

# Beccles Green View



Green Party  
Fair is worth fighting for

The Autumn 2014 Newsletter of the Green Party in Beccles

## Big Weekend in Beccles!

Green Party activists are putting aside their political campaigning and will be organising two big community events in Beccles on the weekend 14th-16th November.

### The Beccles Real Craft Festival

The Beccles Real Craft Festival is being organised by Elfrede Brambley-Crawshaw and will take place from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 15th November at St. John's Ambulance Hall on Blyburgate. It will be a fusion of stalls, craft demonstrations, workshops and children's activities and will be a delight for everyone with a passion for handmade craft. Elfrede has also been selected to stand for the Green Party in Beccles in the District Council election next year and will be calling on many homes in the town in the coming few months.



Elfrede  
Beccles Real  
Craft Fair Organiser



### Beccles Beer Festival

Meanwhile, at the Public Hall, the third Beccles Beer Festival will take place from Friday 14th November until Sunday 16th November.

Festival organiser Graham Elliott said, "It is shaping up to be a great weekend and we hope that local people will drop in to enjoy the beer, cider and music and see the progress that is being made at the Public Hall now that it is secure under community ownership and the management of Beccles Lido Limited. The Waveney Valley is very fortunate to have a large number of small breweries making traditional ales and ciders and I am delighted to combine celebrating this local produce at the same time as showing off the Public Hall and raising money for Beccles Lido."

These events showcase local produce and traditional skills but most importantly they showcase Beccles. Hundreds of people are expected to come to the town for the two events and for many it will be their first visit.

# Beccles Station Gets New Adopters

The Green Party has helped recruit local residents Brenda and Rob Tungatt as the new Station Adopters for Beccles railway station.

Graham Elliott, Green Party District Councillor for Beccles said, "It is excellent to have Brenda and Rob in place as station adopters. It is the first of a series of measures that we are doing to make Beccles railway station a welcoming gateway to the town and a fully functioning railway station with a café, waiting room, public toilets and information."

Rob said, "We moved to Beccles about two and a half years ago and fell in love with the place, we wanted to do something for the local community and to give something back and it was

*listening to Cllr. Graham Elliott's enthusiasm for the railway and the station that ignited our interest. The station is the gateway to the town so it's important that it makes a good first impression."*

Brenda said, "We've got plans to brighten up the platforms with some colourful planting and make it a more welcoming place. We've both recently retired from teaching so have time and enthusiasm but also we're very keen gardeners so can't wait to get stuck in."



Graham Elliott with Brenda and Rob Tungatt at the station

## Grow-Our-Own project in Beccles

There is a small overgrown allotment site in central Beccles that is available for use for a growing project. It requires a new pedestrian access for which a grant will be needed and also requires significant clearance of vegetation. The land is of good quality, well located and yet hidden out of view. The plot has approval for a small "Grow-Our-Own" project similar to the one started in Norwich a few years ago. In this project a community group divided allotments into very small plots and shared resources, skills and experience to create an excellent blend of independent growing within a community garden. To make this project happen we need a few people to come forward. If you are interested please let Nicky or Graham Elliott know on 01502 714661. Further details of the Norwich project are at:- [grow-our-own.co.uk](http://grow-our-own.co.uk)



## 3rd ANNUAL BECCLES BEER FESTIVAL

RAISING FUNDS FOR BECCLES LIDO

14th - 16th NOVEMBER 2014

Friday 14th Nov	4:00pm - 11:00pm
Saturday 15th Nov	Midday - 11:00pm
Sunday 16th Nov	Midday - 6:00pm

**Local Real Ale & Cider**

**Live Music, Food and Soft Drinks for the Drivers**

FREE ADMISSION

**BECCLES PUBLIC HALL**  
[www.becclesbeerfestival.co.uk](http://www.becclesbeerfestival.co.uk)

# Fracking in Waveney

At the Waveney District Council meeting on 23th July, Green Councillor Graham Elliott asked the current Council administration what it would do to prevent fracking in Waveney. The reply was that fracking would be welcome in Waveney but that it is unlikely to occur because of the local geology.

Graham Elliott said, *"It is reassuring that our geology is not suitable for fracking but worrying that our geology is all that is protecting us from this very damaging process."*

The Government's presumption against fracking in designated areas, such as national parks, goes to show that the Coalition recognises that hydraulic fracking will harm the environment and presents significant risks.

The Green Party calls on the government to offer all communities the same protection from dirty and dangerous fracking and shift energy policy focus instead towards clean, renewable energy sources and energy conservation.

The latest bidding process for licences to extract shale gas from large parts of the UK is under way. About half the UK is open to exploration, but tightened rules cover areas of outstanding beauty. The Green Party is the only mainstream political party fighting to stop fracking being pushed through by a government which consistently puts corporate profit over people.

# On the Buses

Two significant successes have been achieved this year with the help of Waveney Greens.



*Nicky and Graham Elliott take the first bus to the Farmers Market*

A direct bus service between Beccles and the James Paget Hospital, a long held ambition of the Green Party in Beccles, was implemented in January. The Green Party helped promote this service by delivering a timetable to every house in Beccles. Nicky Elliott, Green Party Councillor on Beccles Town Council, said, *"We are delighted to see this direct service being introduced. It will provide a real alternative to the private car for many Beccles people when attending routine appointments or visiting family at the hospital."* The Anglian Bus 60 service runs hourly from Beccles Old Market to the James Paget Hospital via Lowestoft. The timetable is available at [www.anglianbus.co.uk](http://www.anglianbus.co.uk) and at the library.

The second success was the introduction of a bus service between Southwold, Beccles and Norwich that will deliver a much sought after bus to the Beccles Farmers Market at Ellough.

This bus service has been wanted by the Farmers Market operators and has also been a long standing goal of Green Councillors Graham and Nicky Elliott. The 146 bus service started in July and runs hourly between Southwold and Norwich six days a week. The full timetable is available at Beccles Library and online at [www.border-bus.co.uk](http://www.border-bus.co.uk).

An advertisement for Andrew Florides, an award-winning wedding photographer. It features a black and white photograph of a bride and groom kissing. The text includes the name 'Andrew Florides', the title 'award winning wedding photographer', and contact information: '07710 496070' and 'www.andrewflorides.co.uk'. There is a small logo at the top left of the advertisement.

# Speed Limit for HGVs

The Government announces raising the speed limit for HGVs on rural single carriageway roads from 40mph to 50mph.

This follows a consultation in which haulage companies and motorists' lobby group the AA backed the move, but many parish councils, cycling groups and local authorities were against it.

In Suffolk and across the country as a whole, more deaths are caused on single carriageway 60mph limit roads than anywhere else.

Local Green Party Councillor Graham Elliott said, "In Waveney there are many rural roads on which we are trying to reduce the speed limit. Most of these roads have no pedestrian or cycle facilities and speed is a major deterrent for those who would

*like to walk or cycle. Roads such as the B1062 between Beccles and Bungay, Benacre Road through the middle of Ellough Industrial Estate and Gillingham Dam all have inappropriate 60mph speed limits for cars and all have reduced levels of walking and cycling as a direct result of high speeds. The Government decision to increase the speed limit for HGVs on these roads from 40mph to 50mph is a step in the wrong direction."*

**What's On**  
**BECCLES PUBLIC HALL & THEATRE**  
**Friday 14 - Sunday 16 Nov**  
**3rd Annual Beccles Beer Festival**  
**Wednesday 26 Nov - 7.30pm**  
Open Space Theatre company presents:  
**Separate Tables**  
**Friday 28 Nov - 8pm**  
**Super Swing Big Band**  
**'Lights On!' Dance**  
[www.becclespublichall.com](http://www.becclespublichall.com)

## TTIP

Waveney Green Party members took place in a day of action on 11 October against TTIP (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership). The event was part of a national day of action coordinated by the campaigning community 38Degrees. The purpose of the day was to raise awareness of the huge impact of this deal that is being negotiated right now without the knowledge or consent of the vast majority of the people of this country.

### TTIP could:

- Grant corporations the power to sue governments;
- Lock-in the privatisation of public services like the NHS and education;
- Undermine workers' rights;
- Undo regulations that protect the environment, giving harmful industries like fracking an easier ride;
- Remove food safety regulation to allow new GM crops, hormone-pumped beef and chlorine-washed chicken



**Saxon Alternative Therapy Centre**  
35 New Market, Beccles, Suffolk NR34 9HE  
Supporting the Community  
**01502 717417 | [www.saxontherapy.co.uk](http://www.saxontherapy.co.uk)**

## Would you like to help?

If you would like a poster for your window or to help your local Green Party in the run-up to the District Council and General Elections in May 2015 please contact us using the details below.

Shamefully, the UK government is a major supporter of this deal, which would tighten the grip of big business over our society.

Once again it is only the Green Party that is consistently opposed to the deal.

For further information on the Green Party please visit:- [www.waveney.greenparty.org.uk](http://www.waveney.greenparty.org.uk) or phone **01502 714661**, e-mail [waveney@greenparty.org.uk](mailto:waveney@greenparty.org.uk) or write to 2 Old Hall, Barsham, Beccles NR34 8HB.



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