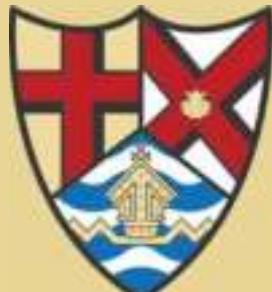


The Seasonal Magazine for Felixstowe Residents

SPRING 2022

Issue 12



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Spring in Felixstowe

Community Stories

Your Local Environment

Town Council News

...and Much More



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Approaching
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EST. 1898

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01394 285511

Hello everyone and welcome to this Spring edition



Welcome to my final article as Mayor! It has been an incredibly interesting two years, during which I have seen many challenges faced by the community and our local businesses, witnessed the fantastic support delivered by charities and voluntary organisations, and discovered the truly remarkable resolve of you, our residents. It has been a memorable time in office. I was fortunate to accompany Joan Rich and her daughter Diane on several circuits of Allenby Park on route to her achievement of 102 laps by her 102nd birthday. Joan received a tremendous reception when she completed her final lap, gaining local and national recognition. However, most of those laps were completed away from the glare of the limelight and her steely determination was humbling to witness. I keep in touch with Diane who is understandably proud of her mother's achievements.

During the early stages of the roll out of the vaccination at The Grove Surgery we experienced significant snowfall which could have disrupted the delivery of the service. The rapid community response in clearing the car park of snow to enable vaccinations to continue is something that will remain with me. I understand we were the only medical centre to stay open that day.

It was also heartening to see the vibrancy of our town return, once restrictions started to ease. The final stage of the Women's Tour along the seafront saw hundreds of people lining the route, the atmosphere was electric and the feedback from the Tour Director was highly complimentary both of the organisers and Felixstowe. I felt incredibly proud standing on the stage to present one of the awards, the number of spectators was phenomenal

and I know the riders really appreciated it too. The weekend was capped off by the first ever Felixstowe Triathlon, which won regional "Best Large Event" from Triathlon England.

The Town Council is supporting Felixstowe Carnival Association and other local organisations in preparation for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in June. The Queen has been an outstanding role model throughout her reign, demonstrating true leadership with a natural compassion and it is only right that the country comes together to thank and celebrate with her. We are asking for your nominations for your 'Jubilee Jewels of Felixstowe', in this very special year for our Civic Awards. I have witnessed some outstanding community contributions during my tenure as Mayor and I am sure you can all think of individuals or organisations who have gone that extra mile in a voluntary capacity for the benefit of others. Our Awards, though a small gesture, appropriately recognises these amazing efforts, so please help us in that aim with your nominations. See www.felixstowe.gov.uk/civic-awards to find out how.

I finish my final article by reflecting on my tenure. To be Mayor of your town is an incredible honour and I hope I have demonstrated respect for the position. I have tried to make myself accessible and support as many events as possible. My wife, Julie, has given me fantastic support throughout the two years and has really enjoyed meeting many individuals and organisations. As the saying goes, "behind every successful man there is woman!" It has also been a privilege to chair such a community-focused Town Council that is always looking to do more and support more, without charging more. Whilst it is the smallest part of the overall bill, we know that it is an uncertain time so freezing our element of council tax for 2022/23 was a positive step. I would like to thank Cllr Sharon Harkin who has been an incredibly supportive and outstanding Deputy Mayor, the role would have been a lot more demanding without your help. I look forward to supporting the new Mayor when they are elected by the Council in May.



Mark Jefferis
Mayor of Felixstowe 2021/22

Mayor's Charities

The Mayor's chosen local charities this year are:



Felixstowe Citizen's Advice

Felixstowe Citizen's Advice provides free, confidential and impartial advice and campaigns on big issues affecting people's lives. The Citizen's Advice can be contacted at advice@felixstowecab.org.uk or by telephone on 0300 330 9016 during opening hours



Felixstowe Carnival Association

Felixstowe Carnival Association is a local charity, whose small dedicated committee arranges the annual Carnival which includes a procession through the town and entertainment free to all. www.felixstowecarnival.org

Please show your support for the Mayor's charities by attending some of the future fundraising events:

- Saturday 12 March - 7.30 pm (for 8pm) - The Ladybirds Drag Spectacular, The Orwell Hotel
- Monday 28 March - 7 pm Charity – Curry Night - Bombay Nite
- Friday 6 May - 6.30 pm - The Mayor's Ball, Casino Mayoral - The Orwell Hotel

For tickets and further info please contact 01394 288191, or email sue.faversham@felixstowe.gov.uk

Your Magazine

We would be pleased to receive relevant articles from community groups and voluntary organisations letting residents know what is happening in the Felixstowe area.

If your group would like to submit an article for consideration in the next quarterly edition (Summer, covering June 2022 – September 2022) send it via email to enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk by Friday 13th May.

If possible, include hi-res images/photos and your group's logo. You don't have to send a fully-written article – bullet points or a few notes are fine to help point us in the right direction – but it must be no longer than 250 words.

We will aim to cover many different articles from issue to issue and will seek to offer a fair and equal representation for community groups throughout the town. Sometimes articles may have to be edited, shortened or dropped altogether.

Advertising

Limited advertising space is available in our magazine to support the cost of publication, with priority given to local, reputable businesses.

Call 01394 282086 or email enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk for prices and to book your ad.

Cover photo by Stephen Rampley

Getting in Touch

Drop in to the Town Hall or call us during office hours (9am-4pm, Mon-Fri) – or email us at any time. We'd love to hear from you.

Phone: **01394 282086**

Email: enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk

Address:

Felixstowe Town Hall
Undercliff Road West
Felixstowe
IP11 2AG

www.felixstowe.gov.uk



**Felixstowe is a
Fairtrade
Town**

Town Councillors 2019/ 2023

Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Mark Jepson

Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Sharon Harkin

Coastal Ward

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darren.aitchison@felixstowe.gov.uk
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01394 283283



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01394 211146



Margaret Morris
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01394 274345



Kimberley Williams
kimberley.williams@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 284180



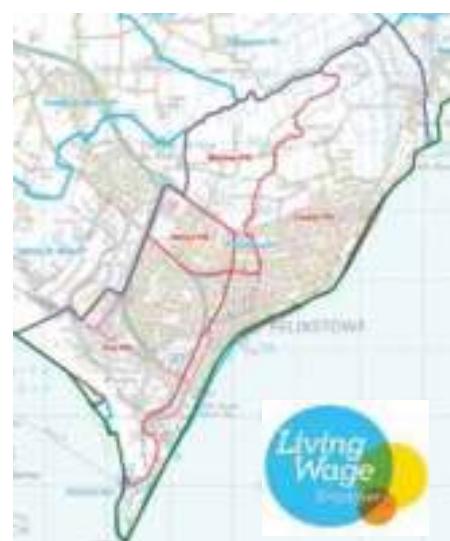
Key

* Councillor is also a Member of East Suffolk Council

** Councillor is also a Member of Suffolk County Council

Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal:

Dr Therese Coffey MP
therese.coffey.mp@parliament.uk
020 7219 7164



Felixstowe Town Council Meetings

Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Mark Jepson
Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Sharon Harkin

9 March	Planning & Environment	9.15am
9 March	Full Council	7.30pm
23 March	Planning & Environment	9.15am
23 March	Finance & Governance	7.30pm
6 April	Planning & Environment	9.15am
13 April	Civic & Community	7.30pm
20 April	Planning & Environment	9.15am
27 April	Assets & Services	7.30pm
4 May	Planning & Environment	9.15am
11 May	Annual Town Meeting	7.00pm
18 May	Annual Council	7.00pm
25 May	Planning & Environment	9.15am
25 May	Finance & Governance	7.30pm
8 June	Planning & Environment	9.15am

Note: all meetings listed are open to the press and public, who are also welcome to attend online via Zoom. The link for each meeting can be found on our website, facebook page and twitter. For further information please telephone 01394 282086 or email enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk.

Contacting Council Staff

Phone: 01394 282086 (all staff)

Email: enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk

Address:

Felixstowe Town Hall, Undercliff Road West, Felixstowe, IP11 2AG

Website: www.felixstowe.gov.uk

Ash Tadjirishi – Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer
townclerk@felixstowe.gov.uk

Debbie Frost – Deputy Town Clerk
debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk

Sue Faversham – Civic Events Officer
sue.faversham@felixstowe.gov.uk

Sarah Morrison – Planning Administration Assistant
sarah.morrison@felixstowe.gov.uk

Shaun Congi – Financial Administration Assistant
shaun.congi@felixstowe.gov.uk

Holly Miles – Communications Apprentice
holly.miles@felixstowe.gov.uk

Janine Smith – Administration Assistant
janine.smith@felixstowe.gov.uk

Who do I talk to about.....?

With three tiers of local government in Suffolk it can be confusing knowing which authority to contact about local matters or a particular service.

This brief list outlines some of the key areas covered by each council to help untangle the web and to show who does what in your area.



Felixstowe Town Council is the council closest to its residents and is responsible for:

Call 01394 282086 or visit www.felixstowe.gov.uk

- The office of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mayoral engagements
- Awarding grants to support local community group and charities
- Remembrance events in conjunction with the Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion
- The upkeep of Felixstowe's War and Flood memorials
- Felixstowe's Community Emergency Plan
- Felixstowe in Flower floral basket scheme and competitions
- Floral bedding at the Triangle and seafront
- Supporting the provision of Community Public Access Defibrillators
- Felixstowe Town Hall – the administrative home of the Town Council, a local base for partner community services such as the Suffolk County Council Registrar and Felixstowe Forward, open to the public for meetings and a popular wedding venue
- Broadway House – the home of Felixstowe Old People's Welfare Association (FOPWA)
- Walton Community Hall – available for private and community hire
- Allotment sites at Cowpasture, Ferry Road,
- Felixstowe Cemetery and its Gardens of Rest
- The Felixstowe Civic Awards scheme to recognise our local community heroes
- Supporting the town's twinning and partnership arrangements with the German towns of Wesel and Salzwedel

- Felixstowe Youth Forum
- Funding the Christmas Lights (supported by the Lions Club of Felixstowe)
- Annual funding contribution to key local service providers including Felixstowe Volunteer Coast Patrol Rescue Service, Level Two Youth Project, Felixstowe Forward, Citizens' Advice and the Landguard Partnership
- Making representations on local planning applications, strategic plans and consultations
- Representing the community at around 20 outside bodies, organisations and partnerships affecting many aspects of life in Felixstowe

- Maintaining the resort of Felixstowe and the provision of beach huts
- Maintenance of Felixstowe's public parks, open spaces and play areas (in conjunction with East Suffolk Norse)
- Public car parks, on-street parking patrolling (Police are responsible for obstruction or illegal on street parking)
- Licensing, Environmental and Port Health
- Leisure services (in conjunction with Places Leisure)



Suffolk County Council is the top tier of local government, providing services on a county-wide basis and is responsible for:

Call 0345 606 6067 or visit www.suffolk.gov.uk

- Highways (except motorways and major A roads which are the responsibility of Highways England)
- Education and Libraries
- Social services
- Trading standards
- Public transport
- Bus passes and disabled parking permits
- Registry of births, deaths and marriages
- Most street lighting, pavements, rights of way, footpaths and cycle ways
- Adoption and fostering
- Fire and rescue services
- Waste and Recycling centres



East Suffolk Council provide a range of regulatory and community services across the whole of the East Suffolk district and is responsible for:

Call 0333 016 2000 or visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

- The collection of council tax and business rates
- Local planning and building regulations
- Kerbside waste and recycling collections, including fly tipping (in conjunction with East Suffolk Norse)
- Benefits
- Community Safety
- Elections
- Street cleaning
- Housing needs

Felixstowe Fairtrade Forum



This month we are featuring another member of our Fairtrade team – Brian Cutler. Brian was a founder member of the Felixstowe Fairtrade Forum in 2007 and has played an active role in promoting Fairtrade in the town ever since. He said: "The last two years have been difficult for us as we have been unable to hold our usual round of events such as coffee mornings, Fairtrade stalls and family events. Things now seem to be getting back to normal and we have started organising these again."

"During Fairtrade Fortnight we had a stall and display at the triangle and displays at the library and the Co-op in Hamilton Road. One of the aims was to attract more volunteers and supporters for Fairtrade. This was part of a wider effort across Suffolk by all nine Fairtrade towns in the county. Please join us at the Forum if you can, to help us spread the word about Fairtrade and the difference it makes to farmers and producers in the developing world."

The photo is of Brian (right) with Peter Dawes, our founder chairman, now sadly deceased. It was taken during Felixstowe carnival. For more information visit the Forum website at www.felixstowe-fairtrade.org.uk or email secretary@felixstowe-fairtrade.org.uk.



Felixstowe children enjoy new library facilities

Thanks to the Friends of Felixstowe Library and local organisations, children in Felixstowe have been enjoying brand new library facilities which were installed during lockdown.

The project to refurbish the well-used area at the library was driven by the Friends group with lots of support from many organisations and businesses in the community. The new facilities have transformed the children's area with new bright and colourful furniture including a hideaway den, new flooring, shelving and storage, with seaside decorations. The new facilities can be enjoyed by children of all ages.

The new area has already been very popular since libraries opened up more fully in recent months, with around 250 children signing up to the Summer Reading Challenge at Felixstowe Library.

Sarah Wilson, Chair of the Friends of Felixstowe Library said: The Friends of Felixstowe Library have been delighted with the results of this project and we've been overwhelmed by the wonderful response to our appeal. We're very grateful to Felixstowe Town Council, the Felixstowe Peninsular Community Partnership, County Councillor Graham Newman, East Suffolk District Councillor Tracey Green, Suffolk Libraries, the Port Community Fund and East of England Co-Op."



Steph Merrett, Felixstowe Library Manager, added "It was really exciting to see the new facilities being installed and now being used by so many children. Children particularly enjoy the 'starlight hideaway' and the beach hut reading den."

The new children's library area was officially opened as restrictions eased, by the Mayor of Felixstowe, Councillor Mark Jepson. All the funders have been invited to see the new facilities in use.

Over 6,000 children across Suffolk have been taking part in the Summer Reading Challenge with libraries including Felixstowe also reintroducing their events and activities. For more details visit www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

Get ready for the launch of the new Community Directory!

Supported by the Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership and the East Suffolk Council Enabling Communities Scheme, the Community Directory is a one-stop source for events happening across the community. The Community Directory can be accessed via the Felixstowe Town Council website. You can sign up to the Community Directory for free. Register your community group and promote your plans, or search for upcoming events and find something new to get involved with.

For more details about the Community Directory, or to get support with signing up, contact holly.miles@felixstowe.gov.uk

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Rainbows, Brownies & Guides

Could you help us?

It is great that Guiding (for girls from 5 to 18+ and their Leaders) flourishes in Felixstowe, with one Unit having been in existence continually since the 1970s and others thriving since they were formed.

We are fortunate in having a dedicated team of Leaders and Helpers, able to meet almost all of the demands placed upon us. However, there are always areas, in which we may need extra help at RAINBOWS (aged 5 - 7) BROWNIES (aged 7-10) & GUIDES (aged 10-14).

As we are coming out of the pandemic, there are areas in Felixstowe where we currently have few or very small Units, where we would like to offer more young women the chance to join Guiding. All we need now are the Leaders and Helpers to make that possible. It would not be a case of having to start from scratch, as the very experienced Leaders in the current Units would be willing to share the planning and give support to the new helper(s).

Our Leaders and Helpers are not 'Superwomen', but come from all walks of life and have a genuine desire to help girls and young women gain confidence and prepare for their adult lives, through fun-filled and exciting activities. Whatever time you could give, be it as a Leader or Helper, I am really keen to hear from you, as all sorts of contributions will be needed to make this development possible.

I look forward to receiving an e-mail from you – to find out more, please contact me at your earliest convenience!

Helen Kent, Girlguiding Colneis Division Commissioner

colneisdivision@gmail.com | www.girlguidingcolneis.org |
Facebook @ggcolneisdivision | Twitter @GGColneisdivis1 |
Instagram @colneisdivision



2022 is going to be a busy year for the whole community, this Easter we join forces again with our friends at Felixstowe News for our giant Egg Hunt. We launch on April 9th on the Triangle with your free packs and some fun for all the family. If you can't make it we will post links on as many local

Facebook pages for you to be able to download them at home and a list of stockists.

The Orwell Challenge is back, organised by the Rotary Club Ipswich, with trails suitable for all levels of fitness it's the perfect fundraiser for us to be apart of. If you wish to run, walk or hop a distance of 3km to a full marathon, drop us an email and we will send you the details of how to get involved.

Saturday 9th July our big Community Fun Day is back on Harpers Field / Seaton Road Park. This year's event will be much larger than our first one last year, with craft market, food stalls and bar, games, rides, live music and local groups coming together to make it extra special. While entry remains free.

In September, our Yard Sale returns. Details will be finalised soon.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook. Our collection pots are in most Walton High Street shops if you wish to donate.

We are always welcoming new members, no qualifications or skills are required everyone and anyone can help. Our first meeting of the year is on Thursday 10th March 7pm at the Orwell Hotel, feel free to come along and see how you can be part of this fun and expanding community group.

Email waltonchristmaslights@outlook.com

Or telephone 07852147440 during business hours or an event.



Think Global, Act Local...

An environmental message but simultaneously a good tag line for Felixstowe Lions Club.

Hopefully if you live in Felixstowe you will have heard of Felixstowe Lions Club. We are part of Lions international, 1.4 million men and woman across the globe who belong to a Lions club with the motto "We Serve". Clubs serve their local communities as well as being part of larger projects.

In Felixstowe we serve our local community in many ways, one of our biggest projects is the annual Christmas lights display, we work all year to maintain and develop the lights that go up over the Christmas period.

A big part of what we do involves fundraising so that we can help meet need locally as well as globally. During 2021 we raised over £13,500 and helped local people with donations via The Salvation Army, Parish Pantry and Basic Charity, as well as helping several individual people and families.

Contact us if you think we could help you or someone you support or if you too would like to belong to the world's biggest service club and 'Think Globally while Acting Locally.'

By the time you read this we will have held our first event of the year, the ever popular Pig Race at the Trades and Labour Club (no pigs were harmed during the event!) We hope that the Saturday Car Boot sales will recommence from April and the Antiques Sales on the Triangle later in the year. We will also be organising the Easter Egg Hunt in the Spa Gardens, near The Hut, from 12 noon on the 10th April. We'll be hiding 100 eggs! Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with what we are planning and events we are organising.



BASIC are always at the centre of community life in Felixstowe and this year is no exception!



Our two shops, at 17 Hamilton Road and on the High Street in Walton continue to offer items for sale at the very same price as they were over 22 years ago when we started!

Proceeds from the shops are strictly restricted for use in the Felixstowe, Walton and Trimley areas and last year we were delighted to raise £20,000 which bought cutting-edge equipment for nine local schools.

We also continue to pay for free breakfasts for the children at two schools and we make regular donations to local people and groups who are in need.

Over the last few years our BASIC Community Pop-Up Shops have had a tremendous effect on the town and have provided a place where affordable food can be obtained while also offering a place to meet.

We decided to 'gift' this idea to the various churches around the town and while it's great to see them flourishing, it's also nice to know that it was BASIC who had the original idea and planted the seed.

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the wonderful customers who donate to us at both shops and our staff and volunteers who work so hard to support our community.

For further information go to our website: www.basic.org.uk



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Felixstowe & Offshore Radio

In early 2014, I offered to write an article for the Felixstowe Society newsletter about the 50th anniversary of the start of Radio Caroline off our coast. The late Phil Hadwen also asked Charles Wright and I to put on a display for the Heritage Open Days that September. Felixstowe Museum then invited us to display material in their tearoom between 2015 & 2018, before expanding the display into the Museum itself from 2019. This year, we have supplied material about offshore radio in the 1980's, to tie in with the 40th anniversary of the Museum opening.

Following the 2014 display, Phil Hadwen instigated a permanent Felixstowe Society commemorative stone to be laid in recognition of UK offshore radio beginning here, with Radio Caroline anchored off Felixstowe. Sadly, Phil passed away before the stone in Wolsey Gardens was unveiled in September 2017. That weekend, past and present radio personalities visited and a large exhibition took place in the town.



Prior to the pandemic, we had given over twenty presentations to various, mainly local, groups and we are hoping to restart these again in 2022. Please contact myself, Brian Nichols on 07714 596655 if your group may be interested in us coming to speak, or if you have any memories, photos, press cuttings, recordings etc of the offshore stations that you'd be happy for us to see.



The Felixstowe Family History Society, formed in January 1986 aims include helping researchers to increase their knowledge of genealogy and assist them in researching their own family history; Assisting in the preservation of local history and genealogy records; and enabling us all, by sharing knowledge, to further our awareness of what

information is available and how to access it.

We are a Nationally Registered Charity (296115), and a member of the Federation of Family History Societies. We arrange for speakers and visits to places of genealogical interest; publish local Parish Registers and record memorial inscriptions of local churchyards. We publish our own quarterly magazine, Roots and Branches, and offer an ongoing programme and events of interest to all.

Membership of the Society includes free attendance at our speaker meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday evening of each month (August excluded) and access to our facilities and advice from fellow members, including a drop-in session on Friday mornings once a month for most of the year. All meetings are held at Broadway House, Orwell Road. Whenever technically possible, we do Zoom our speaker meetings for the benefit of those who cannot attend in person. Anyone wishing to join in by Zoom should send an e-mail to ffhs@hotmail.com. Full details of our activities may be found on our web site, www.felixstowefhs.onesuffolk.net

Do you need help with Probate?

Our experienced, friendly and dedicated team understand the burden of dealing with an estate following the loss of a loved one and are on hand to help.



Need help or advice? Please feel free to call us on 01394 277941 or email us at jasmin@fairstep.co.uk

Find us at 174-176 Hamilton Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7DU

Felixstowe NCI goes from Strength to Strength



As Covid restrictions start to lift, Felixstowe NCI continue to be the 'Eyes and Ears along the Coast', providing a watchful eye on beach and sea safety from Felixstowe Ferry to Landguard from Martello Tower P on the south seafront, working with HM Coastguard and other Search and Rescue organisations.

This last year has been a great fundraising year and monies raised will go to improving and replacing equipment as it is needed. We are also looking at new and additional camera locations to aid our view and your safety.

Also in the last year, we have recruited 13 new watchkeepers who are all undergoing training. If you fancy volunteering for NCI and becoming part of our team of watchkeepers, then email nick.white@nci.org.uk and arrange for a visit to the tower to find out what we do. All we need from you, is a minimum of 8 hours a month of your time, split between two shifts. Of course, you can do more if you want.

This year will see HM Coastguard redirecting radio checks from the boating community to VHF Channel 65, which is NCI's exclusive radio channel. We can provide radio checks and local conditions and are delighted to be called. Call us at NCI on ch65.

NCI currently have 57 watch stations and over 2,600 volunteers nationally and celebrate 28 years of volunteering this year.

Nick Barrett White, Deputy Station Manager.



The Felixstowe Master Mariners Club (FMMC) reluctantly decided to postpone their annual joyous Christmas Lunch for obvious reasons and when everyone is confident that things are returning to normal will resume the monthly lunches at Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club. As is traditional at the end of each year FMMC were very pleased to be able to make donations to the following Maritime Organisations:

Care Ashore
RNLI Harwich
TS Landguard, Sea Cadet Corps
Ocean Youth Trust South
The Seafarers' Charity
Felixstowe & Haven Ports Seafarers' Service
Marine Society & Sea Cadets
1st Felixstowe Sea Scouts
The Shipwrecked Mariners' Society
The National Coastwatch Institution
East Coast Sail Trust

Anyone wishing to join us please visit www.mastermariners.uk/_contact.html

Our Environment

Felixstowe Town Council's Climate Emergency Working Group Update Report...

The Climate Emergency Working Group meets regularly and always welcomes new ideas on how we can reduce our Carbon Footprint.



We are now pleased to report the addition of a bike shelter at Felixstowe Cemetery, Langley Avenue. This new addition will not only provide shelter for members of staff who regularly bike to work but will also provide space for visitors to the Cemetery to park their bikes under shelter.

We will soon be adding an electric van to the Ground's team fleet. Although the existing truck will still be required for towing, once arrived the van will considerably reduce the Cemetery's Carbon Footprint. In addition to this, the working group has been considering a report on replacing all its gardening tools with electric power tools run on rechargeable battery packs. The concept was fully supported at the Assets & Services Committee and will go to full Council on 9 March. Each Member of the Working Group will be working with one of our local schools,



under this initiative students will be able to share their concerns about the environment whilst they learn about action the Town Council is taking to combat the climate crisis.

Environmental Grants

The deadline for the next round of applications is 31 May 2022

Do you have a project in mind that will help reduce your community organisation's Carbon Footprint?

There is a total of £25,000 available for the year 2022/23 with two rounds and closing dates in May and November. If you have a project that will benefit the people of Felixstowe or you wish to upgrade some equipment to be more energy efficient, please do get in contact, email debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk

For further information on how to apply for a grant please go to www.felixstowe.gov.uk/grants

Environmental Youth Forum



After a quiet couple of years due to the pandemic we are restarting the Felixstowe Youth Forum and giving it an Environmental theme. We are looking forward to working with representatives from each school in Felixstowe to find out what environmental projects they are working on and to share new ideas.

It will be useful to members of the forum to understand not only what the Town Council is trying to do to reduce their carbon footprint but also what steps they can make at home and at school to help protect our environment.



Litter-Free Felixstowe – The Year Ahead

At the end of 2021, Litter-Free Felixstowe organised the town's first environment awards, hosted at The Alex. The event was a great success and we were able to celebrate the remarkable young people who care for wildlife and are taking positive action. They inspire all of us to want to do more to protect the natural world. We hope that 2022 will see an increase in participation of all ages.



Joining Litter-Free Felixstowe is simple – our Facebook group currently has nearly 1,200 members who attend group litter-picks across the town or borrow equipment to clear areas on their own. It's a friendly, sociable group of like-minded people who are determined to remove rubbish, not only from the beach but from all public spaces. Recently, a particular effort has been made to litter-pick parks and walkways where bushes have been cut back, revealing discarded plastic waste, some of which was dropped many years ago.



We are keen to hear from any residents who have spotted a build-up of litter so our volunteers can get it cleared as soon as possible.

We want to work with schools and businesses this year to spread a positive message and ensure the whole of Felixstowe works together to become litter-free. More group litter-picks are planned but Litter-Free Felixstowe also wants to raise awareness about the impact of litter to encourage people not to drop it in the first place. **Why not join us and get involved?**

For further information please email litterfreefelixstowe@gmail.com

10 Our Environment

After a very warm and dry January, I'd like to think all allotment plots are ready for the early Spring planting which will soon be upon us. That said, my own plot is only three quarters dug but I do have early potatoes and onion sets growing in the greenhouse.

In my defence, we have been busy with the removal of the old "club house" at Cowpasture and the building of a new hut on a suitable purpose-built base. This build has been possible with considerable financial support from Felixstowe Town Council, and with help and guidance from Chloe Lee the East Suffolk Council Communities Officer. Below are some photographs of the project which is soon to be completed.



Additionally, we have seen further car parking improvements at the Ferry Road site again in conjunction with Town Council staff.

As many of you will know the activity along Candlet Road has caused some disruption, as we see the houses appear at Trelawny Place. The Cowpasture site and its many tenants have been disturbed by the groundworks. However, we anticipate an improved main entrance once the new path/cycle way has been completed.

As mentioned in the last article, we have commenced the Winter meetings at the OFCA building in Church Road, Old Felixstowe. In March we are planning to hold the AGM, and a guest speaker is being arranged for the April meeting.

We are also seeking to join in with the National Garden Scheme and open the Cowpasture site for a day in June 2022. This will be an opportunity to show off the plots and facilities we enjoy plus collect for cancer charities and other good causes.



Finally, it is the case that the Town Council are preparing a number of small "starter plots" at Cowpasture for those who wish to try an allotment but may not need a standard five rod plot. Further details on these 'Allittlement' plots can be obtained from the Town Hall.

For further information on the Allotment Association, please see our website for further details
www.felixstoweallotments.co.uk/

Neville Farthing, Chairman



Felixstowe Town Council has four available allotment sites, located at:

Cowpasture, Candlet Road, 314 plots

Ferry Road, 97 plots

Railway Hill, Coronation Drive, 44 plots

Taunton Road, 20 plots

A 40% discount on the basic allotment rent is offered to senior citizens or those in receipt of benefits on a single or joint tenancy, provided that at least one tenant qualifies. See our website for more information. A waiting list is in operation with plots expected to become available soon. If you are interested in taking on a plot, please contact our Administration Assistant, Janine Smith via email janine.smith@felixstowe.gov.uk

Why have an Allotment?

- An affordable source of fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Reduces your exposure to pesticides.
- Provides fresh air and healthy exercise.
- Helps reduce stress and provides a sense of achievement.
- Good for the environment, providing green spaces and wildlife habitats.
- Plots which are cultivated to a high standard could even win one of the allotment prizes at the Felixstowe in Flower Awards.

What a Great Start to the Gardening Year!

In January we were treated to our own personal version of The Green Planet by Mr Plant Geek who persuaded some of us to taste Miracle Berries on offer and we are still alive to tell the tale!

February's Meeting was another lively interactive presentation which encouraged use of another of the senses. There were so many winter flowering plants with amazing fragrances to experience brought to us by Fiona Edmond who owns Green Island Gardens at Ardleigh.

We are looking forward to a full programme of events this year. We have welcomed back some of our longstanding members and are also delighted to report an influx of newbies. Old Felixstowe Community Centre in Ferry Road has a spacious hall which can accommodate large audiences so if you feel inspired to try a new club why not give us a try?

We welcome visitors at a cost of £5.00 cash at the door. We meet at 7pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

For further information please contact our friendly secretary, Jayne Steele on 01394 211739

Email: jse17@hotmail.co.uk

Or find us on Facebook: Felixstowe Garden Club.



The Felixstowe group of Suffolk Wildlife Trust

Suffolk Wildlife Trust has a number of local groups around the county which hold events in their area. Felixstowe's local group is particularly active with monthly Tuesday evening talks through the Autumn, Winter and into the beginning of Spring, fortnightly Wednesday morning birdwatching walks from Autumn through to the Spring and weekly Friday evening wildlife watching walks throughout the Summer. All aspects of nature and wildlife are enjoyed on these walks including plants, insects, mammals, birds and if we are very lucky the odd reptile or amphibian may be spotted occasionally so there is something for everybody. All events are open to both SWT members and non-members.

March's talk will be on Tuesday 15th March presented by Simon Hooton on Trees, Woods and People.

On Tuesday 19th April we have "75 years and counting – RSPB Minsmere" by Alan Bourne.

The venue for all talks is Broadway House, Orwell Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7DD and talks start at 7:30 pm.

There is a charge of £3 per talk and £5 for walks for everyone 25 and over (free for younger people) and the money covers costs and to contribute to the essential wildlife conservation and education work the trust does. More information is available on suffolkwildlifetrust.org



Lapwing female & Chicks at Trimley Marshes



Newbourne Springs photo by Steve Awlward



Owl at Trimley Marshes

Colneis Flower Club



We had a well supported AGM when it was agreed the annual subscription should remain at £35.00 per person and visitors should pay £5.00 per visit.

The Committee has developed a very varied programme and the next meeting will be held on Thursday 17 March in the Old Felixstowe Community Centre, Ferry Road, IP11 9NB when Helen Bird from Marks Tey will be demonstrating with the theme 'Made to Measure'. The Practice Piece is a Spring Basket. Meetings are held on the third Thursday in the month at 7.30pm in Old Felixstowe Community Centre.

I am sure you all agree it will be good to return to a normal routine when we can meet up again and enjoy a relaxed evening of entertainment. With that thought in mind, we look forward to seeing you all again. Margaret Miller



David Button



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Landguard Nature Reserve

If you have visited the Nature Reserve recently you may have noticed some new signs dotted around, providing information about the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that covers the entire site. Landguard Nature Reserve is a specially protected site of historical and ecological importance and due to the sensitivity of the site certain activities are not allowed.

PSPOs are designed to help deal with problems in public spaces that have a detrimental effect in an area that could cause harm. They impose conditions on the use of an area so everyone can enjoy it and use it safely.

These are not new rules, they have been in place for several years, but we have updated and increased the signage as requested by many, to help make visitors more aware of the types of activities that are prohibited on site and why.

The rules are necessary to protect this special mosaic of habitats and the species that call them home, while visitors can still experience and enjoy this unique environment.

Landguard Nature Reserve is still a place very much worth visiting. Being out in nature is incredibly important for our health and wellbeing and benefits us both physically and mentally, so please familiarise yourselves with the rules so everyone can enjoy this special place, including the wildlife. You can simply visit, to get some fresh air, exercise, look for wildlife, listen to the crashing waves, walk with friends, and if you're lucky watch a beautiful sunset!



Did you know the rabbits at Landguard are the Nature Reserve's equivalent of livestock!



Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) are abundant on the Nature Reserve and their grazing habits form an essential part of the site's management. Whilst rabbits may be considered bothersome in some environments, here at Landguard, they contribute to the management of the Reserve.

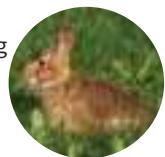
Other Nature Reserves and land managers may use livestock such as sheep, ponies, or cattle to help maintain their grasslands but here we rely on the rabbits.

They are in fact a 'keystone' species, they are natural ecosystem engineers, and they provide a very valuable service by creating and maintaining microhabitats that benefit plants, birds and insects. Throughout the year they spend much of their time grazing grass, eating leafy plants, stripping bark and digging for roots. These seasonal foraging behaviours help to maintain areas of open habitat by keeping the grassland short, reducing invasive plant species, and creating patches of bare earth.

They promote plant diversity by dispersing seed, creating conditions for seed germination, and maintaining microhabitats that enable lichens, mosses, and fungi to thrive. In addition, with greater plant and habitat diversity many opportunities for birds and invertebrates are created.

Without rabbits, the Nature Reserve would look very different. Rabbits play a crucial role in sustaining Landguard and enhancing the enjoyment and wellbeing of visitors. However, much like nesting birds and resting seals, they are sensitive to disturbance by people and dogs, so please help us keep the Nature Reserve special and unique by appreciating the skills of these mini munching gardeners and letting them work undisturbed.

Leonie Washington – Landguard Ranger



Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club

Looking out of my window today, the course is empty and it is eerily quiet. The reason? Fog! Apart from snow it is the only weather condition that stops golfers in their tracks. If you cannot see where your ball will land you have to cease play as it is too dangerous, there maybe someone on the fairway that you just cannot see and could risk injuring so the claxon sounds and everyone has to return to the

clubhouse until it clears. I often think about seafarers in foggy weather. Imagine being the captain of a huge ship and you cannot see where you are going! It is a lot better nowadays of course because of radar and technical advancement, still very eerie though. Why does fog make everything so quiet?

Still, Spring is almost here and there will be birds singing, a very welcome sound. This is the sort of twitter I enjoy! Environmentalists tell us we must plant more wild flowers to encourage insects and doing this will encourage more birds to our gardens. We must all do our bit. Here at the golf club our new design of clubhouse is very much landscape led with a living roof and plants that like to live near to the sea. I'm sure we will see more wildlife on the course and near the clubhouse too which will be wonderful. We already have bee hives and owl boxes and are lucky enough to sometimes see deer, especially on the Kingsfleet course. It is very satisfying to know we are helping insects and small animals on the land and certainly brings a little bit of peace to our hectic lives.

I hope you enjoy the Spring this year. I hope we are working our way out of the pandemic and our lives are a little more normal and we can all appreciate what a lovely part of the world we live in. How lucky we are to live in Felixstowe, it really is a special place.

David Spencer

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Children 12 and under half price.

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Call to book your table on 01394 286834 (opt 5)





Felixstowe in Flower Competitions are back, and we are getting excited!

After two very quiet years due to Covid, we are pleased to announce that the launch of Felixstowe in Flower 2022 will take place on **Saturday 28 May** at The Triangle from 10 - 12 noon. Please put the date in your diary and come along to find out more about the competitions and sponsorship opportunities to brighten up the town with hanging baskets and troughs full of colourful flowers.

This year will be the 37th Anniversary of Felixstowe in Flower, and with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee we are hoping to put flowers throughout the town in time for the Jubilee weekend.



It's time to show off your floral displays or environmental projects

There are many different competition categories that you can enter, such as 'Best use of Colour', 'Most unusual container', 'Best Sustainable planting' and 'Seaside theme' to name a few. We are looking forward to seeing some Jubilee themed gardens and pots this year too! Information can be obtained at the Town Hall, at the Launch or via our website, Facebook and Twitter pages.

Ready, steady... grow!



How to get involved...

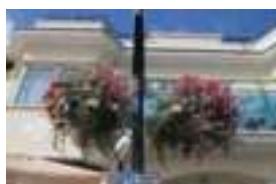


If gardening isn't your thing, but you like to view the colourful flowers throughout our town, please consider sponsoring a basket or ask your employer to consider supporting us. All baskets or tubs sponsored are recognised with a plaque by their sponsored container, they are also acknowledged both at the Launch in May and Award Ceremony which will be in September. All sponsors are also acknowledged on our website with a link to any website they may own.

Options to sponsor start at just £50 per basket and £30 including VAT for each additional basket, which includes watering and maintenance throughout the Summer.

If you would like to sponsor a basket please contact sue.faversham@felixstowe.gov.uk or telephone 01394 288191.

All the baskets, tubs and troughs found throughout the town and seafront are sponsored by local companies:



How Felixstowe in Flower is reducing its Carbon Footprint

A few years ago, the baskets were watered every weekday, using lots of water and fuel, polluting our environment. Over the past 3 years we have gradually replaced our baskets with self watering ones and we now only water twice a week. Also, with thanks to Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club we use grey water, which comes off the fields at Kingsfleet, rather than using fresh drinking water..

This year we are planting up the tubs with sustainable plants, we have chosen plants with colour and these will stay in place throughout the year and hopefully for many years to come. The hanging baskets will bring more colour being planted for the Summer period.

We are no longer using single use plastics, and with lots of work in schools via their environmental projects our aim is to encourage the young to think about planting both flowers and vegetables.

We have trialled peat free compost and are looking for ways to make the plants and compost have the lowest carbon footprint possible.



The Dorian Singers at 40 (and a bit!)

Founded in 1981 by schoolteacher Russell Hawes and composer Jack Hawes (no relation), The Dorian Singers www.thedoriansingers.org.uk began

life as an evening class at Felixstowe College but quickly turned into a 'proper' choir, named after one of the ancient Greek modes. Among the singers at their debut concert on 31st July that year was Jean Shaw, who later became Musical Director and ultimately Chairman – a post she still holds to this day!

Over the years the choir has forged links with a number of fine local musicians, including the late Frank Davies (a former Director of Music at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook), soprano Julie Roberts and tenor/Walton furniture retailer Paul Bloomfield, among many others.

A notable feature of the 'Dorians' throughout their history has been the sheer diversity of their concert programmes. In the past few years alone, the choir has performed Handel's 'Messiah', Joseph Horowitz's 'Captain Noah and his Floating Zoo', a medley of Abba hits and a semi-staged version of Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Trial by Jury'. Other recent highlights include the BBC Radio Suffolk Carol Concert at the Britten Studio at Snape Maltings, and their first-ever joint concert with the municipal choir from Felixstowe's twin town of Wesel, attended by the Mayor and other civic dignitaries.

Their (twice-postponed) 40th anniversary concert, 'Mostly Mozart', takes place on Saturday 2nd April at St Andrew's Church, Felixstowe, and tickets are available now from The Card Centre in Hamilton Road (01394 283170).



TS Landguard Sea Cadets



Despite Covid restrictions, TS Landguard, the Felixstowe Sea Cadet Unit, has continued to provide a unique service to our Cadets, both Senior and Junior. Front and centre to this continuity under adverse conditions have been grants made by the Council, for which we are extremely grateful. We had a successful afloat season including sailing at Felixstowe Ferry and canoeing at Cattawade. Over the winter months, our volunteer staff and Cadets have been fully engaged in boat maintenance ready for Spring getting back afloat. We have secured a fourth Quest dinghy for the coming season and are raising funds for a replacement rescue boat.

The Unit's HQ at the Drill Hall in Garrison Lane is in need of modernisation to current standards and to accommodate a larger Cadet population in the future; to this end we are engaged in a project incorporating new modular training, social and boat maintenance facilities, together with refurbishment of the existing Drill Hall. This project will involve significant fund raising. We target to be well under way by mid Summer.

We are actively seeking opportunities for our Cadets to participate in offshore sail and powerboat training, both in the Corp's owned offshore vessels and vessels operated by sail training trusts. The Sea Cadets mission is to provide a disciplined, but fun-based training in a marine environment for your people in the age bracket 12 to 18 years. Sea Cadet training, which incorporates participation in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and B-Tech (or equivalent) qualifications, prepares Cadets for life in the big outside world and greatly enhances their employment prospects. We would like to talk to potential new entries and their parents / guardians. For further information email tony.duke@felixstoweseacadets.co.uk



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Spring 2022

Looking for Fun & Friendship



Whether you are involved in Guiding or not, Trefoil Guild is a wonderful opportunity to meet like minded people to share your next adventure – whatever that might be!

Trefoil Guild acts like a branch of Girlguiding and its members agree to support the Guiding ethos – including the pledge to help other people.

We are the Felixstowe Guild and meet once a month in the afternoon 2.30 until 4pm at the Felixstowe Guide Hut (just off Garrison Lane).

Our meetings include speakers on various topics crafts, outings and over the past two years plenty of garden parties (when permitted). There are opportunities to find and achieve personal challenges, to meet up with other Guilds in the County. There are several of our members going to Llandudno for a national event later this year. Finally, there is always time for tea and a chat.



Why not come along and meet us? For more information, please contact Gillian Garrett Moore on 07786 817083 or Di Billings on 01394 671580.

Celebrating 70 Years on the Throne

As Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, celebrates 70 years of service on the throne, Felixstowe is prepared to commemorate the occasion with an extended four day weekend full of spectacular celebration, 2 - 5 June 2022.

There's something for everyone in Felixstowe to get involved with. Whether you're planning a street party, cooking a particularly special Platinum pudding recipe, joining the Big Lunch or simply waving the nation's flag in support of Her Majesty, we want to hear about your plans.

Felixstowe Town Council, Felixstowe BID and the Felixstowe Carnival Association have scheduled a weekend packed with events for all of the family to enjoy.

Let us know what you're planning! Contact the staff at the Town Hall by calling 01394 282086 or email holly.miles@felixstowe.gov.uk



Childhood memories to last a lifetime

If like us you have fond memories of the Queen's Jubilees you may realise how important it will be for our children to experience this, as we once did. For today's children their next Jubilee is likely to be many years away.

The Town Council are currently working with schools and asking them to design a Jubilee badge which will be special to their school. Each School will choose a winner, and that design will be produced, and one given to each pupil to cherish.



Look out for further information on Children's activities over the weekend on www.felixstowe.gov.uk and www.visitfelixstowe.co.uk

We are looking forward to hearing about how our local school children celebrated the Jubilee in our Summer edition. Please also send in any of your photographs of how the Jubilee was celebrated in your street.

Email your photographs and stories to holly.miles@felixstowe.gov.uk



#JubileeFelixstowe: Get Involved

There are so many ways to get involved in supporting Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee celebrations.



Felixstowe Carnival Association are really looking forward to the Jubilee weekend and it is going to be a fabulous time but they need volunteers to help deliver the fun. Join their friendly group of volunteers and be part of this significant occasion.

If you would like to be involved, please contact volunteer@felixstowecarnival.org

Share your Jubilee plans on social media using the hashtag #JubileeFelixstowe.

Whether you're getting together with friends, family, or planning a party of your very own, we want to be part of your celebration.

Thursday 2 June Proclamation & Beacon Lighting

The weekend celebrations will start with a march including local cadet groups organised by the Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion. The march will lead from the Town Centre to the Town Hall steps where at 1pm a proclamation will be read by the Mayor of Felixstowe.



There is a long and unbroken tradition in our country of celebrating Royal Jubilees, Weddings and Coronations with the lighting of beacons - on top of mountains, church and cathedral towers, castle battlements, on town and village greens, country estates, parks and farms, along beaches and on cliff tops. In 1897, beacons were lit to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.



In 1977, 2002 and 2012, beacons commemorated the Silver, Golden and Diamond Jubilees of The Queen, and in 2016 Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

In the evening at Landguard Fort, there will be music prior to the lighting of the beacon at 9.15 pm. This will be followed by the 'Song for the Commonwealth' performed by Felixstowe Community Choir.

Please watch www.landguard.com for activities available for children to take part in during the day, before the evening event. Further information on the evening will shortly be available on www.felixstowe.gov.uk

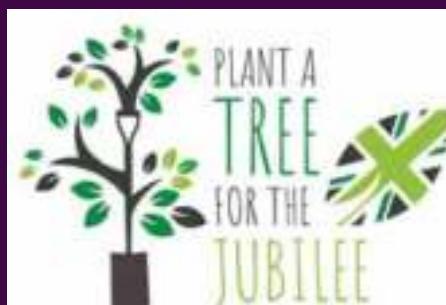


Friday 3 June & Saturday 4 June Music by the Beach & Activities on the Sea

Felixstowe Carnival Association is busy planning a weekend of music and entertainment on both the Friday and Saturday from 12 noon to 10pm at the Beach Side Event area behind the Leisure Centre on Sea Road. There will also be many activities and demonstrations taking place on the Sea.



From 12 noon until 4pm there will be a selection of community groups, schools and choirs performing on the stage. From 4pm to 10pm there will be bands performing music from each decade of the Queen's 70 year reign.



Why not plant a tree for the #Treebilee?
The Queen's Green Canopy initiative supports the planting of native species of tree across the country in recognition of this Royal milestone. If you're a local community group or organisation and you want to make Felixstowe a greener town, email enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk.

Sunday 5 June Service of Thanksgiving & The Big Lunch

An official Church service of Thanksgiving is planned at 10am on Sunday at St John's Church. In the afternoon there will be The Big Jubilee Lunch, see opposite for ideas or come to the Town Centre to join in the fun!



To coincide with the Platinum Jubilee, The Big Jubilee Lunch will be taking place on Sunday 5 June.

Pioneered in 2009, The Big Lunch encourages communities to celebrate their connections. Following the success of the first Big Jubilee Lunch, in celebration of Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee in 2012, The Big Lunch will bring the Jubilee celebrations into the heart of every community again in 2022.

As part of the Jubilee Weekend the Queen is encouraging us to be involved in the Big Jubilee Lunch

Details and Ideas can be found at

www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-jubilee-lunch

and you can download the Big Lunch pack at
www.edenprojectcommunities.com/get-your-big-lunch-pack

If you're thinking of holding a Big Lunch on your street and you want to close the road, see the details on the right under 'Planning a Street Party.' You can hold a street-party-style event for your Big Lunch on any patch of land or in any building such as a communal, private or pub garden; a local park; driveway; school playground; church; mosque; synagogue; gurdwara or temple — wherever you want, as long as you have the relevant permission from the owner.

If you want to close your street, further information on how to make it happen can be found at : eastsuffolk.gov.uk/guide-to-organising-a-street-party/



Planning a Street Party

Are you planning a street party to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee?

For Sunday 5 June 2022, Suffolk County Council have waived the usual fees associated with road closure to make it easier for you to host your street party.

If you are looking to organise a street party as a group of residents or for an event in a large public space, such as a park, you can view more information at

www.suffolk.gov.uk/PlatinumJubileeEvent

All applications must be received before 11pm on Sunday 27 March 2022.



A Platinum Pudding

The National Platinum Pudding Competition has now closed, good luck to any residents who entered. The winning pudding will be an important part of the celebrations marking Her Majesty's 70 years as Monarch. If you would like to make your own Platinum pudding you could consider baking something similar to:



British queen of puddings is made with a vanilla custard, sweet raspberry jam and a marshmallowy meringue topping.

Trifle - There's nothing quite like a retro trifle standing with pride in the centre of the table! And if the Queen's Platinum Jubilee demands anything: it's your finest glass trifle dish!



Battenberg cake requires a little know-how and a few tricks, but isn't the Platinum Jubilee the time to show off some skills?





Festival of Suffolk Symbol for 2022 Launched

Held during the national and international celebrations for The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Festival of Suffolk will bring all our communities and generations together, connecting networks, people and organisations to deliver the biggest ever community event in Suffolk.



With the aim to help our fabulous County to recover, reset and re-charge post pandemic, a whole series of fantastic projects, events and activities are happening between May and October 2022. With the key aim to be open, original, optimistic, united, compassionate and of Suffolk, some will be headliners that are unique to the Festival, some are the regular annual events from around the county that are springing back to life and some are being created at the very heart of our own local communities. Events are themed around health and wellbeing, opportunity and education, enterprise, environment and culture and tourism with key values that are a full list of events can be found here <https://www.festivalofsuffolk.org/all-events>. The Festival of Suffolk 2022 is spearheaded by the Suffolk Lieutenancy.

The organisers want to know what you are planning in your community?

Felixstowe will be very involved throughout, with the Jubilee Carnival weekend, Festival of the Sea, and the flotilla of boats sailing the coastline, and the Torch Relay will be in the area on 20th May, during the 580 mile journey around the county, accompanied by a golden rickshaw!



Suffolk gardener Joe Barnes has been selected from a number of local artists who applied for the opportunity to create the official symbol for the Festival of Suffolk as we participate in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Joe, 33, of Duncan's Yard, Southwold, Suffolk has been painting since he left school. Working, first in a hotel kitchen and currently as a landscape gardener,

Joe picked up his paintbrushes again seriously in Lockdown. Joe Barnes said "I have really enjoyed working with The Festival of Suffolk on this commission and hope that everyone is as proud of our symbol as I am. It's such an honour to have my work recognised in this way and I can't wait to see it being used and enjoyed as we celebrate the festival together this year."



Merchandise featuring the symbol will be available through a dedicated festival online shop.

Festival of the Sea

In June 2022 Essex and Suffolk are combining to celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a Festival of the Sea to inspire people to participate and celebrate all aspects of the sea and our extensive coastlines.

The Festival will also form part of the Festival of Suffolk 2022 which aims to shine a spotlight on all aspects of Suffolk life.

Event Overview

The Festival of the Sea 2022 will be held from Friday 17th to Sunday 19th June 2022. Everyone can join in, on land or sea, entering a variety of activities each day, and arranging their own events on and off the water, along the coastlines of both counties. From sea shanties to rowing boats, stand up paddleboards to maritime museums, coastal walks to swimming, kayaking to rock-pooling, fishing competitions to boat skills, seafood to sailing craft – people of all ages can plan to celebrate the sea, highlighting ways to treasure and conserve its resources, and to take part in the festivities.

Parade of Boats

One highlight will be a parade of boats representing the two counties with flags and bunting, and featuring a variety of vessels from organisations including the Royal Navy, Trinity House, Harwich Haven Authority (HHA) and the RNLI.

Convening between Essex and Suffolk, at the confluence of the rivers Stour and Orwell, the fleet will assemble near the Ganges Buoy at Shotley Spit.

The parade will start at 14:00 on Saturday 18th June 2022 – High Water Harwich:

15:34 BST. Participating boats will pass spectators at the following times.

14:30 Harwich Ha'penny Pier

15:00 Felixstowe Landguard Fort

15:30 Shotley Marina

16:00 Dispersing off Ha'penny Pier



The Mayor of Felixstowe Civic Awards

Civic Awards - A special Year to celebrate work in our Community over the past 70 years

The Mayor of Felixstowe Civic awards, held annually, are an opportunity to recognise and celebrate contributions to the local community by local volunteers. This year, in accordance with Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee, we are celebrating community involvement in Felixstowe over the past 70 years.

Nominations are now open to crown your Jubilee Jewel of Felixstowe!

All Civic Award winners will be invited with their families to the Annual Town Meeting on 11 May and recognised at the Jubilee Weekend.

If you know somebody who has gone above and beyond for the local community, we want to hear from you!

**The closing date for nominations is
31st March 2022.**

For more information, or to nominate your community hero, visit www.felixstowe.gov.uk/civic-awards to download a submission form or telephone 01394 288191



NOMINATE YOUR JUBILEE JEWELS!

Help us crown your Jubilee Jewels of Felixstowe as this year's Civic Awards celebrate 70 years of community volunteering.



Town Hall, Undercliff Road, West, IP11 2AG



**MAYOR OF
FELIXSTOWE
CIVIC AWARDS**

[felixstowe.gov.uk/civic-awards](http://www.felixstowe.gov.uk/civic-awards)
or telephone 01394 288191



Springtime in Felixstowe

The days are getting longer, new shoots are pushing through, and Felixstowe will soon be alive with the joys of Spring.

As the early birds among you will know, Felixstowe has enjoyed some truly magnificent sunrises already this year like this one above captured by regular contributor Stephen Squirrell. We also thank Steven Bailey for his gull's eye view of the seafront and Emma Sheppard for her atmospheric shot of the Martello Tower at Felixstowe Ferry.



If pictures like this brighten your day, be sure to follow Visit Felixstowe on social media where there are plenty more to enjoy. You can find us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

What's On

What a delight to anticipate the return of some of our major events this year including the Ipswich to Felixstowe Classic Car Rally, the Rotary Fun Run, our beloved Felixstowe Carnival and an extra treat this year with the bumper celebrations planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The season kicks off with a new fixture, Pier Project's Channel Festival, which takes place on the weekend of March 18-20. This mixed arts event will see a weekend of activities inspired by the sea at venues across the town and explores and celebrates the role of the sea in our lives and the impact it has on our health and wellbeing. For more information visit www.pierprojects.org.

The Spa Pavilion continues to offer a packed programme during the Spring offering everything from Jongleurs stand-up comedy to shows celebrating the work of Johnny Cash, Doris Day, Bruce Springsteen and ELO to name but few. Check out the listings www.spapavilion.uk.

You can catch more musical performances around the town in the coming months. Music in Felixstowe present the Brook Street Band at St Andrew's Church on March 20 or why not join the Felix Stowaways for an afternoon of sea songs and shanties at Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club on April 2nd? See our What's on guide at www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk for details.

If food and drink is your thing, then be sure to head down to Beach Street for Hopster's Beer Festival on March 25-26 when you can sample craft beers and real ales and enjoy live entertainment, street food and maybe a little shopping. Tickets are available at www.beachstreetfelixstowe.co.uk. Also keep a look out for seasonal menus in our restaurants and cafés as chefs welcome in the new season and freshen up their fare for the warmer months and longer days – you may even find yourself dining al fresco!

April is the month to head down to Landguard with the reopening of the Fort from April 1 and the Museum on the following day. The foot ferry also starts again in April, whilst the View Point Café, Visitor Centre and Nature Reserve are open all year round. Responsible walkers, cyclists and well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome to enjoy this wonderful open space, the views of the estuary and maybe spot some unusual wildlife. Check www.discoverlandguard.org.uk for full details and opening times.

For the more active amongst you, the weekly Parkrun takes place every Saturday morning. Starting at the Pier, this free and sociable trot out could be the training you need to take part in the Rotary Club of Felixstowe's Fun Run on May 2nd and maybe even inspire you to sign up for the second Felixstowe Triathlon which takes place later in the year.

May Bank Holiday will also see the return of the much-loved Ipswich to Felixstowe Classic Car Rally. It is anticipated that some 600 classic vehicles including cars, motorcycles, buses and commercial vehicles will assemble in Christchurch Park before making their way to Felixstowe where they will park on the Prom for us all to enjoy. Check out the latest details at www.ipswichtransportmuseum.co.uk.

Finally, Felixstowe loves a party and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will be celebrated in style across the weekend of June 2-5 in the town and on the seafront. You will find more details of the four-day celebrations on pages 15 to 19 of this magazine.

If you have an event you would like listed on our Events Diary, please email visitfelixstowe.org@gmail.com with details, contacts and any appropriate images or logos.

Visit Felixstowe Online



Those of you who enjoy social media can keep up with Visit Felixstowe on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Our posts aim to promote our lovely town and sea front and put the spotlight on our shops and businesses. We are also partial to a pretty picture and thank all the photographers who send images for us to share. If you are posting positive messages about the town and seafront, then please use the hashtag **#visitfelixstowe** and help us spread the word.



To help us develop our online offer, digital marketeer Kate Cain has recently joined the team to look after the social side of Visit Felixstowe.

Kate grew up in Felixstowe and now lives and works in the town permanently. She has a background in IT sales and marketing and has specialised in content writing and social media for a client base of local independent companies. Utilising more technical methods to create effective social media and web content, Kate is already enjoying getting out and about to see what local businesses are up to and report on all the refreshes brought on by the end of pandemic restrictions.

"Everyone can have a voice via social media," said Kate, "and with increased numbers of followers across Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, there's a good deal to keep up with!"

Email Kate at visitfelixstowe.org@gmail.com if there's something you'd like to promote in Felixstowe. www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk

Visit Felixstowe is now being managed by Felixstowe Business Improvement District (BID). As well as looking after the website and social media, the BID is also working on new information leaflets and maps for the Tourist Information huts on the seafront. The BID has also secured funding to enable our Visit Felixstowe ambassadors to access the internet, and therefore offer real time information to visitors, and has applied to take the Visit Felixstowe message to the Suffolk Show.



CHANNEL FESTIVAL

A WEEKEND OF FREE ACTIVITIES INSPIRED BY OUR RELATIONSHIP TO THE SEA - Events | Workshops | Exhibition | Discussion



A weekend of arts and health events inspired by the sea is launching in Felixstowe across 18-20th March.

Channel Festival will explore the profound role of the sea in our lives and its impact on our mental and physical wellbeing.

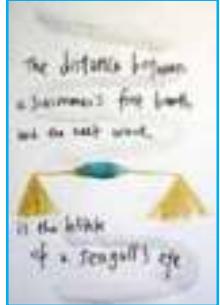
Across the weekend, the programme will offer free activities including an exhibition by Lynn Dennison, several workshops for young people, families and sea swimmers as well as public art by Yva Jung and an online talk.

Developed by Pier Projects, the festival will celebrate Felixstowe's coastal position and recent Blue Flag status and is inspired by its history as a Victorian spa town and the active sporting communities.

The theme for this pilot edition is 'Open Water' and is dedicated to the brave and bold sea swimming community in Felixstowe who 'take the plunge' whatever the weather to connect physically and mentally with nature. Against the backdrop of the pandemic, the theme also asks timely questions about what 'health' means to us now.

Reflecting the fluid, dynamic nature of the sea, events will take place in multiple locations across the town and online.

Find out What's On, Event Bookings and to Get Involved visit the website, www.channelfestival.co.uk



Channel Festival is developed and curated by Pier Projects delivered in partnership with Hamilton Micro Arts Space and supported by Felixstowe Library and East of England Coop. It is funded by Suffolk County Council through Covid Continuity Fund for Culture and East Suffolk District Council's Enabling Communities Grant.

Two Sisters Arts Centre



On March 4th Two Sisters Arts Centre, Trimley St.

Mary (opposite The Mariners Pub) reopens for the new season with an eclectic mix of music, drama and performance art to cater for every taste.

This fabulous little pocket arts venue for the Felixstowe peninsula, undaunted by covid and the pandemic, kept a programme of events going during 2021 – and now has lots of exciting events planned for Spring and Summer 2022.



These include regular 'first Friday of the month' jazz evenings, the best of touring drama including three of Chekhov's short comedies in March, Three Men in a Boat and powerful holocaust show A Lesson from Auschwitz in April, one woman show Choice Grenfell, Gainsborough & The Modern Woman and Black & White Productions, The Muse of Newmarket in May, and new productions of Mrs Simpson in Felixstowe & Daniel Defoe - The Lockdown Diaries in June. Performance poet Luke Wright will bring his latest show also in May, Charlie Haylock will be celebrating Suffolk Day in June and there'll be folk music from Elly Tree, Mizery Gutz, A Light Left On & Belinda Gillett.

Two Sisters are also supporting the Felixstowe Book Festival with three weekends of events including Martin Newell & The Hosepipe Band, Suffolk and the Sea writing workshops, RSC actor Michael Pennington In My Own Footsteps and various speakers on the Book Festival weekend itself, June 25th/26th.

They also plan their own Maritime Festival on the weekend of 15th – 17th July which will include shanty bands, storytelling and a poetry/prose night. In addition, they are supporting the regular monthly meetings of Felixstowe Café Poets and Folk & Roots, and F-Cat Youth Theatre is held every Saturday morning during term time.

To find out more visit the website twosistersarts.co.uk

All tickets available online from www.ticketsource.co.uk/two-sisters-arts-centre or from the Box Office on 01394 279613

Happy 70th Birthday Felixstowe Art Group!



The Felixstowe Art Group was formed on 28 April 1952 by an invited group of local artists initially under the name of the Deben Art Group. 70 years later we have 150 Members who continue to develop the range and interests of local artists with our own Bent Hill Gallery, weekly painting sessions, fortnightly talks and art demonstrations, outings, and celebration get-togethers.

March 2022 began with the annual drawing competition, the topics this year were Pots, Playtime and Pets and will be followed on 22 March with a Members only life drawing evening. The fortnightly program will continue in April with a talk on the 12 by Jane Cochrane on the Wonders of Negative Painting.

The Annual General Meeting will be held at 7.30pm on April 26. Members are encouraged to attend as it will be an opportunity to mark our 70th birthday as well as incorporating the catalogue cover and poster competition: the winning entry will be used for the 70th Annual Exhibition publications.

Ken Cuthbert, one of the original Members of the Group was still exhibiting his work in August 2021 at the Annual Exhibition.



On May 10, Tania Harrington will speak on the History of Plants in Art and follow on 24 May with a demonstration on painting flowers. In June, there will be an illustrated talk on The Garden

Museum and plans for Benton End which is to be revived as an inspiration to artists as was its original purpose.

Just as the founders of the Felixstowe Art Group intended to support and inspire artists working throughout the year, the Group is keeping the spirit of art alive and well in its 70th anniversary year.

Amanda Given, Publicity Secretary, Felixstowe Art Group
For further information go to www.felixstoweartgrou.org

Music in Felixstowe



Music In Felixstowe has been putting on top professional concerts and events of all sorts of music for over 15 years. During lockdown we hosted at least 70 performances online, which can be seen on our website www.felixstowemusic.com. We have now resumed live performances to the great delight of our audiences who come from all over Suffolk and beyond.

We like to present an eclectic mix of concerts so that everyone is catered for, particularly presenting some of the more highbrow in a way that takes the "class" out of classical music.

We have been invited to take part in several performances for the Jubilee celebrations and these will be announced on our website.

Other performances linked to the Jubilee include the orchestra/choir concert in the Summer, a prom concert with soprano Christina Johnston on June 17th at the Spa theatre and 70 years of Children's Favourites on May 25th.



Sunday March 20th at 3.00pm, St Andrew's Church.

The Brook Street Band baroque musicians. Tickets £15 (children free)

Friday April 8th at 7.30pm. Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club- Old Time Music Hall. Tickets £15 (children free)

Wednesday April 20th at 12 noon, Orwell Hotel Lordship's Library Harrison Cole piano and Harriet Bennett cello. Tickets £12 (children free).

Wednesday May 25th at 12 noon, Orwell Hotel Library, "Children's Favourites" 70 years of popular songs and words with Emily Bennett and friends. Tickets £12 (children free)



Tickets from Stillwater Books and from Music In Felixstowe on 01394 670633. Contact us on musicinfelixstowe@gmail.com For further information see our website www.felixstowemusic.com



Felixstowe Musical Theatre plans to meet in person for the first time in over two years. A series of singing workshops will take place over the coming months. The first event, titled 'Have You Ever Wanted to Sing...

Musicals?' will take place on Thursday 10th March from 7.15pm, upstairs in the Conservative Club, 28 High Road West, Felixstowe, IP11 9JB. Open to all ages and to former members as well as newcomers, the evenings will be an informal gathering and will include ensemble singing followed by the opportunity to try out solos and duets. Each workshop will feature a particular genre, starting with songs from the musicals, then future evenings will incorporate popular music as well. The Conservative Club bar will be available until 10pm. Future workshop dates are Thursday 14th April and Thursday 12th May, both will take place in the Conservative Club and start at 7.15pm.

Each session will cost £5.

For more information and to book a place, please email the Secretary nat.free33@googlemail.com to receive a booking form, or please visit their website www.felixstowemusicaltheatre.co.uk.

Felixstowe Book Festival 2022

After the success of last year's Felixstowe Book Festival at its popular new location at Harvest House, the Festival will be held on 25-26th June 2022 and will be back at the iconic Edwardian clifftop building, in the beautiful Palm Court and the Conservatory. A programme will also run at the Two Sisters Arts Centre in Trimley St Martin.

"Last year everyone, authors, audience members and volunteers, loved being at Harvest House," said Meg Reid, Festival Director, who began the Festival ten years ago. "We are very grateful that the residents are welcoming us back."

Authors coming to Felixstowe include actor/author Stephen McGann, (Dr. Turner) with his book 'Call the Midwife, a Labour of Love', best-selling author Patrick Gale, Festival Patron, Esther Freud talking to Tessa Hadley, broadcaster Justin Webb, and husband and wife thriller team Nikki Gerrard and Sean French, who write as Nikki French. Author and actress Carol Drinkwater, after two years of attending the festival remotely, will be coming to Felixstowe in person from her home in France.

"As always, The Festival has something for everyone whether you like to read fiction or non-fiction, current affairs, history, science, crime or popular culture" explained Meg. "There is a full list on the Festival website."



To mark the 2022 Festival of Suffolk, the Saturday programme at the Two Sisters Arts Centre in Trimley, will be on the theme of 'Suffolk and the Sea' and plans are underway for this to be a book festival that is possible to get to by boat!

On Sunday 26th June, at Two Sisters, there is a programme of workshops and speakers for an 'Emerging Writers Day', led by author Dr Amanda Hodgkinson, from University of Suffolk. Returning this year, after a two-year break, is the short story competition which is open to all. The closing date is midnight on Friday 6th May, and details are on the website.



To launch the Festival, Martin Newall and the Hosepipe Band are performing music and poetry, at the Two Sisters Arts Centre on Saturday 11th June.

Full details of all authors and events are on the festival website

www.felixstowebbookfestival.co.uk and tickets are available from the New Wolsey Box Office (01473 295900)



Felixstowe Men's Shed

'The Shed' continues to grow and produce projects for the community.

In November, we were asked by Trimley St. Martin Church to produce full-size silhouette figures depicting the five stations of the birth of Christ. The time frame was tight but a collective approach allowed the project to develop with sheets of plywood delivered and our resident signwriter transposing the small outlines provided into life size silhouettes. Members without jigsaw experience underwent training in safety and jigsaw use before tackling the outlines. The photograph depicts the crib with Jesus being completed. When all finished they showed Mary being visited by the angel Gabriel with news of the birth; the journey to Bethlehem, the manger with the crib, Mary and Joseph. The shepherds with their sheep being visited and the three wise men with their gifts. The five stations were erected in the churchyard with a lit trail giving the story. To enable the black silhouettes to be secure against storms they were attached to cut down scaffold poles and fixed in concrete wrapped in greased paper thus allowing removal with minimal trouble and ready for future displays. The project was completed on time and lit at night for a magical effect. Nearly all the members were involved and worked hard to come in under budget and on time.

Felixstowe Men's Shed is located at Great Street Farm, High Road, Trimley St. Mary IP11 1ON. Visit us on www.felixstmensshed.org.uk to see full details of opening times and what we are about.

If you visit YouTube Felixstowemensshed you will see the above project being undertaken.

Tony Allen,
Chairman.



**WE CARE
LIKE FAMILY**



CQC Rating
Good in All
5 Areas

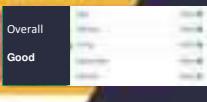
- ✓ Putting our residents at the heart of everything we do
- ✓ Hot meals cooked every day
- ✓ Respite Care Available

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10 Cobbold Rd, Felixstowe IP11 7HQ



Spring 2022



**Parish Nursing
Ministries UK**

Walton Parish Nursing continues to serve the community by offering physical, mental, social and spiritual support in a variety of ways. We provide health consultations and give health promotion advice, leg care, end of life care, chair based exercise classes and support with mental health issues, signposting and liaising with other health care providers including the three doctors' surgeries, working closely with the NHS.

Our chair-based exercises take place at Maidstone Road Baptist Church on a Wednesday morning from 10am and are open to all Walton residents, booking essential.

All our other groups are open to everyone wherever you live:

The health drop in clinic at St Philip's Community Hub alongside the pop up shop is on 2nd and 4th Tuesday each month from 11am as well as every Thursday from 10am.



The health drop in clinic at Collimer Court sheltered housing in Walton is once a month on a Wednesday, 10am to 12 noon. Please telephone WPN on 07969 901001 for confirmation of the date each month.

WPN also runs a craft group at Collimer Court on Wednesdays from 2pm to 3.30pm.

No Labels, our group for adults who experience issues with mental or emotional health, meets on 2nd and 4th Tuesday monthly, 1.30 to 3.30pm at Seaton Road Methodist Church Hall.

Fizzability, our group for working age people with challenging physical abilities, meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month 1 to 3pm at Seaton Road Methodist Church.

For information about any of our activities or to arrange a home visit please contact Walton Parish Nursing on 07969 901001/07909 888703 or email contactus@waltonpn.org.uk



Hearing
Advisory Service
Regd Charity No. 1001460



NHS

**MOBILE NHS HEARING AID MAINTENANCE SERVICE FOR
FELIXSTOWE**

Co-Op Car Park, Hamilton Road, Felixstowe. IP11 7DT

New Mobile Unit will be in Felixstowe on the first Monday of every month 10.00-12.00.

Please, PRE-BOOK your hearing aid repair.

We will dispense batteries and tubing without an appointment

T: 01473 286060

NO SERVICE JANUARY

4th April 2022

4th July 2022

3rd October 2022

7th February 2022

NO SERVICE MAY

3rd August 2022

3rd November 2022

9th March 2022

6th June 2022

5th September 2022

3rd December 2022

When using this service face coverings MUST be worn.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRE-BOOK BY PHONING 01473 286060 ANY AIDS NOT BOOKED WILL BE TAKEN BACK TO OUR CLINIC & POSTED BACK TO YOU (THE WILL NEED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE POSTAGE COSTS).

Suffolk Hearing Advisory Service, Suffolk House, 2 Wherstead Road, Ipswich. IP1 4PF.

Supported by SensingChange

(SensingChange) may be subject to change. For the latest up-to-date information on all of our clinics please check our website www.sensingchange.com



Our local MENCAP groups were delighted to be able to restart in October, after a break of a little over 18 months. It was wonderful to finally catch up with friends and renew acquaintances.

We have three friendly clubs, which all now meet at the Felixstowe Ferry Residential Centre on Ferry Road. We'd love to hear from any prospective new members – you can be assured of a very warm welcome.

The Gateway Club meets alternate Wednesday evenings between 7 and 9pm whilst Magic meets on the second and fourth Friday of each month - also between 7 and 9pm. Both of these social clubs cater for people with learning disabilities aged 16 upwards and provide opportunities for members to socialise and take part in a range of activities in a fun and supportive environment. The programme of activities is largely chosen by the members and includes a variety of games, arts and crafts, bingo, karaoke, cooking and yoga - to name just a few. We've also had visitors entertain us in the past with music, circus skills and magic tricks. We really enjoy going on trips in our mini-bus, with a visit to a local bowling alley being a firm favourite.

Drop-in meets most Saturday mornings between 09:30 and 11:45am. The current age range is between 8 and mid 30s, but we can take from 2 years upwards. This setting provides respite for parents and carers. Members can enjoy a variety of leisure and recreational activities, with fun days out during the year.

Please do get in touch if you'd like more details – whether to arrange to come along to a taster session or to discuss volunteering opportunities.

Gateway:	Simon Jennings	07971 910226
Magic:	Nicki Taylor	07899 971858
Drop-in:	Amy Peachey	07738 902914

Get that warm feeling

Worried about the rising cost of energy?



Warm Homes Suffolk

Warm Homes Suffolk is here to help. With grants and advice for those with a household income of under £30,000, get in touch with the Warm Feeling Fund to find out more about how they can help make your home warmer and more energy efficient while helping to reduce the cost of your bills.

Please visit www.warmhomessuffolk.org or call 03456 037 686.



A new lease of life for Felixstowe Memory Lane Dementia Support



Local home care company, Home Instead Ipswich, Felixstowe and Woodbridge, is pleased to announce that from the 1st January 2022 they entered into a co-operative agreement with Felixstowe Dementia Action

Alliance (FXDAA) to facilitate growth and a sustainable future for the Felixstowe Memory Lane Dementia Support Group.

The two organisations will be working together to run its flagship Memory Lane Café; a friendly, free and fun group that meets every alternate Friday at the Salvation Army Hall, Felixstowe, IP11 7EL to support those living with dementia and their carers. Thanks to local funding from East Suffolk Council Restart grant the Memory Lane will be opening again in Felixstowe on the 4th February 2022 with a new lease of life.

Memory Lane is well attended by the community in Felixstowe and has over the years received many donations from local businesses and individuals. In addition to a new working partnership the FXDAA and Home Instead will facilitate further positive changes with a provision of a dementia trained co-ordinator funded by East Suffolk Council Boost Grant.

In recent months, the group has been led by Sally Gallant and several volunteers from the local community, who kindly stepped in to run the Café in order to keep it going. The Café is a lifeline and attendees would like to thank all the volunteers for their efforts. Memory Lane is now seeking to establish a steering group to drive things forward. Sally Gallant has a wealth of experience supporting Memory Lane and is delighted to take on the role of Acting Chair. Sally said, "supporting people living with dementia to be part of our community and not apart from it, is both vital and rewarding. Ideal candidates to join me on the steering group would be local community, health or business representatives, carers or people living with dementia." For more information, please contact Wendy at Home Instead on 01473 272301.

Helen Greengrass, the current chair of the Felixstowe Dementia Action Alliance, said: "We are really pleased to be collaborating with Home Instead. Their professional experience with supporting people living with dementia in our community will be invaluable to the group. Home Instead will also provide access to local information, signposting to resources and information on local care providers that will help those attending the group." Wendy Chard, community engagement officer and dementia champion for Home Instead, said: "I am really looking forward to working with local families to support their loved ones. At Home Instead, we understand how challenging some days can be and we want to help people to live well with dementia. Our aim is to be there to support the members of the group and to do this over a cup of tea and cake, while having some fun! We are very excited to be involved in this collaboration."



Felixstowe Dementia Action Alliance and Home Instead aspire to open a second group for the local community and are actively seeking new members and volunteers in the area.

To find out more about Felixstowe Memory Lane Support Group and their upcoming plans, please call Wendy from Home Instead on 01394 617558.

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Old Felixstowe Community Association

After recent times, Old Felixstowe Community Association is really looking forward to a better year in 2022 and with the Platinum Jubilee to enjoy there is a great deal of optimism in the air.

The Association is holding an exhibition in the Wyn Brackley Hall from 10am - 1pm on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th June. Memorabilia will be on display reflecting the Queen's reign and photos depicting many of the visits made by the Royal family to Felixstowe. Refreshments will be served, and we hope to make this a real community event. In addition to the exhibition, on Saturday 4th June we are planting an apple tree on the grassed area adjacent to the Community Centre and unveiling a picnic bench which can be used by the community.

We hope that you will be able to join us for what will be a memorable time for the country.

The Community Centre in Ferry Road remains a vibrant hub for the community and many groups and organisations meet regularly in the building.

The Centre is also available for private hire so if you would like more information, please contact our administrator on 07494 599265 or email ofcabookings@gmail.com.



Celia Page, Chairman



Felixstowe Museum: 'Star Wars Day' and The Race for Space

Spring sees the opening of the 1980s themed exhibition at the museum. This season we will be opening on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays and your first chance to see this festival of mullets, shell suits and shoulder pads is Saturday the 2nd April. So do come along and 'Ag-a-doo-doo-doo, push pineapple, shake the tree' to our fantabulous 80s soundtrack. If you know your DMC DeLorean from your Run-DMC, and are a fan of Flash Dance, Fame or Frankie this show is for you.

A frequent comment is that we are not open frequently enough, so this year we are opening on Saturdays as an experiment – however, we still need extra support from the community – so if you have any time you could spare to help your community museum open more often – do get in touch. If you want to have an informal chat about volunteering call me on 01394 674 355 or email felmuseum@btopenworld.com

There are a number of great events for the family at Landguard this Spring. Landguard Fort have their Easter trail from Saturday 9th to Sunday the 24th April and at the Museum next door we have the famous 'Great Felixstowe Easter Egg Hunt' on Wednesday and Thursday the 13th and 14th of April. This year 'Star Wars Day' - May the Fourth (be with you) falls on a day we are open so we are launching our 1980s Science Fact and Fiction activity 'The Race for Space' on Wednesday the 4th May. This fantastic trail through the Museum is inspired by the AT-AT (All Terrain Armoured Transport) which was spotted, hiding in plain site, at The Port of Felixstowe last Star Wars Day. The AT-ATs made their first appearance in the 'Empire Strikes Back' movie which was launched in 1980, so we decided for this seasons topical trail to hide a variety of real and fantasy space and sci-fi models around the Museum. Aimed at all ages, you will have to solve clues and answer questions with different puzzles for kids, adults and sci-fi aficionados, so the whole family should be able to join in. If you know your 'Enterprise' (fact) from your 'Enterprise' (fiction) or can identify what series the hidden 'Enterprise' is from, you will enjoy this trip from DeLoreans to Transformers, Terminator to Tron and understand why 'Flash is Alive' and ET struggled to 'phone home.'

Andy Calver, Museum Manager and Curator

Landguard Fort



Landguard Fort opens for the 2022 season on Friday April 1st and will be open Thursday to Sunday during term-time and every day during the school holidays.

From the musket ball to the nuclear bomb there's over 400 years of military, social and geo-political history in both the building itself and the many exhibits on offer for visitors to discover, experience and enjoy.... and we've lots of special events planned for spring-time too:

- On the 2nd and 3rd April the 95th Rifles will be at the fort re-enacting this elite regiment of the Napoleonic era – cooking and eating authentic rations and practising the drills and tactics that were refined on the battlefields over 200 years ago.
- Then on the 9th and 10th April come and experience 'Landguard At War' when over 50 living historians bring the fort to life. See how the men and women of the garrison would have lived – from the cookhouse to their accommodation blocks, TV room, stores, guardhouse and more. See some of the best living historians of the period authentically replicate everyday life during World War 2.
- 23rd April is St George's Day, so why not visit Landguard Fort and celebrate with us?
- There will be Jubilee celebrations at Landguard Fort on Thursday 2nd June as part of Felixstowe's Jubilee celebrations bank-holiday weekend. Keep a look out for more exciting information on our website and social-media pages nearer the time.

Speaking about getting ready for the 2022 season General Manager Nicola Barker said "Offering an outstanding visitor experience is really important to us. We changed how we operate during 2021 to be Covid-safe, and those changes worked so well that we've some of them permanent. They include time-specific bookings to spread visitor numbers throughout the day and a new one-way system around our attractions. We'll also re-introduce the audio guides which are very popular with our visitors as well as a brand new multi-media tour guide which visitors can download to their smart phone or tablet"

For more information and to book tickets please visit www.landguard.com

The Great Felixstowe Museum

EASTER EGG HUNT

Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 April 2022

Come and join in the fun Easter Egg Hunt at Felixstowe Museum. For ages 3-10 years. Two sessions:
12.30pm-2pm AND 2.30pm-4pm
Children £6.00, adults £4.00
Pre-booking essential

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www.felixstowemuseum.org and
www.discoverlandguard.org.uk

SET Maidstone Infant & Causton Junior School Welcomes Merger

Staff, parents and pupils at SET Maidstone Infant and SET Causton Junior Schools have an extra reason to look forward to the start of a new term in September 2022, with the news that they will formally come together to form one all-through primary school at the start of the new academic year. The decision was approved by the Regional Schools Commissioner, and is in the final step in a process to bring the two schools, which operate under Seckford Education Trust, together as a single school, leading to corroborative benefits for our pupils and staff.



Being an all-through primary school will mean the school can take pupils from Reception through to Year Six and prepare them for secondary school, managing their progression seamlessly, as well as remove the need for unnecessary transition. Additionally, the curriculum will allow for more consistent approach to each child's academic experience.



Pupils will continue to learn in a secure and happy environment so they can enjoy, achieve and thrive during their learning journey whilst still experiencing the same small, family feel to the school. They will also benefit from specialist teaching for Art and P.E. in all classes, enrichment programmes for all pupils using the facilities on site, including forest school, as well as more variety in after school clubs. There will also be a variety of therapies available onsite through community collaboration such as play therapy, sports mentoring and music therapy. Additionally, the school is also exploring the idea of opening our school library up to the community, as part of our 'Literary Adventure' campaign which will continue to inspire our children's love of reading.

Our school aims to provide an aspirational and well-rounded education for all children in our community. Through our culture of high expectations and excellence, we want every child to become a successful citizen of the world, ready to take on any challenges and adventures in their future. Our aim is for children to grow into confident, thoughtful and highly motivated learners who unlock their potential in a creative and engaging environment.

"Educating children is a great responsibility and privilege. To be able to lead SET Maidstone and SET Causton School in this endeavour is an honour and a great source of pride," says Mrs. Lucy Thompson, Head of School at SET Maidstone Infant & Causton Junior School. "As both schools are less than 350m from each other I'm confident that the transition into one community will be smooth".



The Federation of
Fairfield and Colneis



Over the first half of spring term, the children at Fairfield Infant and Colneis Junior have enjoyed a rich school curriculum that has provided a multitude of exciting learning opportunities. You will see from our photographs that across all year groups, the children have shared their enthusiasm to learn, from celebrating Chinese New Year in our Nursery, to spending the day as a WWII evacuee in Year 6.



Reception celebrating Chinese New Year



Year 1 making penguins as part of the Antarctica project



Year 2 creating Aboriginal art as part of the Australia topic



Year 3 - recreating Van Gogh's Starry Night artwork

We look forward to the second half of term as we plan more activities for the children, including a performance at Seckford Theatre as well as joining with others across the school community as we celebrate World Book Day.

Mr Mark Girling, Headteacher, The Federation of Fairfield and Colneis

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Felixstowe Triathlon 2022

Entries are now open for the second Felixstowe Triathlon this August Bank Holiday weekend. Individuals and teams of all abilities can sign up to take part in the award-winning event, organized by Suffolk Tri with the support of East Suffolk Council and Felixstowe Town Council.

The second Felixstowe Triathlon sets off from the town's seafront on the morning of Sunday 28 August.

Last year's inaugural race was named 'Large Event of the Year 2021' for the East Region in the Triathlon England Awards and has been shortlisted for the National Awards in March.

Cllr Letitia Smith, East Suffolk Council's cabinet member for Communities, Leisure and Tourism, said "I am delighted to welcome the return of the triathlon to Felixstowe this August Bank Holiday weekend. Last year's event was a huge success and I congratulate the organisers on a well-deserved award from Triathlon England. This year's event will be another great opportunity for people to take part in a large sporting event, or to come along for a day out in Felixstowe and to cheer along competitors."

People can now sign up for the Sprint, Supersprint or Standard Distance, as individuals or teams of three. The Supersprint starts with a 300m swim in Felixstowe Leisure Centre's pool, while the Sprint and Standard races have an open water start with an 800m or 1,500m swim.

The swim will be followed by a 20km or 38km bike route through the Suffolk countryside, before returning via Felixstowe Ferry to finish with a 3km, 5km or 10km run along the Prom.

To sign up and secure a place visit the Felixstowe Triathlon website www.felixstowetriathlon.uk

A new service from
Level Two Youth Project,
supported by
a fully qualified school nurse.



Friday 18th of March for 6 weeks at the
Grove Medical Centre, Felixstowe.
From 5pm until 6.30pm.

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11 to 19 year olds in Felixstowe
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C-cards
Healthy eating
Bullying

For more information please contact
07724 356723

Rollerskating is returning to Felixstowe

Ipswich Skating Club up until Covid had a very strong presence in Felixstowe using the facilities at Felixstowe Academy, running 'Learn to Skate' and 'training for its competitive skaters' it catered for between 50 and 80 local skaters of all ages each week for 50 weeks a year.

For two years we have had nowhere to skate and no idea if or when we would be able to return to Felixstowe School again.

Salvation came when we were contacted by Mannings Amusements in late January with a very generous offer of a home and facilities in the covered market area at the Beach Street development to develop a learn to skate' and social skating scene for the people of Felixstowe.

This started with two well supported half term 'learn to skate' sessions and we are now developing regular weekly 'learn to skate' and 'social' skating sessions to run throughout the Summer months.

Roller skating is one of the few sports that can be enjoyed by the whole family from early years up to the age of at least 87 - the age of the oldest club member skating regularly with us now.

As a club we can offer you a chance to skate just for fun or to progress in any of the roller disciplines right up to international level. The club currently has multiple national Champions, check us out at skateipswich.com or on our Facebook page and get in touch.



Santa and Rudolph's Magic...

The Rotary Club of Felixstowe were delighted to get Santa and Rudolph back on the road for Christmas 2021. They were well received by young and old with Santa certainly having lost none of the magic for the children. We wish to thank

the generosity of our donors and the hard work of our supporters (drivers, Santas and collectors) in raising a record £9,645 for Rotary and Save the Children causes.



Iconic Café on South Seafront

As part of East Suffolk Council's ongoing investment in Felixstowe's South Seafront, the development of a new iconic café has now been completed, bringing the new exciting resort experiencing one step closer.

The building, which was constructed by Barnes Constructions, will house a new café called 'The Kitchen @ Felixstowe', run by the district council's operational partner, The Kitchen @ Group. The internal fit out of the space is currently being carried out by The Kitchen @ Group and will include a bakery counter, contemporary brasserie type menu and unrivalled sea views. Once completed, the café will play a key role in helping Felixstowe's recovery from the impact of Covid-19, attracting local people and visitors alike with indoor and outdoor dining with unspoilt views of the seafront. This will not only support tourism, but it will also help the economy by offering local employment opportunities, making the South Seafront an exciting place to visit, live, work and invest.



Beach Hut Village update

The construction of a new beach hut village on the South Seafront will now get under way in September, to avoid disruption which could impact this year's summer season and everything the South Seafront has to offer.



LANGER PARK



East Suffolk Council are making improvements to Langer Park.

Phase one included a public consultation and Suffolk Wildlife trust survey.

Phase two is currently ongoing with overgrown areas cleared, a trim trail installed around the park and overhanging branches at the entrances cut back.

Phase three will shortly commence with new signage installed, refurbishment of toilets, a new play area created and tree planting.

If you have any questions, please contact: Leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk



Digital Town Project



Felixstowe will be one of the first towns to benefit from a £1.1million programme to establish free high street Wi-Fi and shopping offers in East Suffolk which is scheduled to go live in April. A successful pilot in Framlingham back in 2019 prompted East Suffolk Council's cabinet to agree a major investment plan into a further 11 'digital towns', which will see free Wi-Fi provided in town centres. It also includes online promotions to attract shoppers, footfall tracking data for businesses, high street apps, town websites and other benefits.

What benefits will it bring?

Free public Wi-Fi

- Visitors can access the internet for free whilst in a Wi-Fi zone, eliminating the need to use their own data and avoiding any issues with poor 3G/4G signal.
- The Wi-Fi landing page will be directed to the local town website (e.g Visit Felixstowe), to present information about the town, and so that visitors can search easily for information about what's on, where shops are located, where to eat etc.
- Free Wi-Fi encourages visitors to dwell longer in the town and makes the town more digitally accessible.

Town promotion

- Option for Wi-Fi users to sign up to receive marketing emails about the town.
- E-newsletters will be sent out regularly to promote the town, events, and offers.
- Direct engagement with the visitors to your town. Data about your town
- Footfall counters and Wi-Fi usage data provide insight into how your town is used, where visitors go, how long they stay for etc
- Data can be used to plan events and develop strategies for town recovery.

Business support

- A comprehensive package of support to help businesses in the town maximise their online potential. This will include a high street programme and a grant scheme. Continued support will also be offered to towns about digital presence. The programme will align with other Economic Development place and business projects, such as digital trails, 'Click It Local' and other initiatives.

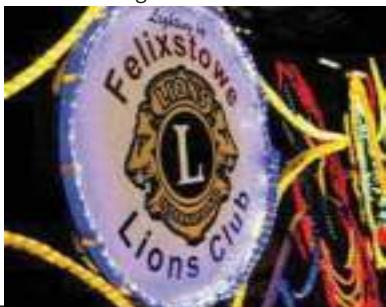
Community Grants now available

Calling all local Community Groups...

This year there will be two rounds of Occasional Grant applications for those charities and local groups looking for funding for equipment or a project which will benefit the residents of Felixstowe. The total fund of £25,000, will have two closing dates **31 May** and **30 November**. This past year a total of 28 community groups have been helped by our Occasional Grant and Annual Grant scheme. Here are just three of those that we have recently helped:

Lions Club of Felixstowe

Grant towards new store and workshop for the Christmas Lights



Felixstowe Detachment Army Cadets

Improving communications delivery



Boost, based at Felixstowe School

Bereavement Counselling and Mentoring



Any properly constituted group, club or organisation based in Felixstowe and/or operating for the benefit of its residents can apply.

Please see our website for details www.felixstowe.gov.uk/grants. If you need help with the application process or to submit your completed application form please contact Debbie Frost, debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk or 01394 288192.

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Felixstowe
Branch

**FELIXSTOWE
REMEMBERS**

In my role as Branch Chairman of the Royal British Legion things are generally quite quiet at this time of year, but we are busy planning for upcoming events. We have started up a Veterans' Breakfast meetup at The Station Cafe in Great Eastern Square, the first one was 22nd February and we plan to do these every last Tuesday of the month starting at 9am. Posters will be up in town and the information will be shared on the RBL Facebook page.

As part of the Queen's Jubilee celebrations in Felixstowe we are planning to hold a parade through the town on Thursday 2nd June, this will involve the towns three cadet units and any other organisation who has the Queen as their patron, more details will be published about this closer to the time. We are also planning for the 40th Anniversary of the Falklands War, this will involve a service at the War Memorial. If you or anyone you know served in the South Atlantic during the conflict please get in touch with me.

We are always on the lookout for new members of our Branch Committee, so if you would like to get involved with organising Remembrance events, Poppy Appeal and other veteran related activities please get in touch. We are very open to new ideas and have a vision of making Felixstowe Branch the best in not only the County but across the Country. You don't need to have served in the military but you will need to become a member of the Royal British Legion.

You can get in touch with me via our Facebook page or felixstowe.chairman@rbl.community

Darren Aitchison BEM
Chairman





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