

## MAYOR'S REPORT FOR MEETING 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER

This time of the year is generally quite quiet due to holidays.

However on the 1<sup>st</sup> July the Mayor's Drive took place and approximately 300 cars collected their over 70-year old passengers and proceeded to drive through the countryside to Chaddleworth House for afternoon tea. This event has taken place every year since 1945. We were blessed with good weather and all of the guests had an enjoyable afternoon.

The NTTA entertained a group of visitors from Bagnols-sur-Mer starting with a reception in the Town Hall followed by entertainment and visits during their stay and finishing with an evening's supper on the eve of their departure.

I have had two interviews with Kennet Radio explaining my role and the events I have attended.

I paid a visit to the Brownies at St Francis de Salis church and presented awards.

I attended the Newbury Carnival and helped judging the entrants.

I went to Wellington College on the 7<sup>th</sup> July where the Berkshire Summer Games Festival was held and celebrated with local schools in their victory in various competitions that were held.

I visited St Finian's School at Cold Ash following a request by a pupil whose class were studying the history of Newbury and I was requested to give a question and answer session to help in their studies.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> July I visited the Trinity School Art and Design Technology Exhibition and then a Ramadan Event at the Newbury Mosque.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> there was a Chalk Art Event in the Market Place with many clever and well-drawn pictures.

On Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> I attended the annual prize-giving and parade of the local ATC Squadron demonstrating the parade ground skills and aviation knowledge gained by these keen young people of both sexes.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> I was at Trinity again for the KS3 presentations. An evening of great achievers.

On the following day the Mayoress and myself were at Denison Barracks for the Beating of Retreat by the Ghurkas. A very impressive performance of marching, knife juggling and music played while marching in very quick order over a prolonged period of time. A stirring performance.

These are perhaps the highlights but there have been five Saturday charity coffee mornings, a visit to Eeklo in Belgium courtesy of the NTTA, a visit to RAF Welford, the opening of the newly re-furbished Newbury Tennis Club courts at Shaw, Southby's Allotment open day, (where the mayorial party won the basket of products from the site), the opening of the new Wickes Store on Hambridge Road, the unveiling of the plaque in the Market Place, the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of a Winchcombe Place resident and the opening of a new classroom at Robert Sandilands School in Speen.

In between I had a week's holiday in the Isle of Wight with all my family – including swimming in the sea.

And here ends my report.