

## *Folly plaque unveiled*

Another step was taken towards establishing the Folly Tower as a 'tourist-friendly' attraction, when a plaque was unveiled to tell visitors something of its history.

The plaque was provided by the Joint Environmental Trust for Faringdon, which has already planted some saplings on the hill, and plans to plant wild flowers to further enhance the area.

The unveiling ceremony was carried out by the Mayor, Mrs Gwen Brickell, together with the Vale district chairman, Mr John Jones. They pulled aside curtains to reveal a brief inscription telling how the tower was built in 1938 by Lord Berners on the site of a medieval castle and a Cromwellian battery, and donated to the town of Faringdon by his son, the late Mr Robert Heber-Percy, "to ensure that the public had use and enjoyment of the tower and its surroundings".

Among the guests at the ceremony was Lady Dorothy Heber-Percy, widow of Mr Robert Heber-Percy. Mrs

Brickell recalled that she last ventured into the tower as a child before the War - but got only halfway up, before retreating down the staircase backwards. This time, she climbed part-way up the tower - but came down in more conventional fashion...