MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM BECCLES TOWN COUNCIL

BECCLES TOWN COUNCIL

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Tourism Logo
- Youth Champion
- Christmas Gifts
- Clean Sweep
- Fire Service Consultation
- Beccles Public Hall

MAYOR'S APPEAL FOR A TOURISM LOGO

The Mayor of Beccles, Councillor Graham Catchpole, has organised a Competition for a Tourism Logo. It is open to all residents of Beccles including children from 5 to 16 years old. Prizes for these age groups, 5 to 8, 9 to 12 and 13 to 16 will be selected by the Judging Panel for the entries which are classed as Highly Commended, and a £10 gift token will be awarded in each section. All local schools have been invited to enter. The winning entry will receive a £20 gift token and the design will be re-produced on all promotional material.

The design will need to include 'Beccles' and tell the story of what Beccles offers as a Tourist destination. It should be drawn/painted on an A5 sheet (half A4) with the knowledge that it will be shrunk to around 2.5cm and therefore it will need to be simple in order that any detail is not lost.

Please take note that by entering the Competition you are giving the Council permission to use your logo on any publication.

Competition entry forms can be downloaded from the Beccles website www.beccles.info or collected from the Beccles Office at the Town Hall from 9am-1pm Monday to Friday.

When designing your logo please ensure that it is kept as simple as possible and showing elements of Beccles which are unique to the area. The possibility is endless as the area has so much on offer to the artist and the visitor.

For further information call 01502 712109

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

WAVENEY ENTERPRISES

GRANT TO BECCLES SAILING CLUB

SOOTY AND 'SWEET'?

FIRE SERVICE CONSULTATION

TRANSFER OF PUBLIC HALL

BECCLES MARKET—CHRISTMAS

RARE MOTHS ON MARSH TRAIL

SAM KENWARD—SPEAKING FOR THE YOUTH OF BECCLES

Lots has been going on from the youth viewpoint in Beccles. I was re-elected to serve young people for a second term in April 2012. This means that when my term ends in 2014, I will have served in this position for four years. Now that I am more established in my contacts and made good links with many local facilities, we can really make some great things happen, not just for young people but for the community. I have been working towards a strategy with local Councillors to improve youth engagement in the district and in May we will have our own Youth Champion representative from the Town Council. We will also have Beccles' Youth Got Talent 2013 as well as mini cinema showing films for the whole community starting in January at the Public Hall. I am working with Beccles Library and we are forming a group for young people to get more involved. From January there will also be a new youth group at St Luke's Church for teens to channel their voices regarding issues in their town. Currently I am in the very early stages regarding charges on Public Transport. Although my cmm is representing youth, I felt it vital to get involved with the Bigbourne Hill Post Office closure. This has since been re-located but in the same area, which shows the strength of this community even during days of austerity—this is the 'Big Society' David Cameron talks of.

If you would like further information or have any future youth events you would like me to attend and/or support, please contact me at sam.suffolkkyp@yahoo.com

Beccles' Youth Got Talent 2012

Printed by Keely Print Ltd
Waveney Enterprises are well underway in creating their fabulous ‘Festive’ window display showing the excellent, one-off handcrafted locally produced goods. This is being undertaken for the Late Night Christmas Fayre on 30th November (an annual event, so put it in your Diary) and as well as the wonderful array of specialised crafts to view, you will be offered a glass of mulled wine and a tasty mince pie. These make ideal, useful and special gifts and help Waveney Enterprises to make a more comfortable and interesting work place for the Service Users who help to make some of the gifts with the assistance of the very talented staff. There is also the Annual Christmas Raffle organised to help the funding of Waveney Enterprises, where there will be a vast amount of prizes just waiting to be won. For more information regarding supporting the Waveney Enterprises, visit their website or phone 01502 716065. www.waveneyenterprises.co.uk

We are delighted to add the Hall to the List and fully expect it to be just as successful under community ownership.

BECCLLES SAILING CLUB RECEIVES A SPORT ENGLAND GRANT

Becles Sailing Club has received a grant of £8,000 from Sport England to buy a new sailing dinghy. MP Peter Aldous and Holly Hancock attended the launch, with Holly having the honour of cutting the ribbon. The main use of the new dinghy will be in the sail training sessions. This is when the Club gives children and adults a good taste of sailing on our very safe stretch of the River Waveney.

If anyone has an interest in sailing, or are totally new but would like to have a go, then come down to the Becles Sailing Club, on the Marsh Trail, Becles Quay, on Sunday 28th April 2013 when the Club is holding their Open Day.

Picture shows Holly Hancock, Peter Aldous MP with members of the Sailing Club, admiring their new purchase.

MAKING A CLEAN SWEEP

Now that winter is biting at our toes, it is time to prepare for the cold winter months ahead and with open fires making a comeback chimneys and other forms of heating, are often forgotten about.

The Suffolk Fire and Rescue Services (SFRS) have joined forces with the National Association of Chimney Sweeps and Heating Equipment Testing and Approval Scheme, (HETAS), to urge householders to have their chimney swept by a registered chimney sweep.

Top Tips from SFRS are:
- Always use a fire guard to protect against flying sparks and hot embers
- Make sure embers are properly extinguished before going to bed
- Keep chimney and flues clean and well maintained
- Never use petrol or paraffin to light a fire

Always fit smoke detectors on every floor of your property and check them weekly.

Another guide for other fuels annually is:
- Smokeless fuels—once
- Wood—four times
- Bituminous coal—twice
- Gas and oil—once

Statistics show that last year there were approximately 9,000 chimney fires in England, but these are preventable if the correct advice and guidelines are followed.

For more information www.nacs.org.uk

Don’t forget to have your chimney swept regularly
SUFFOLK FIRE SERVICE CONSULTATION

Residents are being invited to have their say on a proposed merger between Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service. This follows a decision by the County Council’s Cabinet in September to continue to consider the proposal to merge the two fire services. This would mean that it might generate significant financial savings and other organisational benefits. Like all public services facing increasing pressures, to manage the fire service with less money and further significant budget cuts beyond 2015, something has to be done. The priority is to protect people by safeguarding front-line services as much as possible. By making this merger it could potentially make further savings in management and support areas without having to cut the front-line services. No decision has been made as yet, which is why people’s comments are being sought on the proposal so that information collated can be sent to Cabinet and Full Council to contribute when they make the final decision in the New Year. Cambridgeshire residents are also being invited to take part in a similar consultation over the next three months. Full details are available on the website link as follows: ...

http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/your-council/decision-making/consultations/delivering-the-best-fire-service-to-you/

This includes a consultation booklet, an online survey and other associated information. Paper copies of the consultation booklet are available on request, and will be found in Libraries and other Public Offices.

Please contact 01473 260533 or email fireconsultation@suffolk.gov.uk if you would like paper copies, or have any questions about this consultation.

BECCLES LIDO LTD ARE THE NEW OWNERS OF BECCLES PUBLIC HALL

By the time you read this, Beccles Lido Ltd (BLL) expects to be the new owners of the Beccles Public Hall. Whilst BLL has been managing the Hall since April under the Stewardship of new Directors Terry Dentith, John Cushing and Eric Wareham making various improvements, negotiations to transfer the freehold inevitably took longer. But as we went to Press, contracts had finally been agreed and at last BLL will be in a position to begin applying for the grants and raising funds necessary to carry out the major repairs and improvements to the roof and balcony, returning the Hall to its former glory for generations to come. BLL Chief Executive Shaun Crowley told us “when we heard that the Hall was going to close, and when no-one else was prepared to take it on, we didn’t hesitate to step forward. We are delighted to add the Hall to the Lido and fully expect it to be just as successful under community ownership.” If you haven’t already been to one of the wide and varied range of events at the Hall, then do check out what’s on and go along. Full details can be found on the Hall’s website www.becclespublichall.com and in the regular advert in the Guide section of the Beccles & Bungay Journal.

If you don’t see anything that takes your fancy, or if you have an idea for an event, why not contact the Events Group by e-mailing Director Sue Bergin at sue@becclespublichall.com

(This is the ‘Big Society’ David Cameron talks of.)

BECCLES FRIDAY MARKET—CHRISTMAS

Beccles Friday Market has grown in size since its early days of six stalls. There are now up to 20 + stalls at any one time, and more traders are indicating that they would like to attend. This Christmas there are a variety of wares such as Evergreens with their vast array of exotic plants; Wholefoods who keep you in dried fruits and eggs; the Bird Food stall has a variety of good foodstuff for the birds; the Fish Van always looks appetising with its range of fresh fish; the Flower Stall has a good range of cut flowers as well as pot plants and herbs; the Craft/jewellery stalls have a diverse range of gifts, and also vintage clothing, all of which would make wonderful gifts for your loved-ones. If you fancy a Christmas cake or other fayre, then try Annettes Cakes, and the Flying Chef’s hot dogs will fill you up. We mustn’t forget the Burger Van with his hot roast pork buns. Wonderfull photographs by Dominic and our newest arrivals, Friends Farms with fresh pork and Kully selling male and female clothing which are not on sale anywhere nearby. We also have Paula & Peter with their antiques and painted furniture. For your home double glazing, see Paul of Beccles Home Improvements. On 14th December Beccles Bell Ringers will be playing . On the last market for 2012, Friday 21st both the Salvation Army and the Beccles Ringers are attending.

Design a logo for Beccles Tourism

Can you help?

The Council is looking for a logo which best represents the tourism and beautiful landscape that Beccles has to offer.

The winning design will receive a £20 gift voucher and their design will be used on Beccles promotional material.

For a Competitions Entry Form call 01502 726269 or download visit the Beccles website www.beccles.info
**FIRST NEW YEAR’S DAY DIP IN AID OF ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE**

On Tuesday 1st January 2013 local charity St Elizabeth Hospice (who are investing £2.2 million over three years to improve local Hospice care for the area) will hold its first sponsored New Year’s Day Dip in the sea off Gorleston. This is aimed at improving the lives of patients living with a progressive illness in Waveney and Gt Yarmouth by a range of free support. Day services can be visited in Lowestoft, Beccles and Ditchingham with a new unit in Gorleston. The dip takes place at 10.30am opposite the bandstand with mulled wine and mince pies served after the event. Each participant will receive a medal. Registration is £5 per person and participants are requested to raise their own sponsorship. Register online at www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk—01473 707015

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**YOU’LL BE SURPRISED AT WHAT THEY FOUND!**

To most people moths are a mystery, not often seen as they fly mostly at night. You might be surprised to learn that there are 2,500 moth species in the UK, all shapes and sizes and some are as colourful as butterflies. The worry is that many of our moths are in decline, due to loss of habitat and climate change to name a couple. The Suffolk Moth Group (SMG) records and monitors the local moth population mostly at night throughout the UK. The Beccles area has been under-recorded regarding moths. Studies by the Norfolk Moth Survey have found some very important and rare species in this part of the Waveney Valley. Beccles Town Council kindly allowed us permission to trap, record and then set free moths on their land, around Beccles Marshes and Beccles Common. A report on the Surveys follows:

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SMG would like to thank Beccles Town Council, their staff in the Town Hall and Jerry Meadows, who looks after the marshes in the Summer. Without their support and cooperation this survey would not have been possible. We look forward to visiting the area again in 2013, and in future years, to continue monitoring the moth population of this lovely area.

Brian Jones on behalf of the Suffolk Moth Group.