were filled with pride and pageantry as the Corps of Royal Engineers paraded through the town to mark the 200th anniversaries of three squadrons from 42 Engineer Regiment (Geographic).

Thank you to all who came out to support and witness this memorable occasion!

# NEWBURY'S 20<sup>TH</sup> BLUE PLAQUE HONOURS THEATRE PIONEER

Newbury Town Council will unveil its 20th blue plaque on Monday, 21st July 2025, at 11am, celebrating the life and legacy of France Belk (1897–1976), a key figure in the town's cultural history. Belk ran the Newbury School of Dancing and Dramatic Art from 1932 to 1967 at Station Approach—now Chilis Restaurant, where the plaque will be mounted. The initiative is supported by the Newbury Society and Chilis Restaurant.

Renowned for her dedication to amateur dramatics, Belk staged and choreographed 28 pantomimes at the Corn Exchange over three decades, raising funds for local charities and inspiring generations of performers.

