

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THE RETIRING MAYOR AND MAYORESS

It is with great pleasure, that Blackpool Council places on record its appreciation of the duties so very ably and enthusiastically undertaken by Councillor Eddie Collett, as Mayor of Blackpool. His dedication for the town, together with his many years of service on the Council have stood him in good stead for his year as Blackpool's civic head while continuing to hold down a full time job.

The Blackpool Mayoralty again maintained its status as a busy one this year with a variety of civic engagements.

Eddie and Heather began the mayoral year with the Royal Garden Party in London and towards the end of the mayoral year with a visit to Blackburn Cathedral where Her Majesty the Queen and Prince Philip were attending the Maundy Thursday service.

Blackpool still attracts a large number of conferences and the Mayor and Mayoress attended a variety of annual gatherings such as; National Pensioners Convention, UK Bus Driver of the Year Awards, WMCIU, Royal Pigeon Racing Association, USDAW and the World Ballroom Dancing Congress to name a few.

Many Ex-Service organisations still hold their Annual Reunions in Blackpool and Eddie and Heather attended reunions of the Canal Zoners, the Royal Artillery Association, Aden Veterans, the Royal Air Force Association, Battle of Britain Commemoration and the HMS Penelope Association.

National Armed Forces Week, during June, was again a great success attracting thousands of visitors to the town and the Mayor and Mayoress attended a variety of events during the week.

During his mayoral year, Eddie took great interest in small business and enterprise with several very popular evening parlours, which serviced as an extremely good basis for those involved gathering information and networking.

Eddie as a lecturer himself fully supported during his mayoral year the schools and colleges of Blackpool by attending school productions, graduation ceremonies and exhibitions.

Eddie took great pleasure in welcoming our new citizens to the town at the many very popular Citizenship Ceremonies that were held throughout the year.

This year, the Mayor chose Snows Heights and Liberty as his charities to benefit from the Mayor's Charity Appeal and he raised a large amount of charitable donations at well over £22,000.

A special reference has to be made to the Deputy Mayor and Deputy Mayoress, David and Jean, for their support and contribution to this mayoral year and to Rev Michael Ward who acted as Mayor's Chaplain and has assisted at Council Meetings and other civic events.

This resolution would not be complete without particular reference to the Mayoress, Heather, who supported Eddie at all major events throughout the year.

To Eddie and Heather, Blackpool Council places on record its sincere appreciation of their services as Mayor and Mayoress, and expresses the hope that memories of their mayoral year will stay with them forever.

The Council extends to them both, every good wish for the future.