

BECCLES TOWN COUNCIL

THE CHARTER



September 2010 Issue 18 Editor Jula Janney, Printed by Keely Print, Beccles

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- > Become a School Governor—vacancies in this area
- > Help Beccles Company of Bell Ringers give our bells another 100 years of life
- > Homeshield Plus—making you more safe and secure in your home
- > Beccles Common—Clean up
- > 'Help the Heroes Concert' on Saturday 30th October

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BECCLES LIDO—LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



Beccles Lido Ltd have been working hard for many weeks with a faithful team of volunteers to get the pool up to the standard you see today. It has been open for a few weeks now and hopefully everyone reading this newsletter has at least been to visit to have a look or even a swim. This project was deemed shaky from the start as it needed so much commitment from those wanting to save our pool, but they proved the sceptics wrong and came out the other side victorious. With the support of the Town Council promising future funding and Waveney District Council handing it all over to the Company after all the legal work had been put in place, we have now been presented with an outdoor

pool to be proud of once again! There is still a long way to go, as support for our pool needs to be 100%. With disabled changing and chair access at the poolside, a children's paddling pool and, hopefully, a slide, this facility can be enjoyed by everyone.

If you feel, like other businesses who are supporting the pool such as Anglia Print, that this is a worthwhile sponsorship opportunity, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with Shaun Crowley on info@beccleslido.com who will pass on details of future projects for advertising and sponsorship opportunities.

Funding for this project came in part from British Gas who gave £140,000+ worth of equipment and the Broads Authority who gave

£8,654 for the motorised covering over the pool. Plans for the future include Aquacise, Flotation Classes, Training sessions by Lowestoft Sub-Aqua Club and the Rowing Club. Local schools will also be using the facility for teaching and improving swimming techniques.

These hardworking officers and volunteers are amazing and deserve our thanks.

Visit www.beccleslido.com and view their progress report on line.



Beccles Pool Open Day 1959
Mayor - Councillor Hipperson
Town Clerk - Mr F Leah
Olympic Champion - Neil Mckecknie

LARGER MARKET ON FRIDAY 29TH OCTOBER 8 AM—4 PM

Beccles & District Regeneration are hoping that this will be the last road closure which has to be applied for. Suffolk County Council should very soon be announcing its recommendations regarding their Traffic Review Order, which has been ongoing for at least 18 months. Beccles Town Council have agreed to a 12 month trial period for a temporary road closure every Friday which will enable more traders and charities to sell their wares in Beccles town centre. This hopefully

will attract more visitors and parishioners to the town making a marked improvement in business on this day.

Currently the market is full with a new trader 'Russell' selling lovely summer clothes to suit all tastes. We still have our regulars, Tony—Wet Fish, John—Fresh Eggs, Colin—Bird Food and Boxes, Gerald—Wholefoods and Miles—Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.

It would be lovely if everyone could support the Friday Market every week to keep

this a true Market Town. I am sure the businesses in New Market and surrounding streets would love to see a better footfall. Their windows are always attractive to make shopping more enjoyable for you. Please come along on the 29th and see what's on offer both on the market and in the shops. **Anyone interested in booking a stall call 712109.**





Blyburgate



Northgate



Smallgate

BECCLES STREETS (GATES)

History tells us that the original meaning of **Sheepgate** might have been derived from a market which is hailed by old Beccles inhabitants as meaning *the way to the sheep*.

Beccles was once the centre of a large agricultural district, and always had a cattle market. Quite probably **Sheepgate** was that portion of the market where sheep were penned and sold.

The origin of the word 'gate' may have been derived from the Anglo-Saxon 'geat', which means a moveable barrier or gateway; or it could have been derived from the Icelandic

'gata', a way, a road, a street which tallies with 'gait', a way of walking.

The New English Dictionary cites by way of illustration Boargate and Friargate, therefore why not **Sheepgate**? Nearly all the roads and streets in Beccles are known as 'gates'.

Hungate is from the Anglo-Saxon 'hund', a hound, and refers to the way to, or barrier, where the hounds collected for the purpose of hunting.

Ballygate is the way to the old bailey, or court house. **Saltgate** is the way to the saltings.

We know that Beccles contributed 60,000 herrings a year as rent to

the King and Saltgate was the place where these were salted.

Blyburgate is the way to Blybur (Blythburgh), where a hundred Beccles men were slain in a battle there.

Then there is **Northgate** and Endgate (corrupted to **Ingate**) which had its own church on a site in Swine's Green, another corruption from 'Sweine's Court' where the farmers met to settle their differences!

It would seem that the first syllables of these street names convey their original meaning and purpose.

(From an article in East Anglian Magazine dated 1948.)



Fusion Musical Theatre
www.fusionmusicaltheatre.co.uk

FUSION MUSICAL THEATRE—COME AND JOIN THE FUN

FUSION Musical Theatre is a small and friendly theatre group for children aged approximately 6-12 years. We aim to encourage children's musical interest and improve their skills through positive participation in a relaxed and non-pressured environment. We rehearse on Saturday afternoons in Burgh St Peter, just north of Beccles.

FUSION performed their first musical 'Ocean Com-

motion' in the Summer of 2009 and followed this with a musical nativity 'The Good Shepherd' in December.

Our most recent and most ambitious performance was a humorous version of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' which was performed for free at the Blyburgate Hall and St Benet's Church Hall, plus an additional performance for the Waveney Centre's Sunday Club, raising £326 for BLISS

charity. Lots of music, drama with opportunity for instrumental participation. New members will always be welcome, no experience necessary.

For more details contact
Hilary Harrison
07958978530
hillyh1@tiscali.co.uk

HELP FOR HEROES CONCERT

Little Tree Promotions present a concert by **The Village Quire** entitled 'When Adam Delved' on Saturday 30th October 2010 in St Michael's Church. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8.00pm and tickets are £7.50 pre booked; on the door £8.50.

Sponsored by the Royal Naval Association Beccles.

Tickets can be obtained from: The Stationery Shop, Willows and Cossey's Funeral Directors.

Call 01502 711532 or
tosh@toshmusic.fsnet.co.uk

Beccles Bell Tower Restoration Appeal

The Beccles Company of Ringers are currently fund raising to support the preservation of the bells to keep them in good working order for at least another 100 years. In 1762 the old peal of 8 bells were taken down and replaced with a new peal of 10 which were re-hung in 1909. In the Ringing Chamber of the Tower is a list of the subscribers with one old penny (1d) which was the change after everything was paid for. The Beccles Company of Belling-rers are regularly used for services, weddings, and special occasions. Donations welcome: For further information ring Mrs H Gale on 01502 476738 or helen@hgale.wandoo.co.uk

HOMESHIELD PLUS

Homeshield Plus is a new Suffolk partnership including the County Council, Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Suffolk, the Community Safety Partnership and Trading Standards to help people live more safely and securely in their own homes.

The Service involves trained officers visiting peoples' homes to offer support and advice on fire safety, security, health and well-being benefits. It could be a very useful service for older or disabled people.

For further information call 0845 603 4715

**THE COMMON— ‘A DIRTY BUSINESS’
COUNCILLOR G CATCHPOLE, CHAIRMAN OF
COMMONS WORKING PARTY**

Are dog owners responsible people? Well, unfortunately, only some of them.

Why do some outwardly responsible dog owners become litter louts when they think they are out of sight of everybody else? The picture shows just one example of the large amount of poop bags that are just thrown into bushes on The Common. There are bins provided around The Common for use by dog owners, and the Council are adding more. Would

dog owners please start using these instead of turning The Common into a polythene wrapped sewer. Added to these owners there are also those who do not bother to scoop up at all! We don't blame the dogs, but we do blame the irresponsible owners!

In the picture you can clearly see many poop bags containing dog faeces. A new bin has been placed near this area.

Could we ask responsible dog owners to please help the Council to police this problem .



The Beccles Lido Lottery:
Your chance to win up to £125 each month whilst helping Beccles Lido
Application form? Go to www.beccleslido.com

*If you are interested in the Patient Participation Group then please advise Alison Arnold, Patient Service Manager at Beccles Surgery or leave a short message in the suggestion box located there

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP—BECCLES MEDICAL CENTRE

You should have already received information regarding Summary Care Records. The Beccles Medical Centre has a *Patient Participation Group which was formed in 2002. It was hoped that the group could be used to inform patients of any initiatives being undertaken by the practice and that the patients representatives could tell the practice what kind of service they felt would be useful.

Our group exists to provide information to patients registered at the surgery about services offered by the practice eg explanations of practice policies which affect patient care and to provide feedback from the patients to the practice on various aspects, including medical services offered, premises and staff.

Our group will not become involved with the health issues of individual patients

with no breaching of patient confidentiality. Nor do we become involved with individual patients complaints or have any financial input affecting the practice. We meet bi monthly with the Practice Management Team and also with representatives from other surgeries in Waveney.

For further information on the Group call 01502 712662, Beccles Health Centre

Pride in Beccles judged the Garden Competition in July.



The Waveney Centre took second place in the 'Community Gardens Section (part of the garden shown above)



'Rear Garden section' was won by Graham Robbins, part of his garden is pictured above.

Well done to all who entered!

The Competition was tough this year as the drought caused great difficulty for all garden lovers.

ARE YOU DYING TO GET INTO A WARM BED?

Although it is Summer, we'd like readers to turn their minds to the approaching Autumn and Winter.

Electric blankets are very useful during cold winter nights, but they do need testing, particularly if they are getting old. Suffolk Fire & Rescue and Trading Standards are offer-

ing FREE Electric Blanket Safety Testing in September of this year. There will be four testing days at three different locations around Suffolk. It will be necessary to book an appointment to get your blanket tested by telephoning 01473 260588 or 260589. If you don't live near the towns mentioned below,

help may be available with collection and return of blankets to and from your nearest Fire Station.

SEPTEMBER

Wed 8th - Lowestoft Fire Station

Wed 15th - Bury St Edmunds Fire Station

Frid 24th and Tue 28th - Ipswich (Endeavour House)



BECCLES TOWN COUNCIL
Mrs C Murray
Town Clerk

www.beccles.info
Town Council Website
NEW DESIGN



There is currently a real need for new governors of schools in this area. Volunteers do not have to be parents, nor do they need first-hand experience of the education system. Anyone aged 18 or over who would like to apply their skills and experience within a new environment can add tremendous value to a school's governing body.

Call: 020 7354 9805
info@sgoss.org.uk
www.becomeagovernor.org.uk



Council in session

Beccles Lido Ltd are hoping that you can help them find plastic tables, chairs (white) and loungers. If you have some of good quality which you are changing, then please call 01502 714911.

THE CHARTER

COUNCILLOR'S CONTACT DETAILS

WARD	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
<u>CENTRE</u>		
Peck, D W	8 Waveney Road, Beccles NR34 9NW	01502 712627
Richardson, C	12 South Close, Beccles NR34 9PB	01502 719744
Scott, C J	3 Firfield Close, Beccles NR34 9YE	01502 714831
Woodruff, B	13 Meadow Gardens, Beccles NR34 9PA	01502 713053
<u>COMMON</u>		
Bubb, Mrs S	'Greenacres' Clarke's Lane, NR34 8HN	01502 713314
Doherty, M F	4 Kilbrack, Beccles NR34 9SH	01502 716324
Featherstone, Miss J	6 Old Farm Road, Beccles NR34 9RW	01502 715606
Smith, D M	14 Station Road, Beccles NR34 9QJ	01502 718018
<u>RIGBOURNE</u>		
Catchpole, G	32 Coney Hill, Beccles NR34 7AZ	01502 715819
Sutch, Fr Antony	2 Grange Road, Beccles NR34 9NR	01502 713179
Thwaites, A (Deputy)	20 South Road, Beccles NR34 9NY	01502 714161
Topping, Mrs C	7 Rigbourne Hill, Beccles NR34 9JG	01502 717276
<u>DARBY</u>		
Harris, J D	26 Hungate, Beccles NR34 9TT	01502 717237
Sigsworth, J	14 Janet Hadenham Close NR34 7SL	01502 711473
Taylor, B (Mayor)	2 Fairfax Court, Beccles NR34 9XG	01502 713307
Walmsley, J	37 Kemp's Lane, Beccles N34 9XB	01502 717853

BECCLES—THE PRESENT - BY BERENICE BROOM (CONTINUED FROM ISSUE 17)

The Town Hall offices, pre-2000, were extremely cramped with the Town Clerk sharing one office with the Secretary and the other containing the town archives. These were then cleared out and divided into two working spaces, one for the Town Clerk and the other for the secretary. The room downstairs was also cleared to make space in 2003 for the Beccles Learning Initiative and Market Towns' Initiative staff and joining them in December 2003 was the Responsible Financial Officer. In 2005 the Town Clerk left and the secretary (now Deputy Town Clerk) ran the office along with the RFO until the Council appointed a new Town Clerk. As the RFO

(Mrs Broom) had virtually worked a lifetime in accounting and had made inroads in bringing the backlog of accounts up-to-date, she was appointed to the office of Town Clerk in December 2006. **The Council:** The Local Government Act of 1972 reformed local government on 1st April 1974 and Beccles Borough Council became Beccles Town Council, losing many of its functions to Waveney District Council in the process. The Town Council has 16 Councillors, split into four wards—Centre, Common, Darby and Rigbourne. To be elected you must live within a three-mile radius of the town or own

property in the town. The Council meets twice monthly on the first and third Tuesday of the month in the Council Chamber in the Town Hall. Most of the Council are members of United Beccles set up with the idea that, irrespective of political persuasion, to work for the good of Beccles and not for political reasons. The Planning Committee meets usually at 6.30pm followed by the Town Council at 7.00pm which is presided over by the Mayor, usually chosen from one of the 16 Councillors, although this office can be held by someone outside the Council. *Thinking of becoming a Councillor? Details next issue.*