

## Press Release

Families from Ambarès et Lagrave have begun their exchange week with families in the Somer Valley for the 32<sup>nd</sup> year. Amongst a whole host of activities arranged by the Midsomer Norton and District Twinning Association, the French visitors enjoyed a traditional Civic Day on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August hosted by Midsomer Norton Town Council. Following a visit to Downside Abbey, the group had a buffet lunch at Ammerdown House before calling in to the Midsomer Norton South Railway Station. The day was completed when the group joined Councillors and Officers of the Town Council at the Town Hall for a traditional cream tea and formal Civic greetings.

“It’s always a pleasure to compliment the efforts of the Twinning Association by holding the Civic Day with our friends from Ambarès et Lagrave” said Town Mayor Cllr Paul Myers. “The towns alternate hosting the annual Families Exchange week and it is wonderful to witness the continuing friendship and strong ties between the communities being marked by our Civic Day.”

The Town Council presented a specially commissioned canvas of the town to the French visitors and said that they look forward to the week ahead planned by the Twinning Association. A montage frame of the dedication of a tram in 2013 was presented to the Town Council by a Deputy Mayor of Ambarès et Lagrave. Despite changes in local government in the Somer Valley, Ambarès et Lagrave have continued the twinning link established over 30 years ago and which is formally forged with Midsomer Norton Town Council. The Union Jack and Tricolour will fly from the Town Hall for the duration of the visit.