



THE CHARTER

Issue 17

June 2010

INTRODUCING THE NEW BECCLES TOWN CLERK

I was born in Lowestoft and have lived there all my life. I spent two years studying at Lowestoft College after I left school, and as well as getting some more 'O' Levels (showing my age now), I also achieved a B/TEC National Certificate in Business and Finance. I then started work at Waveney District Council at the age of 18 and have been there ever since. I became a qualified Accounting Technician during my first year at Waveney, but did not pursue my Accountancy qualifications any further. I guess there were far too many other distractions at the age of 19!

Having spent my entire career at Waveney and seen so many friends come and go, I came to a decision last year that it was my time to leave and try something a bit different. At the start of last year I took on a second job as the Secretary for the Corton Almshouse Charity, which I have thoroughly enjoyed. I realized that it would be nice to find a job that



incorporated the type of work that I do for the Charity as well as the finance work that I do at Waveney. When I saw the advertisement for the position of Beccles Town Clerk in January, it was just the sort of role that I had in mind, and so I applied and the rest, as they say, is history!

We have a 3 year old daughter called Darci who is far too wise for her years (how do they learn so much in such a short space of time!). My partner, Phill, works in Yarmouth for an offshore supply company. We currently live in the north of Lowestoft, which, I suppose, is a fair compromise, given that he travels one way and I'll now be travelling the other.

My spare time these days is very much taken up with Darci, but I do enjoy garden-

ing, and having recently moved to a brand new house, it has been fun starting with a blank canvas. I also enjoy travelling abroad, and have been lucky enough to visit some interesting places in the world, such as Australia, Malaysia and Las Vegas.

So many people, when I tell them about my new job, say how much they like Beccles. Some of them choose to shop in Beccles rather than Lowestoft, which is a testament to the quality and diversity of the businesses that can be found in the town.

I am sure that I will find the job challenging, certainly initially, and very varied, and I will get to speak to and meet many different and interesting people during my working day.

I am looking forward to working with the Deputy Clerk, and whilst helping to look after the interests of Beccles, which is a serious business, I'm sure we'll have some fun along the way too!

Inside this issue:

New Mayor and Deputy Mayor 2

Hurry—Get your grant application in 2

Town Council news 2

Beccles—the past Cancer Survivor organizes walk 3

Too many apples? 3

Councillor's Contact Details 4

Events for your Diary 4

HER MAJESTY'S LORD LIEUTENANT OF SUFFOLK - AWARDS FOR BECCLES



Recently three members of the Cadet Forces in Beccles travelled to Ipswich to attend a Presentation Ceremony in the presence of Lord Tollemache, Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk.

Sub-Lieutenant (SCC) Sharon Meadows RNR of Beccles Sea Cadets, TS Brave (pictured centre) and Warrant Officer

Martin Dobson (pictured far right) of the Beccles Air Training Corps were both presented with Certificates of Meritorious Service, for their outstanding contribution to the Cadet Forces and Leading Cadet Sam Shaw (pictured far left) has been given the honour of becoming one of the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk Cadets for 2010. This will mean he will be called upon to accompa-

ny Lord Tollemache to official functions around Suffolk.

It is always great to hear of a member of a Cadet Force receiving one of these awards, but to have three recipients in Beccles in one year is an outstanding achievement and one which our town should be very proud of.

Sharon Meadows 1st Lt Beccles Sea Cadets

Former Mayor, 1997/98 the Deputy Mayor for 2010/2011, is **Councillor Alan Thwaites**. Proposed by the new Mayor for his qualities of diligence and hard work, Alan is looking forward to assisting Councillor Taylor in his year of office. All their colleagues at Beccles Town Council wish Brian and Alan good luck and look forward to a happy and rewarding time with them at the 'helm'.



FAREWELL FROM THE RETIRING TOWN CLERK

By the time you read this I will have departed the Town Hall for what I hope will be a long and happy retirement.

I have enjoyed my time as Town Clerk immensely - the work has been extremely diverse and has certainly not been boring.

I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, gifts and cards received from friends and colleagues - I had a lovely send off. I will miss the many friends I have made along the way and hope that the new Town Clerk will find everyone

as pleasant and helpful as I have.

I must also say a huge thank you to all the Councillors for their support, the Deputy Town Clerk, Mrs Julia Janney, for all her help, especially in the early years and to my husband, David, for his unfailing support and I look forward greatly to spending more time with him.

I'll probably see many of you whilst shopping in Beccles and it will be lovely to have a catch-up.



Mrs Berenice Broom

Town Clerk from 2006 until her retirement in 2010

TOWN COUNCIL NEWS



Former Mayor back in action:

Councillor David Smith is back attending Council meetings after a long illness which began when he was on a break in France with his wife last June. Always dogged by asthma, this attack caused great breathing problems and he had to spend a number of weeks in hospital in France before he was well enough to be flown home to James Paget. Spending more time

under investigation he was finally allowed back to the Beccles War Memorial Hospital where he had regular visits from his friends, family and colleagues. All his colleagues are pleased to see him back with us and trust that his health continues to improve.

Grants Committee:

The next Grants Committee meeting is to be held at the end of June. If you are a Beccles organization looking for

funding for a project or just need some help to keep on track, then please download an application form which will include an explanation of what is required from your organization, from the Town Council website www.beccles.info or call in to the Town Hall to pick one up or alternatively call the office on 01502 712109 and one will be sent to you. Please hurry with your application as the closing date is 21st June 2010.

THE NEW MAYOR OF BECCLES, COUNCILLOR BRIAN TAYLOR



Dom Antony Sutch's apple tree. He generously gave all his apples to the scheme last year



After spending a year of comparative comfort as Deputy Mayor I am now in the front line of Beccles Town Council. It is with some trepidation that I agreed to become the Beccles Mayor for 2010/2011 but I hope that in twelve months time I can look back and review what has been a happy and successful year. I am fortunate that I am backed up by 15 very independent councillors. Their

knowledge of Town affairs is unbounded and at all times they seek what is best for Beccles.

I arrived in Beccles in 1962 and as I alighted from the bus in the Old Market I was confronted by the Town Hall. Little did I know what a large part of my life this was to become almost fifty years later. With the help of my wife Judy, I hope we can meet many branches of Beccles organisations. A part of my Mayoral year is to be spent raising money for my Appeal and, as a former scout and

scoutmaster, and this year being the Centenary of the Guide movement, I am going to put my efforts towards helping the Scout and Guide movement of Beccles. I hope you will all be generous in your gifts towards this cause. If anyone, or any organisation wishes to help me in this task, I shall be very grateful. Please contact the Deputy Town Clerk in the Town Hall. I hope that I can be a credit to Beccles and to meet as many of you as possible during my term in office.

Councillor Brian Taylor

BECCLES—THE PAST—by Berenice Broom (continued from last issue)

Beccles, in the middle ages, was a very progressive town and it is thought that it was the 37th largest town in the country, of a similar size to Leicester and Nottingham. A benefactor of the town, Sir John Leman, a member of the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers, who lived at Brampton, built a school in Ballygate which provided board and accommodation for approximately 20 young men of the town. One of the disasters which befell Beccles was a serious fire in 1586 when the whole of the

centre of the town and the Church roof were destroyed. This was such a catastrophe that the Diocese of Norwich contributed towards the restoration costs of the town amounting to £20,000. There were, at later dates, subsequent fires of a lesser nature. In 1766 the Town Hall was constructed, initially as a Law Court (some information states that it was built in 1726), but records show that money was not paid for the construction of the building until 1766 when money from the sale of the old hall and

town cross contributed £87 10s. The Justices contributed £250, residents of the town £71 19s 6d and the County made up the balance to a total of £423 8s. Sir Murton Peto's work to develop Mutford Lock in the 1830s, amongst other projects, improved navigation to the extent that it was hoped Beccles would become an inland port, giving access to sea-going vessels, much in the way of Norwich, and would be able to trade direct with London delivering fresh fish on a daily basis, but this did not happen.



Beccles Museum



Town Council Chambers

CANCER SURVIVOR ORGANISES WAVENEY WALK

Cancer patients will benefit from a walk taking place along the Beccles Marsh Trail on Saturday 14th August. This is Derinda's first time of organising an event for Cancer Research UK in association with the Harvest Moon Free Music Festival on Beccles Quay. The walk starts at 12 noon, the same time as the Music Festival, and there will be a choice of walks, each one offering a different distance, challenge and scenery. Derinda is recovering from cancer of the Oropharynx and, to give something back, all pro-

ceeds will go towards funding the research currently being carried out in Norwich and Cambridge laboratories. Derinda says *'As a cancer survivor, I feel it is really important to give something back to the researchers and doctors who helped me survive this terrible disease'. This is a fun event so fancy dress is an option with a prize for the best!* Derinda adds *'I would love as many local people as possible to get involved and raise as much as they can. It is incredibly important to support vital research and together we can help save lives'*. After the

walk stay and enjoy the local bands playing at the Harvest Moon festival. Refreshments are on offer and other entertainment. If you cannot walk, but would like to help, marshals are needed on the day. **Giving is easy with www.TBC.com where your donation will be gratefully received.** Come along and enjoy a great day out; great charity; great music and hopefully great weather! **Contact 01986 78172 or derinda@longfieldbarn.plus.com to register at £4 + sponsor form.**



Harvest Moon Free Music Festival 2009



APPLE BLOSSOM TIME IS HERE NOW IS THE TIME TO PLAN WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE APPLES

Spring is finally in the air again and apple blossom all around. That sea of pink will miraculously develop into delicious juicy fruit and it will all happen quicker than we think, so now's the time to plan.

Last year, as part of the Sustainable Beccles group strategy, a few people began a scheme to marry unwanted apples with those who were keen to get their hands on some of this versatile fruit,

and they plan to run the scheme again this year. In addition we want to encourage planting local variety apple trees and, in July, to run an apple flavoured lunch and talk on all aspects of growing fruit trees and getting to know apples.

If you are interested in the scheme from any aspect, please get in touch. You may have more fruit than you can use, or maybe you have difficulty picking it; you may want

to offer your services to help pick fruit for others or you may want some fruit for your pies and chutney—whatever your interest, register it now, without commitment. Let's celebrate this very English fruit and enjoy the abundance that grows locally—we'll save more than money.

Please contact netta.swallow@btinternet.com or ring 01502 470135 to register an interest in picking, giving or receiving fruit.

Paul Fleet, Area Volunteer Manager for Cancer Research UK said—It's fantastic news that Derinda has chosen to organize a walk in Beccles. I would also like to thank Beccles Community Arts organizers of the Harvest Moon Free Music Festival for their support

BECCLES TOWN COUNCIL

Town Hall
The Walk
BECCLES
NR34 9AJ

01502 712109
01502 716166

E mail—admin@beccles.info



Mayor Making Tuesday 18th
May 2010, Beccles Town
Council Chambers, Town Hall



www.beccles.info


**Beccles Town
Council**

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 Road, 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 P	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	2 Fairfax Court, Beccles NR34 9XG	01502 713307
Walmsley, J	37 Kemp's Lane, Beccles N34 9XB	01502 717853

Events for your Diary

June

Community Fayre

Sunday 6th June 2010—all day event in the town centre. Organised by Beccles Lions.

Beccles Hospital Fete

Saturday 26th June 2010—2.00pm. Organised by the Rotary Club of Beccles, and opened by the Mayor of Beccles at 2.00pm. Held in the grounds of Beccles War Memorial Hospital

August

Football Tournament

7th and 8th August 2010—Common Lane South Football Ground

Harvest Moon Free Music Festival—Saturday 14th August 2010—noon till dusk

Organised by Beccles Community Arts. Local Bands will be playing during the day. In association with Cancer Research UK who are holding a sponsored walk along the Marsh Trail. For further information phone 01502 712109 (daytime Mon-Fri)

Beccles Carnival

Saturday 21-Sunday 22 August 2010—Organised by the Carnival Committee. Look out for the advertising.

September

Beccles Duck Race

Sunday 5th September

2010—Organised by members of the T S Brave. Look out for the advertising or log onto www.beccles.info

The Beccles Festival

Friday 17th September 2010 for one week. Organised by members of St Michael's Church and held in the Church. Look out for the advertising or log onto www.beccles.info

Ghost Walks

These walks are organized by Beccles Helping Hands and run through from March-October. Book in advance. All walks start from Bear & Bells public house at 7.30pm. www.beccleshelpinghands.co.uk

More events listed next issue.