

NEW AND REBURBISHED BENCHES

You may have spotted new benches in some areas of Town. 10 new Victoriana style benches have recently been installed in Victoria Park, 3 of which have now been sponsored by members of the public. With the help of the Community Furniture Project we have installed a beautifully refurbished bench at St John's Memorial Gardens and will shortly be installing 2 more at Greenham House Gardens.



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NTC NEWS

COUNCILLOR SATURDAY SURGERY

**TOWN HALL STEPS
10AM-12NOON**

Our Councillors hold a Saturday surgery every Saturday morning between 10am and 12 noon on the Town Hall steps facing the Market Place.

If you have anything you wish to ask about Newbury Town, this is your opportunity to make your point known and to discuss it with your local Councillor. You could always combine your visit by supporting one of the many Charity Coffee Mornings held at the Town Hall between 10am and 12 noon, and, of course, visit the Market while you are there!



This year, the Mayor's Drive & Tea Party took place in the wonderful grounds of Oak Ash, Chaddleworth. The weather was perfect for a lovely afternoon including a drive through delightful countryside, followed by afternoon tea and entertainment and an opportunity for the guests of the Mayor & Mayoress of Newbury, Cllr Julian Swift-Hook & Ms Tessa Olson, to meet old friends, make new friends and catch up with the gossip. The Mayor's Drive takes place every year and has been a tradition since around 1947.

In attendance were 2 ladies over 100 years of age, and quite a few 90 plus year olds, proving that

you are never too old to enjoy an afternoon in good company and beautiful surroundings. The Mayor and Mayoress did their best to talk to everyone present and they were ably supported by the Deputy Mayor, Cllr David Fenn and Newbury's Town Crier, Brian Sylvester.

If you, or a member of your family, is 75 years of age or more, living within the Parish of Newbury, and did not receive an invitation to attend this annual event, please write to the Mayor's Parlour, Town Hall, Market Place, Newbury, RG14 5AA, or telephone 01635 41583 to be included on the invitation list for next year.



On Friday 1 July, Newbury Town Council held a 12-hour vigil at the War Memorial to commemorate the Battle of the Somme. The vigil began at 7:30am and in a ceremony of poetry and prayers at 12 noon, members of the public, veterans and dignitaries remembered the men who fell in the battle.

The Town Hall has hosted a Summer Series of Talks from local historians, including a talk from Sir Max Hastings. His account of the path to war and its opening months - 'Catastrophe: Europe Goes to War 1914' was the Times' History Book of the Year in 2014. Talks during July have also taken place by Peter Hart, whose books and talk reflect his experience of interviewing over 180 veterans of the war. Talks by Jane Burrell, Dr David Peacock and Phil Wood also took place. The talks were very well attended and the audiences enjoyed the evenings.

Event Dates

Brass and Silver Bands will play in Victoria Park Bandstand most Sundays from May to September from 3pm - 5pm.

Monday 1st / 22nd August:

Planning and Highways Committee Meeting - Town Hall

Saturday 13th August:

Newbury Rathayatra Festival - Victoria Park

Sunday 14th August:

Music in the Market Place - Market Place, 12-5pm

All meetings start at 7.30pm in the Town Hall Council Chamber. Public questions are welcome and must be submitted by 2pm on the day of each meeting.

Grant Aid Donations

The 2016 Newbury Town Council Grant Aid Donation beneficiaries have been announced today.

Projects which are beneficial to a wide range of Newbury residents and show a commitment to sustainability were eligible to apply for funding and for many years these grants have supported Newbury organisations that provide a benefit for the community.

The grants will contribute to organisations in Newbury and the surrounding area that affect a wide spectrum of the community - from educational toys for Ladybirds Preschool to Age UK's service for befriending the elderly.

Young people have benefited from a grant for a new Bus of Hope, summer outings for young carers (Friends of Young Carers (West Berks)) and youth cafes run by the YMCA in the Riverside Centre and the Waterside Centre.

This is the first time NTC have distributed their grants in partnership with Greenham Common Trust's 'Find me a Grant' website. This means that all of the grants that the Town Council has awarded this year will be match funded by Greenham Common Trust. The total given out by NTC is £10,550, meaning that local charities and organisations will now be £21,100 better off thanks to the matched funding of Greenham Common Trust.