

Summer

Issue 13 The Seasonal Magazine for Felixstowe Residents

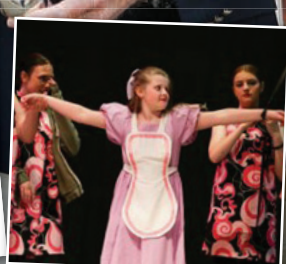
2022



FELIXSTOWE
TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN HALL

FELIXSTOWE
TOWN
COUNCIL



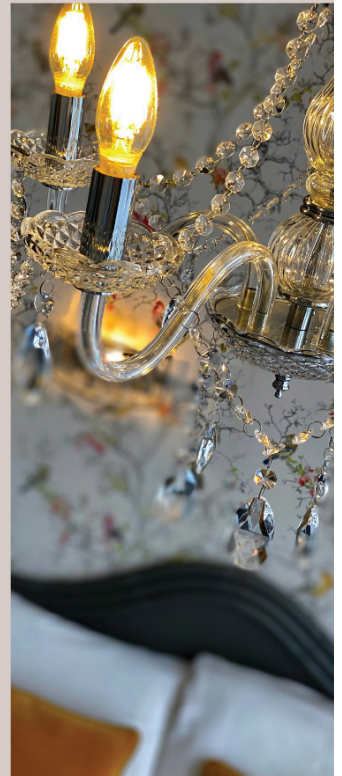
- 2022 Blue Flag and Seaside Award
- Meet the new Mayor!
- Jubilee Felixstowe Celebrations
- Read the Annual Report
- The Mayor's Chosen Charities... and Much More

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Meet the new Mayor!



And there's more! From the Festival of the Sea's colourful parade of boats, to a royal literary feast at the Felixstowe Book Festival, to Friday Proms and weekend music spectacular at our Flagship event. Yes! Felixstowe Carnival is back; Heroes and Villains are at the ready and there may even be a fearsome dinosaur or two at the Carnival Parade.

Hello Felixstowe!

I am truly honoured to be elected Mayor of Felixstowe for the upcoming municipal year.

I love summer, and there is no better way to enjoy the Suffolk summer sunshine than at one (or many!) of Felixstowe's fabulous festivals and events.

What a fantastic way to kick-off our summer programme with the joyful Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Felixstowe held a worthy celebration for Her Majesty The Queen, with four-days of entertainment and fun that were fit for royalty. In fact, my first Mayoral engagement was a sneak preview of the Festival of Suffolk Torch Relay at Inspire Suffolk. The 588-mile Torch Relay, which later made its way through the flag-waving crowds of Felixstowe carried by our 'Jubilee Jewel of Felixstowe' Civic Awards winner, John Cresswell, is a symbol of a bright future for Suffolk.

A Platinum Parade and Proclamation at the Town Hall, an official RAF flypast, an atmospheric Beacon Lighting at Landguard Fort, two days of music and entertainment at the Beachside Events Area, and a rain-proof Big Jubilee Lunch hosted at Felixstowe Leisure Centre – the Platinum Jubilee weekend was a celebration to remember! Red, white and blue displays adorned shop windows, newly planted birch trees shimmer and stood tall aligning along town centre, and Felixstowe was blessed with glorious sunshine as crowds united to celebrate this momentous occasion for the country. Honouring Her Majesty's 70 dedicated years on the throne, the Jubilee weekend provided a chance to reconnect with neighbours and friends for this royal milestone. A spread of photos from this spectacular celebration can be found on pages 14 and 15.

Summer 2022 is also predicted to be the busiest tourist season ever, so I am proud to share even more great news. Firstly, that Felixstowe has once again been awarded The Blue Flag and Seaside Award for the quality of its beaches and bathing water. Both flags are flying high next to the historic Manwick Shelter recognising Felixstowe as a top beach, one of Suffolk's best!

Secondly, 'The Kitchen @ Felixstowe' café, is now open – a bespoke and iconic building with one of the best seafront views along the Suffolk coast. At a recent meeting with East Suffolk Council and Felixstowe Town Council, it was exciting to hear of the continued investment to improve Felixstowe's South Seafront area, which you can read all about in this edition of the magazine.

Another exciting project which launched recently is '@inc Felixstowe' on Hamilton Road. A joint project of MENTA (a business support organisation operating across Suffolk and Norfolk) and Penn Commercial (Ipswich property agency) supported by East Suffolk Council, @inc is a new working and meeting space to help home-working employees, freelancers and micro-businesses. If, like me, you are working from home, you will know it has its benefits and its challenges too. @inc offers space, is open 24/7, providing superfast broadband and Zoom rooms for private telephone calls, meetings and training.

I very much look forward to meeting you out and about over the summer. In the meantime, enjoy this edition of the magazine!

If you would like to contact me, please feel free to send me an email via mayor@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 (Autumn, covering September 2022 – December 2022) send it via email to enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk by Friday 15th August.

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 will be available in future editions 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 Holly Miles
Other photo credits: Stephen Squirrell, Nick Barrett-White

Getting in Touch

Drop into 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**

Meet the Mayor's Chosen Charities

The Mayor of Felixstowe chooses a number of charities to support over the duration of their Mayoral term. Meet the Mayor's chosen charities for the municipal year 2022/23! Look out for a soon-to-be released Events Programme, which will outline all of the exciting Mayor's Charity Events scheduled to take place over the following year. In the meantime, you can find out all about the Mayor's chosen charities below:



Felixstowe Community Hospital League of Friends

Supporting Felixstowe Hospital and health service in caring for our community.

The Felixstowe Hospital League of Friends is a local based charity that seeks to support the Felixstowe Hospital and local health services.

We raise funds through local publicity and events, to fund items that the NHS are not always able to easily provide themselves. Whilst this includes technical equipment it also includes items that make any patient's stay better and improves the working environment of staff. During the pandemic, whilst fundraising was restricted, we still managed to provide valuable items; ward furniture, wheelchairs, patient bed socks, daily newspapers and a staff kettle.

We also work closely with the Hospital staff and the NHS Trust, petitioning to ensure that the Hospital retains the valuable healthcare services that our community and visitors to Felixstowe need.



The Compass

Finding the right direction

"I knew this would be hard, but I had no idea how hard. These were the words of a fellow trustee as we approached the first anniversary of The Compass in April 2022. Never a truer word.

What do we do?

Through employed and voluntary outreach workers, The Compass works with individuals and families to improve life skills, manage household budgets, address debt, tackle anxiety and loneliness, improve parenting and

much more. Using both internal and external resources the outreach workers and volunteers don't just signpost but actively support the engagement, such as reminding individuals of appointments. Sometimes the needs are practical, such as support to get homes and gardens back under control, writing a CV, completing benefits forms or improving IT skills, but very often it is providing advocacy when attending medical, Job Centre or school appointments.

Operating out of the first floor of Christ Church, Grange Farm Avenue, the service users have a space where they feel safe and heard. As a Christian charity, The Compass follows the example of Jesus who was always ready to listen and treat with respect those who came to him for help.

At the initial appointment there is frequently (and increasingly) a need for emergency food or fuel. Whilst The Compass will try to help (within its restricted funding), the essential question asked is how things got this bad and what can be done to stop it being this desperate in future. At its heart The Compass seeks to move people from dependence to independence. Yes it's hard work, but vital.

Article provided by Dee Balshaw.



Felixstowe Opportunity Group

Felixstowe Opportunity Group was started 30 years ago by parents of children with additional needs for other parents of children with similar needs. The idea was to provide support and respite for these families who so desperately needed it. Over the years, the group saw a few changes in the committee that ran it, but they always held to their core values of offering this support. Things began to change within the education system as schools and nurseries became more

inclusive, so the committee at the time were considering the group become a place for holiday support. Of course, everything changed once the pandemic hit and everything had to close. Parents tried to find other means of getting that support, some formed groups of their own and went to Zoom, while others just did the best they could with what they had.

Once things started to open up, the committee members had decided that it was time to move on and offered the building and charity to the community to see if anyone else wanted to continue what was started all those years ago.

Stevie Collin got a group of friends together, Denise Blackall, Sandy Battiste, Jennifer Sheppard, Stacey Lewis and Mary Ellis, and formed a new committee. Although they wanted to stick with the core values of the group a new set of additional needs had arisen, and so Little Foggies was born. Little Foggies sessions are for all children under school age and their parents. These parents and children have missed out on 2 years of peer support, social support and learning because there have been no Mum and Tot groups. The sessions are thriving, and children who were at first very nervous are now finding their confidence and playing with others. Parents are able to talk to other parents in a fun friendly environment without judgement and can get ideas for their family, as well as a cuppa and lots of support.

We are still also running SEN sessions but, of course, most of the little ones who attended before the pandemic are now at school so we are working with Health Visitors and Speech Therapists to encourage parents who may need our services to come along and give us a try.

As well as the sessions for under 5s, we are now also offering after school sessions and will be looking at life skills for teens as well as a whole host of other services and fun family stuff. We are excited to be working with the Mayor of Felixstowe for the coming year and working alongside the other charities chosen by the Mayor for her year-long term.



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:

www.felixstowe.gov.uk

or call 01394 282086 or visit

- 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
- The locally funded Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)
- 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, 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, Railway Hill and Taunton 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

- 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
- 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 (note: currently the police are the only on-street parking enforcement authority)
- Licensing, Environmental and Port Health
- Leisure services (in conjunction with Places Leisure)



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

www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk
Or call 0333 016 2000 or visit



Suffolk County Council is the top tier of local

government, providing services on a county-wide basis and is responsible for:

www.suffolk.gov.uk

Or call 0345 606 6067 or visit

- 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

Felixstowe Fairtrade Forum

This photo of members of our committee was taken at a recent social event. We are supporting the Felixstowe march for climate justice which takes place on 2 July. Climate justice was highlighted in this year's Fairtrade Fortnight which took place in February/March and we are pleased to lend our support to this local initiative. Climate change is already badly affecting farmers and producers in the developing world, and the Fairtrade Foundation works with Fairtrade producers to help them mitigate some of its effects, such as by planting native trees and adopting more sustainable farming practices. Buying Fairtrade is one way in which people can begin to address the problems created by climate change and the disproportionate effect it has on low-income countries. The march, taking place along the prom, starts at 2pm opposite the Fludyers. Everyone is welcome to join and the organisers, Felixstowe Community Nature Reserve, are hoping for a big turnout. For further details visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/events/400125218611886/.



Felixstowe is a Fairtrade Town and the Felixstowe Fairtrade Forum co-ordinates activities supporting Fairtrade in Felixstowe. We offer a warm welcome to new members and you can find out more by visiting our website at www.felixstowe-fairtrade.org.uk.

Town Councillors 2020/2023

Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Sharon Harkin

Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Mick Richardson

Coastal Ward

Darren Aitchison

darren.aitchison@felixstowe.gov.uk
07479 556736



Nick Barber

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07876 757268



Seamus Bennett

seamus.bennett@felixstowe.gov.uk
07818 664751



Steve Gallant *

steve.gallant@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 276336



Sharon Harkin

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01394 671758



Mark Jepson *

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01394 278622



Doreen Savage

doreen.savage@felixstowe.gov.uk
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Steve Wiles * **

steve.wiles@felixstowe.gov.uk
07986 566225



Marshes Ward

Mick Richardson *

mick.richardson@felixstowe.gov.uk
07946 028517



Port Ward

Stuart Bird * **

stuart.bird@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 275128



Tracey Green *

tracey.green@felixstowe.gov.uk
07759 218476



Graham Newman **

graham.newman@felixstowe.gov.uk
07802 397905



Andy Smith

andy.smith@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 283283



Walton Ward

Mike Deacon *

mike.deacon@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 211146



Margaret Morris

margaret.morris@felixstowe.gov.uk
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

Upcoming Council meetings

The Council comprises 16 Members representing four wards who are elected every four years. Council also delegates some of its functions to its Committees. Please note forthcoming meeting dates below:

6 July	Planning & Environment	9.15am
6 July	Assets & Services	7.30pm
13 July	Finance & Governance	7.30pm
20 July	Planning & Environment	9.15am
3 Aug	Planning & Environment	9.15am
17 Aug	Planning & Environment	9.15am
7 Sept	Planning & Environment	9.15am
7 Sept	Full Council	7.30pm
14 Sept	Civic & Community	7.30pm

Note: all meetings listed are open to the press and public, who are also welcome to attend online via Zoom. 15 minutes are set aside for public participation, during which time members of the public can speak or ask a question. Details on when meetings take place, the matters for consideration and records of decisions made are all available 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 Tadjrishi – 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

Your Community Stories

Felixstowe's beaches receive a 2022 Blue Flag and Seaside Award



Felixstowe's beaches have once again been presented with a Blue Flag and Seaside Award for the year 2022 from Keep Britain Tidy. To be awarded a Blue Flag, beaches must comply with several criteria covering environmental education and information, water quality, environmental management, safety, and services. Felixstowe was awarded the accolade in recognition for the quality of the beach, the way it is managed and the facilities it offers to visitors. Felixstowe is one of only two beaches in Suffolk to be presented with the Blue Flag and Seaside Award for the year 2022.

Both the Blue Flag and Seaside Award are flying from the flagpole in Arwela Road. If you're planning a walk along the prom, or a trip to the beach, see if you can spot them!

Opening of @inc Felixstowe



Funded by Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders as part of the Suffolk's Covid-19 Recovery Plan, the Suffolk Inclusive Growth Investment Fund is now supporting 15 projects across the county, with additional contributions secured from New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. The fund's investment to date of £1.3 million is supporting projects with a total investment value of £4.2 million.

The refurbishment of an empty shop in Felixstowe, @inc provides collaborative business space and support and a comprehensive programme of services for local businesses, their employees, and those looking for work. Contact @inc Felixstowe by emailing: space@menta.co.uk

East Suffolk Council Public Wifi Project



Free-to-use public Wi-Fi is now available in Felixstowe

To support local towns and businesses, East Suffolk Council is delivering a range of digital projects which aim to strengthen the local economy and improve connectivity within the district's market towns.

One of these projects is the East Suffolk Digital Towns programme which will digitally transform market towns through the installation of free public Wi-Fi (also in seafront areas), digital footfall counters and town marketing platforms alongside a business support programme.

Supported by funding from the Getting Building Fund and New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership's Innovative Projects fund, this new technology will be combined with bespoke business support, helping local businesses and the towns in which they are based, to grow.

Visitors to the towns can easily get online and will also have the option of signing up to receive news, offers and information to support local businesses.

Specially designed signage in the town will indicate locations where free Wi-Fi is available. New technology will enable the council to understand the number of visitors to the town, the busiest periods, the average time people spend in the town centre and more. This will enable the council's Economic Development Team to provide tailored support for local businesses.

In addition to digital infrastructure, East Suffolk council is working with Menta to deliver the Digital Springboard for businesses. Businesses can sign up to get access to free training, advice, diagnostics and funding to support their digital understanding and growth. For more information please contact economicdevelopment@eastsuffolk.gov.uk. Find out more about Digital Towns www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/digital-towns

Boo! Fancy a scaring at Landguard?



The hugely successful Little Fort of Horrors is returning to the Landguard Peninsula at

Felixstowe, Suffolk this year - and we are now on the hunt for scarers!

Fancy joining in the fun and helping us give our victims (we mean visitors!) a night out to remember at one of the most haunted places in Britain? Then we would love to hear from you. No acting experience is needed, but you must be over 18, up for getting in costume and be available on the nights of Friday 28 and Saturday 29 October from 1830-2330.

The Little Fort of Horrors was first held in 2013 and is one of the Landguard Peninsula's most popular events. The last one held in 2019 saw a visit by the ScareTOUR website who visit, and review scare attractions around Europe. They said, "The creepy corridors, impressive jump scares and cleverly thought out set pieces, make this a very strong scare event".

A Scarers Meeting is being held at Landguard Fort on Thursday 30 June from 1830-1930 - so if you fancy becoming a volunteer scarer then come along to learn more about this year's event. No need to register, just turn up! You can also email us for information at landguardenquiries@eastsuffolk.gov.uk www.discoverlandguard.org.uk/whats-on/little-fort-of-horrors



Felixstowe Men's Shed (FMS)



Busy times again at Felixstowe Men's Shed! Our main recent project has been completed and delivered. The previous Mayor, Cllr Mark Jepson, contacted us last year seeking to have six large raised beds for a project at Langer Primary Academy, making and providing them so the students of Langer can grow and learn about vegetables within the curriculum at school.

A source of reclaimed timber was established and used, requiring planning and smoothing the tops so splinters are avoided. Each planter was 8x4 feet in size with a height of 18 inches. After preservative treatment they were assembled ready for delivery.

Once on site they were placed in a prepared area one Saturday morning when a team of volunteers assembled by the Mayor had them placed and filled with soil as if by magic in short time. The photo shows three of them in situ with Mark Jepson getting stuck in.

More projects roll along, some involving the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, both locally and one for the County. More in our next update.

The Wellness Garden is developing, and a new consultant is leading the way. New members are welcome; no skills necessary but a willingness to learn some or help in the garden as it develops.

Further details and opening times on our website:

www.felixstowemensshed.org.uk

Article provided by Tony Allen, Chairman

A Coastline Celebration



As part of the Festival of Suffolk and The Queen's Platinum Jubilee, the Festival of the Sea this June celebrated the rich coastline and maritime links of Suffolk and Essex. Located at the border of these two fine English counties, the Landguard Peninsula at Felixstowe sits alongside the Harwich Haven, the finest natural estuary in the East of England, where the rivers Orwell and Stour meet the sea.



A thriving area of commercial ports and pleasure sailing, the Peninsula played host to a series of exciting events and activities as part of the Festival of the Sea on Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 June.

Ahoy me Hearties! Landguard Fort and Felixstowe Museum were taken over by a swash-buckling weekend of pirate fun, including re-enactments, musket firing and a quiz trail. On Saturday 18 June, the Haven come alive with a grand Parade of Boats, including vessels from the Royal Navy, Trinity House, Harwich Haven Authority (HHA) and the RNLI. Flying colourful flags and bunting, the parade criss-crossed the waters. The View Point at Landguard was a key location to watch the parade and to meet the Felixstowe Coast Patrol with their boat and relevant displays.

The Landguard Peninsula is expected to be very busy this summer, so consider leaving your car at home and travel by public transport. The FirstGroup 77 bus links Landguard with the Felixstowe Railway Station, the main seafront and the large car park at Martello Park North. Alternatively, park at the Manor Terrace car park and enjoy a short 20-minute walk through the Landguard Nature Reserve.

The Fort is also hosting a new Art Installation - 'Journey with a Container' from visual artist Yva Jung and commissioned by Pier Projects. Exploring the hidden lives of seafarers, it will be open from Saturday 18 June to Friday 2 September.



Improvements to Langer Park in Felixstowe



East Suffolk Council are making improvements to Langer Park.

Phase one included a public consultation and Wildlife Trust survey.

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

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

If you have any question please contact: leisure@eastsuffolk.gov.uk



News from Lions Club of Felixstowe



Felixstowe Lions Club is glad to have recently been able to help support the current crisis appeal in the face of the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. We are sure we will be on hand with further help as needed.

At a recent meeting, we were given a presentation by Kim Balshaw from U2F (Ukraine to Felixstowe).

This is a charity group with the intention to help displaced Ukrainians by offering them accommodation with families in Felixstowe. Kim outlined the hardships experienced by the families and the difficulties they face in their long journeys to safety. He explained that several families are being hosted by Felixstowe residents. This is, of course, only a short term solution and more long-term arrangements will be required.

The Felixstowe Lions Club are pleased to have been responsible for the Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch, held on Sunday 5 June in Hamilton Road. A fantastic celebration and a true community event, the Big Lunch saw the Felixstowe community united to celebrate this Royal Milestone.

The April Easter Egg Hunt in the seafront gardens was a great success and just under £1,200 was raised. Next year, we hope to expand the hunt so even more children, and families, will be able to enjoy the event.

The first of the 2022 Antiques and Collectibles Sales was held recently at The Triangle. Despite a very wet and miserable morning, over £570 was raised and we thank all those who came along to support us. Hopefully the next event will take place in better weather!

The Lions have been really pleased to receive a cheque for £100 towards the Ukraine appeal from the owners of Bounty Fish and Chips - a very welcome donation. The photo shows President Richard Woolnough being presented with a cheque for £500 from local sea shanty group the Felix Stowaways, following a collection they held after a recent concert.

Dates for your diary:

We will again be holding the popular Antiques and Collectables sales on the Triangle on Saturdays the 2nd July and 3rd September. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you or someone you know in the community needs help, or if you'd like to join your local Lions Club, please contact us through our Facebook page, or email info@felixstowelions.org.uk.



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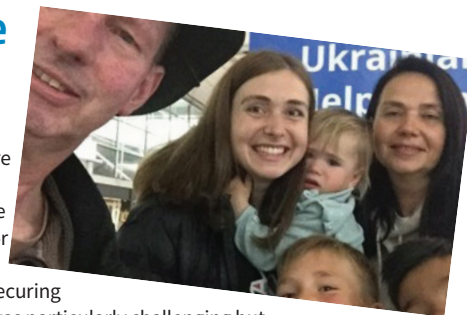
☎ 07808043127

🌐 www.clear-viewremovals.co.uk



Welcoming Ukrainians to Felixstowe

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in February, several Felixstowe residents were immediately keen to register to host under the Government's 'Homes for Ukraine' scheme. In the early weeks of the war, securing UK visas for Ukrainians was particularly challenging but thanks to the efforts of local resident, Kim Balshaw, several refugees have now been matched with a Felixstowe home.



Kim speaks warmly about the community response: "there have been so many offers of help but first and foremost of course we need people to open up their homes if they can. We particularly need help from people who can accommodate 3+ people which need larger properties to avoid already-traumatised families having to be split up. They have been through so much already that we need to make the experience as easy, as possible, for them."

Recently Lilia and her husband arrived in Felixstowe with their four young children, and her mother. Lilia said, "We obviously dream of returning to our life in Ukraine as soon as possible but for now we are so grateful to have been greeted with such kindness."

There are still so many displaced Ukrainians 'perched' in temporary accommodation across continental Europe in cramped conditions, sharing accommodation with complete strangers in hotels, hostels, churches, schools, sports halls, tents, etc. Many are now being told that they need to relocate again in the next few weeks.

If you can welcome Ukrainians into your home, please email to the address below. Obviously, not everyone is able to host but there are many other ways you can help. For example, if you have a business and would like to offer a welcome package for hairdressing, salon, gym, etc or an organisation/group which has free spaces (dance classes, youth groups, brownie/scout groups, etc.) please get in touch. Ukraine2Felixstowe@gmail.com.

Can you help? Exciting Community Project led by Level Two Youth Project!



Would you like to be part of a one-off Project taking place in the next few weeks?

Do you have any experience or skills in outdoor painting?

Do you currently have some time on your hands, that you would like to offer to an exciting Community Project here in Felixstowe?

If the answer is yes to any or all of the above, Shez Hopkins, Project Manager at Level Two Youth Project is keen to hear from you!

You may have seen the somewhat derelict original Phone Box, which is in a very poor condition, at the front of Adastral Close in Felixstowe. People travel to photograph this phone box, as they really are quite rare these days. However, for the residents of Adastral Close, this is quite an eyesore and is in need of some TLC.

Permission and funding has been secured for the renovation. Shez just needs a team of willing community minded people behind her!

If you would like to get involved, or find out more, please contact Shez Hopkins directly on 07724356723 or email: shezhopkinslevel2@gmail.com

Once the renovation is complete, the residents are keen for the phone box to become home to a defibrillator.



Meet the Winners of the 2022 Civic Awards



HMS Ganges Youth Trophy: Alfie Lack For his role as a staff flight Sergeant in the Felixstowe Air Cadets and in office as Lord lieutenant cadet, representing Suffolk at various events on behalf of H.M. Queen Elizabeth.



The Community Award: Clive Garnham and The Grove Medical Centre For the outstanding effort of both staff and volunteers at The Grove Medical Centre in administering the COVID-19 vaccination rollout.



Mayor's Award: Amanda Folley For her role in the formation of Shine a Light on Walton.

Mayor's Award: Maryann Byrne For her involvement throughout the community, including her voluntary work at The Compass, Wavemakers, her service at a pop-up food bank and her role in Felixstowe Helping Hands.



'Jubilee Jewel of Felixstowe' Award: John Cresswell For founding the Felixstowe Volunteer Coast Patrol Rescue Service some 26 years ago and helping the organisation since until his retirement in January this year.



Mayor's Award: Susan Pascall for her voluntary work at the local RSPCA shop and for offering voluntary support to the NHS.

(The Award was collected on behalf of Susan, by her nominator, Steve Crocker.)



Mayor's Award: Richard Holland For his role in running 'THE HUT' on Felixstowe seafront, the Senior Citizens' Day Centre and for his involvement in Felixstowe Travelwatch and the Felixstowe-Wesel Twinning Association.



Mayor's Award: Lisa Williams For her role in the coordination of Stennetts Community café.



The 2022 Civic Awards winners take the stage at the Beachside Events Area as part of the celebrations for Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

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MeetUpMondays in Felixstowe



Developed by the Rural Coffee Caravan charity, MeetUpMondays™ supports local pubs and cafés across Suffolk and beyond, to offer a couple of hours of free tea and coffee once a week to people who might be fed up with their own company; giving them a chance to meet others and connect more with their community.

Visitors go along knowing they're guaranteed a warm welcome into a friendly, everyday, environment where they won't stand out as being alone. The approach taken helps to normalise talking about loneliness but means those attending don't feel labelled as 'lonely.'

If you'd like some company and a chat, the friendly team at The 147 Club, Sea Road have a warm welcome and a hot cuppa waiting for you in Felixstowe each Monday!

To find details and a map of other MeetUpMondays™ venues across Suffolk, or to hear the difference they've made to people's lives, go to www.meetupmondays.org.uk. They don't all take place on a Monday!

If you know of a friendly pub or café anywhere who would make a great MeetUpMondays™ host, we can provide free support and promotional materials to help set one up in your area! Email us at meetupmondays@ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk for more information.

You are invited to come along and enjoy a FREE cuppa and some friendly chat.

Network developed by: Rural Coffee Caravan

With support from: SUFFOLK GOOD NEIGHBOUR NETWORK

Facebook: @MeetUpMondays
Instagram: @MeetUpMondays_network

An Update from Felixstowe Golf Club



Well, by now we should all have enjoyed the Queens Platinum Jubilee celebrations and hopefully Her Majesty will have enjoyed herself too! The Queen is one lady who has an amazing work ethic and still going strong. Here at the Club we had a Royal Afternoon Tea, which was very well attended and a golf competition based on being British and happy to be so!

The summer brings a lot of visitors to the town and also to the golf course. We are one of only 256 links courses in the world so it is a good challenge for a lot of visitors to cope with the sea breezes or more likely, howling winds! As I write this article we have had hardly any rain which makes hard work for our green keepers and gives very dry and dusty conditions to play in, but that is what players expect from a course next to the sea.

We have a few openings to take on new members and if you are new to the game the best way forward is to take on our Kingsfleet membership which is our 9 hole Kingsfleet course. We have two excellent professionals, Andrew and Sam, who give lessons, either personal or in a group, and friendly roll ups on both courses for a new member to get to know other players.

Our clubhouse is open to the public for mid-week lunches and Sunday roasts and it is always advisable to call and book a table just in case we have a golfing function taking place. We can do parties, wakes, baby showers and business meetings. Just give us a call on 01394 286834 to ask.

Our plans for our new Clubhouse are progressing which will bring more visitors to our end of Felixstowe and we look forward to telling you more in the next edition. Have a great summer in fantastic Felixstowe!

SUNDAY LUNCH

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We're here...

Our Environment



An Update from Felixstowe Allotment Association



I know the English are well known to be obsessed with the weather, but as I sit in brilliant sunshine typing this update we seem to be in desert conditions here in Felixstowe. No rain for weeks, and thus our allotment plots are in need of regular support as the

tender early crops appear. Against this, in February we endured Storm Eunice which ripped through all five allotment sites leaving her mark, as you can see from two of the photographs.

When you spend time and money buying a shed or greenhouse, to see it destroyed within minutes can be heart-breaking. But we are a hardy bunch. The greenhouse is now replaced with a fantastic poly tunnel with Mediterranean crops promised for later in the year.

The Association is growing as we see more tenants taking on plots including the newly created smaller 'Allotments' on the Cowpasture site. We were also happy to assist in the planting of new trees in the flower meadow beside Abbey wood as part of the Queens canopy.

Additionally, together with the Town Council, we opened the Cowpasture site on Saturday 25 June at 10am as part of the National Garden Scheme to raise money for cancer charities.

Manny came along to visit our site and a lovely garden in Beatrice Avenue for just £5 with children free.

The great joy of tending and caring for your own produce can be seen in the final photograph, just a small cauliflower, picked (not by me) and within two hours was on a plate of food in my home.

Article by Neville Farthing, FAA Chair



An Update from Litter-Free Felixstowe



It has been a very busy few months for the volunteers at Litter-Free Felixstowe. Following the community litter-picks at the Pier and Walton Recreation Ground in January and February, March saw the group return to Brackenbury Green. At Easter, the children of the group were delighted to meet a litter-picking Easter bunny who rewarded them with chocolate. Great fun was had by all at the event and many people commented on the difficulty in finding litter in this area of Old Felixstowe.

The Group is keen to get more people actively involved and tackle litter in other areas in the town. The next community litter-pick coincided with the popular 'Felixstowe in Flower' event with volunteers clearing the town centre in time for the Jubilee weekend. There will be a concentration on some of the passageways leading into Hamilton Road and anyone wanting to take part should contact us. Litter-Free Felixstowe were excited to perform the 'Litter-Free song' on the main stage at the Event Space next to the Leisure Centre. June also sees the Big Beach Clean event returning to Felixstowe. This has traditionally been the most popular litter-pick event of the year. Please see Facebook for more details

Any local Felixstowe businesses wishing to sponsor the scavenger hunt or provide refreshments for volunteers should contact via email: litterfreefelixstowe@gmail.com.

Article provided by Debbie Bartlett

Have you seen the new, sustainable bedding plants in Felixstowe town centre?



Have you seen the new, perennial bedding plants around Felixstowe town centre and along the seafront? These pretty perennial plants will flower for more than just one season. Provided by Felixstowe Town Council and maintained by East Suffolk Nurseries, the sustainable shrubs are a new addition to the

town. Previously, previously planting schemes saw flowers replaced annually – an effort requiring higher costs and an increased use of water. These bedding plants have been chosen for their longevity, flowering for years to come as part of an individual increment in the greater vision for a more sustainable Felixstowe. Which pretty perennial is your favourite?

New electric power tools for the Town Council's Grounds Team



The Felixstowe Town Council Grounds Team are now using electric power tools to conduct the work involved in the upkeep of Felixstowe Cemetery. These new, electric tools don't require the use of fossil fuels. A vision of a greener Felixstowe, they are also quieter, and don't generate any fumes when they are in use. Pictured, this electric trimmer is the most recent addition to the selection.

A new bike shelter is also a recent addition to Felixstowe Cemetery, allowing the staff to and those visiting the Cemetery to ditch the car and cycle to the site, with a place to safely store their bikes. These small changes are part

of a wider vision to reduce the carbon emissions of Felixstowe Town Council in line with the Climate Emergency Declaration. You can read more about how Felixstowe Town Council plans to tackle the Climate Crisis in the Annual Report on pages 24-26.



Over 100 trees planted in Felixstowe under the Queen's Green Canopy tree planting initiative



Over 100 trees have been planted in Felixstowe as part of the Queen's Green Canopy initiative for Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee. 70 saplings of various species were planted at the Abbey Grove on March 11 to symbolise 70 years of The Queen's reign. Councillors, staff and members of the public turned out with their spades to "plant a tree for the Treebilee". Seven Oak Trees were also planted at Langer Park on March 11, each symbolising a decade of the Queen's reign. These tree plantings are part of a nationwide effort, formed of individual communities, to create a green canopy to mark a momentous occasion for the country.

14 new wooden tree planters, fitted with silver birch trees, are being installed in Felixstowe town centre. These silver birch trees have been specially chosen by a horticulturist for their suitability to container growing, and the wooden planters specially crafted by a local lumberjack uses sustainable materials. Have you seen these new additions to the town centre?

If you would like to plant a tree for the "Treebilee" but missed out on the opportunity this time around, a second round of tree planting will take place in November. Contact the staff at the Town Hall, or email townclerk@felixstowe.gov.uk to register your interest.



Want a lot for your plot, but don't need as much space? Try an 'Alittlement'!



Want to grow your own veg? Are you thinking about giving an allotment a go? If you want a lot for your plot, but don't require as much space, try an 'Alittlement'! These smaller plots are only 8 x 8 metres and are perfect for those who have always wanted to give an allotment a go. A recent addition to the Cowpasture Allotment site, the new 'Alittlement' plots are quick to have been cultivated by their owners. For an insight into what it's like to own an 'Alittlement', check out this feature from one of the new tenants.

Getting started with an 'Alittlement'...

I've often toyed with the idea of getting an allotment. However, with my lifestyle, I'm mostly a weekend gardener. Sure my plants will get a bit of attention during the week and I can even be found out in the garden late at night with a torch rounding up slugs and snails and getting them as far away from my veggies as possible, but that low level of maintenance just didn't seem feasible on an allotment. Which is why a 'micro-plot' sounded perfect.

The idea is for people, unsure about allotment life, to gain an understanding of the work that goes into an allotment before committing to a standard size plot.

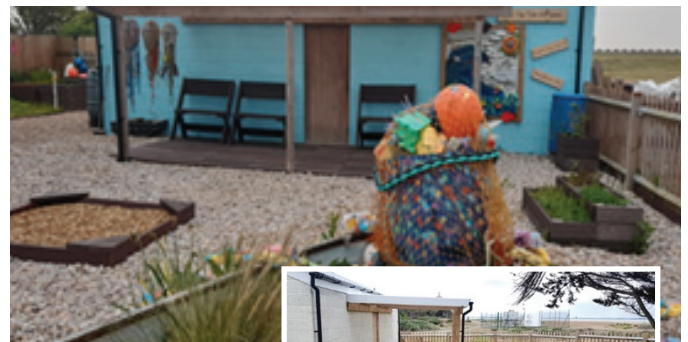
My first weekend on the plot was a lot of hard work, as we dug over the beds I'd lined out, but worth it. The second weekend we spent putting up a fence, to discourage curious bunnies. The weedy bit of land was no more, this was now my 'Alittlement'.

It's two months on and, even though I planted my runner beans too soon, laid down weed suppressant during the heaviest snows of the year, fought a daily battle of wills with obnoxious weeds (have you ever heard of 'Mares tail'? I hadn't) and accidentally pulled up some of my veggies when weeding. I'm loving every minute.

I'm under no illusion, it is a lot of work, and I certainly couldn't handle a standard-sized plot, but my 'Alittlement' is just perfect for a weekend gardener like me.

For more information contact Janine.smith@felixstowe.gov.uk

Landguard Nature Reserve's New Learning Area



This April marked the completion of our new learning area. Situated on the riverside of the Nature Reserve, the new area will be used by visiting schools and groups such as cubs and beavers to learn more about wildlife and habitats onsite.

The area today looks quite different to that of just a year ago...

With the help of volunteers, the space was cleared, and the fencing extended, then structures built, and the area dressed with shingle.

Where possible materials found onsite were reused or recycled, for example, an old plastic boardwalk was reused to create features such as a raised pond, benches, planters, seashore treasure pit and decking area. Additionally, to highlight the problem of plastic in nature, particularly in our waters, materials were collected from Felixstowe beaches and recycled to create some colourful artwork which now forms the basis of our 'Stop the tide of plastic' learning session.

Funding was used to purchase bird boxes, cameras, bee homes, plants, paints, learning materials and much more and facilitated the commission of willow sculptures by local artist, Tracey Barritt-Brown, who also donated 'Dotty the Octopus' which is displayed in a boat provided by Stephen Read of Felixstowe Ferry.

The creation of this space would not have been possible without the assistance of funding, donations and time from the Harwich Haven Authority, the Rotary Club of Felixstowe, local contributors (Adam Farnworth, Jess Cooper, Richard & Jenny Bugg, Fred & Will) and the dedicated team of Landguard volunteers.

Thanks to all of those involved, we were recently able to welcome and host Year 4 students from Colneis Junior School. The children expressed how much they enjoyed the experience, and we look forward to welcoming many more.

Please contact landguardenquiries@eastssuffolk.gov.uk to find out more and to arrange future visits. Article provided by Leonie Washington, Landguard Ranger

Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Felixstowe



Whether you supported the Festival of Suffolk Torch Relay, watched the Platinum Proclamation, danced the day into night at the Beachside Events Area, watched the RAF Flypast, came along to the Big Lunch or hosted your own street party, the four-day weekend to commemorate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee was a celebration to remember!



Felixstowe Art Group's 70th Anniversary Year



2022 is an exciting summer for the Felixstowe Art Group during its 70th Anniversary year.



Some of the Group Members are shown here painting together on 28 April 2022 which was the 70th birthday of the Group.

The Members are now working towards the Group's major event which will be the 70th Anniversary Annual Exhibition taking place during the first week of August at the Trinity Methodist Church Hall in Orwell Road, Felixstowe.

The Exhibition will offer over two hundred framed and unframed paintings at prices to suit every pocket.

For further details, keep an eye out for posters around

the Town with this delightful design painted by Stuart Dalton who won the poster competition held at the Group's AGM in April.



A workshop on acrylic painting and a sale of paintings at the Felixstowe Library took place in May to raise funds for the Ukraine Appeal.

The Group's Bent Hill Gallery continues to be popular with locals and tourists alike situated as it is on the Front adjacent to the summer outdoor eating precinct.

There are now over 150 Group Members who can take part in weekly painting sessions, twice monthly talks and art demonstrations as well as exhibiting their work for sale at the Gallery and the Annual Exhibition. Information about joining the Group can be found at the Gallery or on the website www.felixstoweartgroup.org.

Black & White Productions



Black & White Productions is a semi-professional community theatre company established by Felixstowe playwright Suzanne Hawkes in

2005 to inform and entertain with plays rooted in Suffolk history .

Over the years the Company has told many of Felixstowe's historical stories in productions that have covered such diverse subjects as The Bartlet Convalescent Home, RADAR & The Cold War, Suffragettes & the burning down of the Bath Hotel, the origin of Martello Towers, Colonel Tomline and the development of the railway and Thomas Gainsborough 's connection to Landguard Fort. This is as well as producing two popular promenade tours (Felixstory) and a cabaret/drama every year (Harry's Bar).

Now that the pandemic has finally lifted they have an exciting summer planned with two plays in development that will be performed in Felixstowe before heading to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Mrs Simpson in Felixstowe focuses on six weeks during the autumn of 1936 when Wallis sat out her wait for her divorce in our town. It looks at her relationship with both Edward and her soon to be ex-husband Ernest as she wrestles with this momentous of decisions that will have a profound effect on the country and the monarchy - the consequences of which led to the reign of our present Queen.

With live music and songs of the time the play will be premiered at Two Sisters Arts Centre on Saturday 18th June as part of The Felixstowe Book Festival with further performances at Harvest House on Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th & Saturday 30th July

Daniel Defoe – The Lockdown Diaries is the second play to be produced by this talented company. It looks at Defoe's experiences during the plague year of 1665 and examines the parallels with our last two years of lockdowns and covid.

This will also be performed at Two Sisters Arts Centre, as part of Felixstowe Book Festival and as part of Two Sisters Maritime Festival on Saturday 16th July

Further performances will be at Christchurch Mansion on Thursday 14th July and at St Marys Church, Bucklesham on Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd July.

Artist film reveals the Hidden Human Lives within the Shipping Container Industry in thought provoking tribute to Seafarers

Pier PROJECTS

A staggering 90% of all that we own has made its way to us via a shipping container. For those who live in

Felixstowe, the Port offers a glimpse into the scale of the industry. Yet, we know little of the lives within and rarely see those whose job it is to navigate the mass transportation of goods.

It is this seemingly invisible movement and the hidden lives of the seafaring communities that are the focus of this latest exhibition by artist Yva Jung.



Commissioned by the Pier Projects Art Agency and hosted by Landguard Fort, the exhibition "Journeys with a Container" has the perfect backdrop - that of the Port itself - and invites viewers to carefully consider their own relationship and proximity to the mass movement of food, objects and indeed, people.

Drawn from interviews which took place during the height of the pandemic when seafarers were isolated on their vessels and could not return home, the artist encounters a mother-seafarer and a port chaplain. Through these dialogues - whether voiced or voiceless - Jung reveals the sacrifices made on these journeys, the reasons why they do this work and the impact on their families.

The exhibition launched during The Festival of the Sea, part of the Festival of Suffolk, and the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty The Queen.

The exhibition runs from 17 June - 1 September 2022

Image credit: Yva Jung, Journey with a Container, 2022.

(Location: Casemate F25, 1st Floor, Landguard Fort, View Point Rd, Felixstowe IP11 3TW)

Felixstowe Book Festival 25/26th June



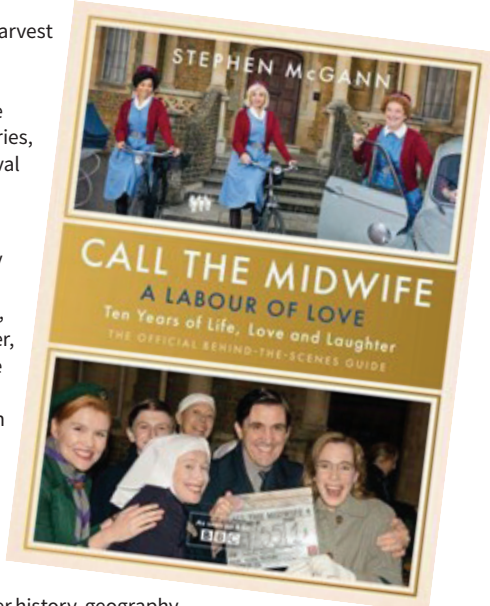
There are a wide range of subjects and authors at this year's Felixstowe Book Festival, which is held across two venues, Harvest House the iconic, usually private, residence on the clifftop overlooking the sea in Felixstowe, and the Two Sisters Arts Centre created in a redundant church in Trimley. For lovers of fiction or non-fiction, or both, there will be authors and subjects to interest you. To hear writers talking about their life and ask them about their work is always interesting and budding writers also have the chance to hear how to get published from an agent and publisher.

The big names coming to Felixstowe include Justin Webb, the journalist and broadcaster, Carol Drinkwater, actress and author, Stephen McGann, who plays Dr Turner in *Call the Midwife*, and Nicci French, the husband-and-wife-team Sean French and Nicci Gerrard.

The opening event at Harvest House, is Tessa Hadley, prize winning author of seven novels, and three collections of short stories, in discussion with festival patron Esther Freud.

The Festival also has a Suffolk and the Sea Day on the 25th June at the Two Sisters Arts Centre, when lovers of the water, and of books, will come together to celebrate the glorious connection this part of the county has with the ocean. Arranged by Julia Jones, attending will be authors, artists and speakers, and the subject matter will cover history, geography, health, wild swimming and art.

To learn more about this exciting weekend, when Felixstowe will be buzzing with book-lovers, and for a full list of all the authors and booking details, go to www.felixstowebookfestival.co.uk



Felixstowe Community Choir Celebrate their 10th Birthday

It was a busy start to the summer as Felixstowe Community Choir sang at the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon at Landguard Fort, where they helped to entertain the crowd, and sung the Jubilee Commonwealth Song, especially written to be sung by choirs across the Commonwealth. Some members also sang with local soprano Christina Johnston at a picnic concert at Wherstead Park.

Choir members are now preparing for their 10th birthday celebrations. The choir's free birthday concert will be with the Festival Orchestra, from Music in Felixstowe, in a joint performance in the



Spa Pavillion Gardens, Felixstowe, on the lawn next to 'The Hut', below the Clifftop Cafe. The date for your diary is Bank Holiday Monday 29th August from 3pm, so bring chairs and a picnic.

In the ten years the non-profit-making

choir has been in existence, they have directly donated over £35,000 to charity (mostly local charities) and have sung at many charity events. Currently around 50-60 members meet to sing each Monday evening at the Orwell Hotel, led by Music Coach, actor/musician Emily Bennett, who accompanies the singing, playing live. The choir sings show tunes, pop, folk and other well-known songs, with harmonies. They don't use sheet music, have no special clothes to buy and the fee of £5 is paid on the night rather than termly.

"When I set up the choir ten years ago, it was as a non-performing choir for people who like to sing along to the radio!" laughs founder, Felixstowe resident, Rachel Sloane. "Then we found we wanted to share what we had learnt at our 'family and friends' informal evenings and that led to us being invited to sing at other events in the town. Many choir members, both men and women, have never sung in a choir before, while some belong to more than one choir, but enjoy the informality of our evenings together."

The choir is run by Rachel and a small team of volunteers, and new choir members are always welcome, with no audition. A mixed adult choir, for over 18 year olds, Felixstowe Community Choir meets at the Orwell Hotel every Monday evening, (including Bank Holidays) 7.30-9.30pm. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and via our website www.felixstowecommunitychoir.org.uk

Music In Felixstowe Summer Programme



We are excited to be putting on several free live events over the summer.

Our first was over the Jubilee weekend and featured our orchestra playing at a most unusual venue! We also offer free visits from our musicians and can play for people in their own homes, care homes, groups, etc.

		Monday August 29th from 2pm
		Proms on the Prom – venue to be confirmed
		If wet it will be held at St John's Church
Wednesday July 13th at 12 noon	Wednesdays at midday July 20th to August 24th	The Festival Orchestra and Community Choir at 2pm celebrating 10 years
Orwell Hotel	St Andrew's Church - Young Musicians Series	The Festival Orchestra Film and TV music at 7pm
Chris Ingham jazz pianist and friends	Featuring talented students – they're the future!	Plus other musical acts during the afternoon
Playing the music of Hoagey Carmichael.		FREE event
Tickets £12 children free		

All tickets are available from Stillwater Books, musicinfelixstowe@gmail.com and on 01394 670633 www.felixstowemusic.com.

Your Community Stories

Summer Fun at Landguard



Get set for a summer of fun events and activities at the Landguard Peninsula in Felixstowe, Suffolk.



At the award-winning Felixstowe Museum, blast off to 'The Race for Space' quiz trail. Help save the planet from the alien 'Blob' by finding the sci-fi and fantasy characters hidden around the Museum. Suitable for kids, adults and sci-fi aficionados. Runs on opening days throughout the summer.

The Museum will also be welcoming back the Suffolk Vehicle Enthusiasts Club with their Classic Car Display on Sunday 14 August. Come and admire these motoring beauties and chat to their proud owners.

Nature Detectives required! The Landguard Nature Reserve has two Wildlife Discovery Days on Wednesdays 10 and 24 August. Join the Ranger for a day of drop-in free activities, including the willow creatures trail, touch tables and crafts. This event is taking place next to the Manor Terrace car park.

Play hide and seek at the magnificent Landguard Fort - which has fun children's quiz trails on their opening days throughout the school summer holidays. The Fort will be holding its annual Darell's Day weekend on Saturday 2 and Sunday 3 July, with re-enactments, displays and talks to mark the site of the last opposed seaborne invasion of England in 1667 and the first land battle of the Royal Marines. On Wednesday 17 August, the Fort are hosting Open-Air Theatre, with a performance of 'The Wind in the Willows'. Suitable for all ages, join Mole, Ratty, Toad and Badger for a wild adventure filled with motorcar madness, wicked weasels and messing about in boats.

For full details on the attractions and events at the Landguard Peninsula - including opening days and times, please visit www.discoverlandguard.org.uk

An Update from Landguard Rotary Club



Earlier in the year we welcomed Rotarian Mark Little who was awarded an MBE for his work fighting Modern Slavery. Mark's presentation was hard hitting. After watching a documentary on

modern slavery in 2001 Mark has travelled to India, Thailand and Nepal helping victims and raising money. It is hard to believe that everyday hundreds of people will be trafficked, and it isn't just happening abroad, but on our doorsteps here in England. Rotary Landguard Club wish Mark continued success as he heads up the Rotarian Action Group Against Modern Slavery as part of Rotary International.

As part of our commitment to the environment we have planted English Bluebells in the Grove. Many have bloomed and will quickly populate to give a splendid show in early summer in years to come.



As news of Ukraine broke Rotary Landguard raised over £2,200 for the central disaster response fund launched and coordinated through The Rotary Foundation. Rotary Clubs across our District are in direct contact via zoom with the Rotary Club in Kyiv who are working tirelessly to give humanitarian support. If anyone would like to donate, we would be pleased to direct it to Kyiv.

We were delighted to support Langer Primary Academy with a grant of £150 to purchase one bike and helmet so that children who do not own a bike, could participate in their Bikeability course.

Finally, the Club is delighted to welcome David Underwood as a new member who is keen to get, as they say, stuck in to doing things for the community and fundraising.

If you would like to know more about Rotary Landguard and/or would like to join us one evening as a guest, please contact landguardsecretary@hotmail.co.uk.

Shine a Light on Walton – Community Fun Day

It's almost time for our second huge community fun day, this year we will have over 50 stalls and attractions on Seatoun Rd Park/Harpers Field on Saturday 9 July from 11 am till 6pm.

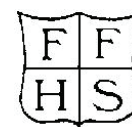
With a full line up of local artists performing on the main stage including:

Ruby Ambrose, Curtis Culley, Adam Thomas and ending the day with Angry Beaver rocking us out. Our Giant Tombola will be back, and you can be in with a chance of winning £150 in cash on our summer raffle. Food and drink concessions including a licensed bar and rides and games for the younger visitors too. All this fun is to raise money for the Walton High St Christmas lights.

As always, we rely on the community's support and donations to put on these free events, anyone wishing to donate, sponsor or volunteer please do get in touch.

If you wish to donate raffle or tombola prizes our drop off points are in Walton Pharmacy & Walton Post Office along with 12 Quintons lane. Article provided by Amanda Folley waltonchristmaslights@outlook.com 07852147440

News from the Felixstowe Family History Society



For our July meeting, we will be hearing from Felixstowe resident Bill Tancred MBE. Bill competed in 2 Olympic Games, 3 Commonwealth Games and 3

European Championships: he will be speaking about his life in International Athletics and the many personalities he met.

We have no meeting in August, and resume our monthly meetings in September with a talk by Chris Broome. His subject will be "Humour & Genealogy", and his talk will follow our Annual General Meeting. At the A.G.M. we will be electing officers and committee members, and we are always in need of people who are willing to share the work of the committee.

The subjects of our meetings later in the year include:

- The 1851 Exhibition
- Dunwich and the National Trust
- Using your Bus Pass to best advantage in Suffolk.

All our evening meetings are held in Broadway House, Orwell Road on the second Wednesday of the month (but not during August). Please take your seats by 7.30. The adjacent municipal car park is free in the evening and is accessed off Highfield Road.

There is no charge for attendance by members of Felixstowe Family History Society & members of Felixstowe History and Museum Society. Guests and visitors are most welcome and will be asked to pay £3.00 at the door.

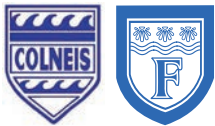
In addition to our speaker meetings, The Felixstowe Family History Society holds drop-in sessions for anyone, members & non-members, who wants to move forward in finding the story of their forebears. We would love to share our enthusiasm and expertise and we have the facilities to help. Sessions are held at Broadway House on the last or fourth Friday morning of most months. For details see our website: www.felixstowefhs.onesuffolk.net.

For the benefit of those who are housebound, we endeavour to hold all our meetings on Zoom as "hybrid" meetings. If you wish to participate in this way, do send an e-mail to fxfhs@hotmail.com with an indication of your membership status.

Article provided by Nicholas Smith



An Update from Fairfield School



School trips are a vital part of our curriculum as they allow teachers to build in practical elements to learning that really help children to embed and develop their understanding of topics. They are also very exciting and we all know that children learn when they are happy, excited and inquisitive about their work.



Recently we have seen trips to West Stow, Landguard Fort and our younger children are looking forward to an upcoming trip to Jimmy's Farm. We also work locally too and visit places within walking distance of the school such as The Grove nature area, where our Year 6 have visited recently for some inspiration towards their artwork.



Article provided by Mr Mark Girling, Headteacher, The Federation of Fairfield and Colneis

Felixstowe Youth Forum Returns!

Students from Colneis Junior School and Maidstone Primary took over the Council Chamber in the Town Hall alongside Youth Representatives from Level Two as Youth Forum returned to Felixstowe Town Council. Following a two-year hiatus imposed by COVID-19 restrictions, there was much to discuss!

The Representatives each provided a report on their favourite aspects of the school curriculum. Representatives also discussed their concerns about the environment, and showed a short clip of a recent protest directed at East Suffolk Council against the felling on trees on the Brackenbury Cliffs.

Odon, a School Council Representative from Colneis Junior School, gives his account of Youth Forum below:

Hello! My name is Odon and I am a Year 6 council representative for my class at Colneis Junior School. In March, I attended Youth Forum with my teacher, and some other Year 6 council reps. Youth forum is a meeting



that takes place about 6 times a year on a Wednesday at Felixstowe Town Hall - in a cosy, luxurious room called the Council Chamber. Here, the council reps and teachers of schools in Felixstowe gather to discuss what is happening in their school and also what is happening around the world.

Starting at around four o'clock and finishing at five o'clock, there was much to discuss. At the meeting, was the Mayor of Felixstowe, the Town Clerk and other council members joined us too; I felt I was very important to be in the same room as them. I learnt lots of very interesting things about politics and what's happening around the UK, especially climate justice. It was great to see these schools/organisations attend: Level Two, Colneis School and Grange School; hopefully, in the coming months, we will see more schools attend!

It wasn't as busy as normal - I presume this was due to the pandemic. Can I tempt any other schools by telling you that we had Pringles? We all had to remember to "crunch", at the right time when it wasn't silent. Overall, it was a very fun and enjoyable event and I am excited to go again - where I might get to chair the meeting. I think it is good that the Council give children a chance to speak about their points of views.

School Chaplaincy Update from Boost



Updates from local charity Boost Felixstowe as they pioneer partnerships between faith and education, through chaplaincy at Felixstowe School.

Space to Grieve - Bereavement Support

Did you know that, in the average school, one child in every classroom will have experienced a bereavement? I wonder at what age you were when you experienced the death of someone for the first time?

Through Boost's School Chaplaincy partnership at Felixstowe School, we've supported 25 students so far this academic year who have experienced death, dying, bereavement or loss. While it is heart-breaking to hear some of these stories, it is also a great privilege to see these young people continue to come to school, try their best, and grow, despite the huge challenges of trying to process very sad news.

Providing this unconditional, individual and conversational support at the time and place where young people need it (in school) makes a huge difference. One young person, after weekly bereavement support, wrote:

"Thank you for your support during some of the hardest times of my life. There are no words to express how truly grateful I am".

My own experience is that I was 18 when I attended my first funeral, and I couldn't imagine having to go through such an experience at a younger age, alongside all the questions and emotions that the teenage years inevitably bring.

We continue to offer 'space to grieve' for any young person experiencing death, dying, bereavement or loss, and thank Felixstowe Town Council for additional funding to provide this vital support throughout this academic year. We encourage students not to simply 'move on', but to have the space to grieve and 'move forward' to achieve their full potential!

To find out more about the work of Boost, and how to support us, you can visit our website at www.boostfelixstowe.org.uk or search 'Boost Felixstowe' on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram.

Dr Joshua Hunt, Chaplain to Felixstowe School, from Boost Felixstowe.



St Elizabeth Hospice Easter Day Dip



The St Elizabeth's Hospice "Christmas Day Dip" became the "Easter Day Dip" after the original date was postponed due to poor weather and dangerous conditions in the water.

Participants switched the Santa hats and elf costumes for bunny ears as they headed into the waves on 17 April.

The Easter Day Dip saw crowds of people dashing into the water to raise funds in support of St Elizabeth's Hospice.

Can you spot your favourite costume in the photos?

The previous Mayor of Felixstowe, Cllr Mark Jepson, took part in the Easter Day Dip, braving the icy water alongside his fellow participants.



Hospice's Suffolk Remembers returns for 2022



St Elizabeth Hospice's popular remembrance event, Suffolk Remembers, resumed once again to bring Suffolk Day to a close this year.

Every year Suffolk Remembers, sees 5,000 candles displayed along Felixstowe seafront as hundreds of people gather to remember their loved ones and this year will be no different.

Taking place on 21st June from 9pm-10pm, this year's event saw live performances from Ipswich singer, Roma Manteiga-Nicholson, Ipswich Hospital Community Choir and Martlesham Brass as well as a number of poetry readings.

Suffolk Remembers is a free to attend event, but with each dedicated candle the Hospice kindly asks supporters to consider making a donation to the independent Suffolk Charity, which every year cares for more than 3,000 patients living with a progressive or life-limiting illness, and their families throughout East Suffolk, Great Yarmouth and Waveney.

All are welcome to dedicate a candle, even if they have not previously been under the Hospice's care, and the Hospice is encouraging all who have lost a friend or relative to take the opportunity to join people from across the region in remembering them through Suffolk Remembers 2022, which once again is sponsored by East of England Co-op Funeral Services.

Each dedication will also include a photo and a message to a loved one which will be included in the Suffolk Remembers' online gallery and a physical electric candle will be added to the Hospice's physical event display.

To dedicate a candle and to find out further information about Suffolk Remembers visit www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk/suffolk-remembers email: fundraising@stelizabethhospice.org.uk or call 01473 723600.



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FREE MEALS FOR FAMILIES THIS SUMMER

We are here to keep you fed throughout the summer holidays from 25th July to 31st August 2022 so come along and join us for a FREE hot or cold meal:

Mondays @ The Salvation Army 12pm
Cobbold Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7EL. Call 07500 058657

Tuesdays @ St Edmunds Church Hall 12pm
Langer Road, IP11 2HN. Call 07901 950768

Wednesdays @ Stennetts Community Cafe 12pm, Victoria Hall Pavillion, Stennetts Close, IP11 0TZ. Call 07889 375004

Wednesdays @ Bethesda Baptist Church 12pm,
Cavendish Road, IP11 2AR. Call 07485058907

Thursdays @ St Philips Community Hub 12pm
Wadgate Road, IP11 2LY. Call 07394 177634

Fridays @ Cuppa 12pm
High Road, Walton, IP11 9AA. Call 01394 547160

Everyone is welcome, no questions asked. To find out more and book your family's place please call the numbers above. Spaces are limited so call today!

FELIXSTOWE CARNIVAL

2022 'Heroes And Villains'

This year we are thinking about all those favourite heroes and villains, both real and fictional!

Will it be Marvel characters, or those NHS heroes who gave so much over the last couple of years?

The Carnival weekend is Friday 22nd to Sunday 24th July 2022.

Start your Carnival weekend on Friday evening with a live swing band on the main stage in the beach side events area. Bring a picnic and enjoy our proms concert. We will provide the flags!

Saturday starts with our traditional procession 1pm and moving through the town to the seafront on our normal route. The Carnival continues Saturday and Sunday on the seafront.

Between our main stage and the family area there is something for everyone to enjoy and all entertainment is free. Don't forget to meet the Dinosaurs, visit our craft fair in the Leisure Centre and the beachside traders.

We will finish the weekend with a spectacular Fireworks display at 10pm off the Pier.

Make sure you pick up our free programme for full details of the weekend and don't forget we need your donations to keep this a free to all event in the future and, after two years without Carnival, if you can spare us something extra to keep our annual tradition going, we would really appreciate. Look out for those buckets or our new donation station for tapping those cards.

Article provided by Julie Bellamy, Chair of Felixstowe Carnival Association

Everything you need to know about this year's Carnival
22nd - 24th July 2022 !
Our Theme is 'Heroes & Villains'
Town Centre & Beachside Events Area IP11 2AU

Friday 22nd 19:00 - 22:00

Carnival Proms Night featuring Swing Machine. Bring chairs, blankets and picnics. We will provide the flags!

Saturday 23rd 13:00

Procession starting from Colneis Road, heading from town with floats, majorettes and marching bands. Our route is Beatrice Avenue, Hamilton Road, Orwell Road, Garrison Lane, Undercliffe Road West and Sea Road.

Sunday 24th 22:00

Spectacular Firework Display on the Seafront.

Both Days - Stalls and refreshments along the promenade and in events area from 10:00 to 22:00 Craft Fair in Felixstowe Leisure Centre from 11:00 - 17:00

Main Stage - Beachside Events Area

Saturday 12:00 Ruby Ambrose, 12:30 Kuk Sool Won, 13:00 Katie Mitton, 15:15 Serena Grant, 16:00 Britannia Pipe Band & Suffolk Samba Band, 16:45 Killer Tomatoes, 18:30 Bouncing Off Concrete, 20:15 Counterfeit Brits.

Sunday 12:00 The Felix Stowaways, 12:30 LL Dance & Fitness, 13:00 Bounce Felixstowe, 13:30 Stacey Ellis, 14:45 Chicken Fried, 16:15 Pink Lemonade, 18:00 All Glammed Up, 20:00 Ska'd 4 Life.

Family Entertainment (Former Trim Trail field) 10:00 - 17:00 Free Entertainment

Brickologists (Lego build, play & learn), Kinetic Science (Kitchen Chemistry science interactive fun) Fun & Faith (challenges, craft activities, messy play and a scavenger hunt), Children's 6 bed Trampoline, Dino2hire (letting loose their raptors - see their mischief!), Stef & Nonsense (magic shows and giant bubble displays)

Second Stage - Family Area

Sunday 12:00 Bethany Hurry, 13:00 Songs & Praise, 14:15 Saints Community Band, 15:30 LTP Duo

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT ALL TIMINGS AND AVAILABILITY OF ENTERTAINMENT ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Cheese, Wine and a Business Chat with the Felixstowe Chamber of Trade and Commerce



The newly-formed Chamber Committee hosted its first networking event on the evening of Tuesday 10 May, at The Little Wine Bar in Walton.



We were delighted that so many members and non-members joined us to celebrate this bustling new business venture in our town, and thanks to owner Deborah McGlynn-Hale for making us all so welcome.

Over the delicious cheese and wine – generously sponsored by Zygo Ltd – we were able to learn more about what makes the Felixstowe business community so vibrant and resilient, and our Chair Paul Borroughs reminded the 30+ guests of the importance of coming together at social events such as this and sharing our knowledge and experiences. The Committee is also planning a lively programme of networking events for the year ahead – more news to follow!

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£ 15,000 Raised for the Mayor's Chosen Charities for the Municipal Year 2021/22

At the Annual Town Meeting, held on 11 May at The Orwell Hotel, it was announced that a total of £15,000 had been raised for the Mayor's chosen charities for the municipal year 2021/22. Felixstowe Citizen's Advice and the Felixstowe Carnival Association, the chosen charities of the previous Mayor of Felixstowe, Cllr Mark Jepson, each received a cheque for £7,500.

This was following a successful run of monthly Mayor's Charity Events. From a wine and cheese evening hosted at Landguard Fort, to a "Curry and a Conversation" with Mark Murphy and Russel Osman, hosted at the Blue Naan, to The Ladybirds International Drag Spectacular, to "Casino Mayorale", the Bond-themed Mayor's Ball, some of the best moments from a year of fantastic fundraising are pictured here.

Thank you to everybody who attended the Mayor's Charity Events for the Municipal Year 2021/22 and gave generously.



Eastern Angles bring High Streets to life



Streets Alive

This July Eastern Angles are bringing free theatre to Felixstowe town centre.

Streets Alive will capture the magic of Suffolk stories and bring them to life on local high streets. Stilt-walking, puppetry and music will combine in this free outdoor performance which will pop-up in nine different Suffolk towns and five school playgrounds this summer. Funded by Arts Council England, Suffolk County Council and Ipswich Borough Council, the events are designed to increase footfall, invigorate the local economy and bring free entertainment to people across the county.

Eastern Angles' Artistic Director, Ivan Cutting said; "We will focus on two fascinating stories – local heroine Margaret Catchpole who "borrowed" a horse and went on the ride of a lifetime and 13th century North African musician, The Ipswich Man, whose bones were found in a recent excavation of Ipswich's Greyfriars hospital cemetery."

The three performers (Seamore Nelson, Finn Lloyd-Moore & Reanne Black pictured) all trained at East 15 Acting School and will take on a variety of characters.

The tour will take place from the 9th-24th July, with Felixstowe performances taking place on the Triangle at 11am and 2pm on Friday 15th July. For more information contact admin@easternangles.co.uk or ring 01473 211498 or visit www.easternangles.co.uk



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Monday
Ipswich
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12.30pm - 4pm

Free to attend!

Tuesday
Ipswich
Sailmakers Shopping Centre
9.30am - 11.30am

No need to book!

Wednesday
Ipswich
Sailmakers Shopping Centre
2pm - 4.30pm

Refreshments included

Wednesday
Old Felixstowe
Community Centre
10am - 12pm

Interested? Call Chrissie on 07786 466370 or Debbie on 07389845601

Launch of New Community Directory

A one-stop online hub for community groups and events across the peninsula, Felixstowe Town Council announces the launch of new Community Directory extension to its website.



The Community Directory is a free one-stop digital solution for community groups and organisations in Felixstowe to publicise themselves and their events. Do you belong to a local community group or organisation and would like to let people know about your meetings and events? Do you want to take up a new hobby? Are you looking to meet new people and make new friends? The Community Directory is an online hub detailing everything happening throughout the Felixstowe community.

Funded by Felixstowe Town Council and the East Suffolk Council Community Partnership, the Community Directory aims to strengthen further the robust sense of community spirit underpinning Felixstowe. A one-stop online location for community groups to advertise their regular meeting times and occasional events taking place in Felixstowe, with improved accessibility to information, it will become easier for residents of Felixstowe (and beyond) to find opportunities to socialise, meet likeminded people, take on a new hobby, or to try something different.

The Community Directory is now 'live' as an extension of the Felixstowe Town Council website.

Are you part of a local community group or organisation in Felixstowe? quick and easy to register your details!

More information about the Community Directory, including a step-by-step video tutorial of how to upload your information, is available on the Felixstowe Town Council website: www.felixstowe.gov.uk.

Upload your group's information at www.felixstowe.gov.uk/community-directory. If you would like to upload information to the Community Directory, but require assistance, please email holly.miles@felixstowe.gov.uk or call 01394 282086.



Felixstowe in Flower Launch 2022

Felixstowe is back in bloom as Felixstowe in Flower launched from The Triangle on 28 May for its 37th year! If you missed the launch, don't worry! With 18 different Felixstowe in Flower competitions to enter, there is something for everybody to get involved with. More information about Felixstowe in Flower competitions, or to find out how to sponsor a tub or a basket in Felixstowe town centre, visit www.felixstowe.gov.uk/council-services/felixstowe-in-flower.





ANNUAL Flower & Produce SHOW

SATURDAY 20th AUGUST 2022

11 AM - 5 PM

Old Felixstowe Community Centre
Ferry Road, IP11 4NB

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Annual Report 2021-22



Mayors Summary

Summing up his last two years in office at the Annual Council meeting on 18th May, the Mayor of Felixstowe for both the 2020/21 and 2021/22 Municipal Year, Cllr Mark Jepson said “We have been through unprecedented times, and I have been proud to be the Chairman of a Town Council that adapted rapidly in response to the challenge to ensure that our services to the community were uninterrupted. Challenging it has certainly been, but the past two years have also been filled with wonderful experiences and many fantastic memories..” The full version of the Mayor’s report and the Council’s Annual Report for 2021/22 can be found on our website www.felixstowe.gov.uk.

Budget and Precept

At the end of the financial year, the income outturn for 2021/22 exceeded budget estimates at 114.6%, primarily due to CIL payments (Community Infrastructure Levy) and expenditure stood at 101.4% of budget, due to staff training and PPE. The pandemic continued to impact on income and expenditure throughout the 2021-22 financial year. However, with effective management of budget and reserves, the Town Council was able to freeze its portion of the council tax (the ‘precept’) for the forthcoming 2022/23 financial year, with Council unanimously voting for a 0% increase. This means that annual Band D equivalent cost will remain at £70.87, representing just under 4% of the total council tax bill. The other 96% of which is split between Suffolk County Council, East Suffolk Council and Suffolk Constabulary.

Upgrade of IT Systems, Telephones and Digital Conferencing

The Finance & Governance Committee oversaw a wide-ranging upgrade of IT during the pandemic to enable staff to adhere to the requirement to ‘work from home’. The move to cloud-based file servers, mobile computing hardware and a software-based telephone system has transformed the way in which Council staff are able to work – now fully connected whether from home, at the Town Hall or at other sites. During 2021/22 Committee oversaw improvements to digital conferencing services at the Town Hall, this equipment enables remote participation at meetings by members of the public and other attendees making public meetings far more accessible. The equipment is used for many working groups and other types of meeting which reduces the reliance on cars to attend meetings and, in turn, contributes towards our environmental aims.

Upgrade of Accounting Software

On 1st April 2021, Council changed its finance package to new software which could be accessed online. Staff have found the system easy to use, to the extent that, in October, the Finance & Governance Committee agreed to also move the Cemetery software package to the same system. The new digital system helps to manage the Cemetery records. It is not only user friendly but now provides a seamless link between our Cemetery applications and our accounts/invoicing. Council was very proud to receive the ‘Top Contributor’ award at the Scribefest conference, which had been attended by over 300 Town and Parish Councils for its contribution in helping to develop the software for larger Town Councils.

Youth Forum



Felixstowe Town Council’s Youth Forum is a multi-representative group of young people nominated by school councils and youth projects in Felixstowe. The Forum meets regularly with local Councillors and other local stakeholders at the Town Hall and meetings are chaired by the young people themselves on rotation basis. Debate is encouraged to enable a young person’s perspective to be placed on issues which they themselves bring up and which are fed back to the local schools. During the pandemic it was not possible to meet in this way, however, April saw a return to the Youth Forum meetings with a new vigor.

The environment continues to be appropriately prevalent and this theme has been given to the Youth Forum to hear about environmental projects in schools as well as sharing ideas. At the most recent meeting, members were keen to hear from Colneis Junior School about the work they had been doing recently alongside Fairfield Infants to promote protection of the trees.

	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Budget (Est.)
Balance at 1 April	£1,065,336	£1,130,155	£1,232,785
(of which Earmarked Reserves)	(£618,333)	(£680,219)	(£795,445)
Total Income	£766,706	£873,020	£774,014
Total Expenditure	£701,888	£770,391	£898,923
Closing Balance at 31 March	£1,130,155	£1,232,785	£1,107,876
(of which Earmarked Reserves)	(£680,219)	(£795,445)	(£766,848)

Coronavirus and Budget Estimates

The coronavirus pandemic affected Council’s income and expenditure throughout 2020-21, and continued into the first half of 2021-22. Council’s Finance & Governance Committee closely monitored and reviewed the financial position regularly throughout. The loss of income which would have otherwise been received from the room hire, weddings, rent and hall bookings was somewhat offset by reduced utility and service costs and the cancellation of most Council events. In setting its budget for 2022-23, Council took a cautiously optimistic approach, basing estimates on a more ‘normal’ year. Due to careful budgeting in recent years, the Council’s reserves are able to offer some protection against unforeseen variables.

Audit and Accounts

The 2021/22 Audit is being undertaken by PKF Littlejohn LLP in July 2022 and the audited accounts should be available on our website from September 2022. Internal audits were conducted twice in 2021/22 with all procedures found to be in order.



Women's Cycle Tour

The Finance & Governance Committee worked with East Suffolk Council to help fund the Women's Cycle Tour which completed its tour in Felixstowe on 9 October and also saw the first Felixstowe Triathlon.



Christmas

Funding was awarded to the Felixstowe BID (Business Improvement District) towards the provision of a Christmas Ice Rink, which was welcomed back to Felixstowe having been unable to take place the previous two years.

The Council continued to support the Lions Club with annual funding of £6,750 towards the provision of the Town Centre's Christmas lights.

Cemetery

As part of Council's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint, a lot of environmental work has been carried out in the Cemetery this year. A new bike shelter has been fitted which allows both staff and members of the public to leave their cars behind and protect their bikes from the rain, battery powered tools have been ordered and a new electric van has been ordered which, subject to recent supply-chain issues improving, is anticipated to be in operation in June.

Lots of wildlife projects are taking place, the latest project last summer, was the re-wilding of the verges either side of Langley Avenue, with a strip either side of the gates still mowed. With the help of some wildflowers sown into the verges, it has definitely attracted more wildlife.

Many of our cemetery forms have been updated to make them easier to understand and to take into account the changing requirements of the public.

Allotments

The Town Council manages five main allotment sites and a micro-plot site within one of our main sites for our new 'Allittlements' scheme. This new project has been designed to give people a taste of allotment life before taking on the responsibility of a full plot.

Demand for allotments remains high and, due to the hard work of Council staff, the turnaround time from an allotment becoming vacant to another tenant taking it on is kept to a minimum. As a result we currently have very few vacant plots.

An apple orchard has been planted on a formerly unused area of the Cowpasture site. Funding from the Felixstowe Allotment Association, Felixstowe Town Council and a generous local benefactor was used to purchase a variety of old heritage apple trees from "Orchards for All" a charity based in West Norfolk, and a smaller number of the more modern strains were obtained from a local nursery as they offer a quicker return and greater crop. There are now plans to implement a similar area on the Taunton Road site.

Grants 2021/22

Felixstowe Town Council is committed to supporting and strengthening the many networks and community groups that help to make a positive difference to Felixstowe. Through its Annual and Occasional Grants scheme, the Town Council was able to support 27 local organisations and projects during 2021/22 with a total of £48,400 via its Occasional and Annual Grants scheme and through its community partnerships.

The next closing dates for Grant applications is 30 November 2022. Details on how to apply can be found on our website www.felixstowe.gov.uk/council-services/grants.

Digital Community Directory Project

This key project, which achieved funding during the 2020-21 financial year, will result in an online and customised directory of all our community groups, organisations, clubs and societies on the Town Council's website. Working with the Felixstowe Peninsula Community Partnership, which part-funded the project, the Town Council will provide a hub for residents to find local upcoming events and groups of interest. Launching this summer, community groups will be able to create event listings for their own activities and manage their online profiles – **if you are involved in a local community group, we want to hear from you!**

Sustainable bedding



With an aim to become more sustainable, the wooden planters in the town have been planted with perennial bedding plants. The flower beds at the Triangle and on the seafront have also been planted in this way, with vibrant plants which will become well-established over the long-term.

In partnership with the Felixstowe BID (Business Improvement District) plans are also being made to plant Birch trees in planters which will be placed throughout the Shared Space and either side. This will replace the blue planters which are currently in poor condition.



Queen's Green Canopy / Treebilee planting

As part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, on Friday 11 March (the 70th day of 2022) the Town Council planted over 70 trees in the Cowpasture Meadow with the Friends of Abbey Grove as well as in other locations. Also on this day the Town Council joined East Suffolk Council in the planting of seven Oak trees – one for each decade of Her Majesty's reign - at Langer Park.

Remembrance

The Town Council were pleased to see the crowds return for the Remembrance Sunday service in November 2021. In advance of this the setting of the War Memorial was refurbished with paving to provide a wider space for people to stand and lay wreaths and some sustainable hedging on the borders.

Planning Applications

During 2021/22 the Planning & Environment Committee considered a total of 233 local planning applications. Committee noted that on 88.4% occasions (145 of 164 reported decisions) East Suffolk Council has concurred with the Town Council's recommendation. Of those cases where there was contrasting view, a referral panel at East Suffolk Council reviewed the Town Council's recommendations before deciding whether to refer the application to the District Council's Planning Committee for determination.

Cycling and Walking Consultation



The Council has been working with both Trimley Parish councils and East Suffolk Council on the Draft East Suffolk Cycling and Walking Strategy. Together, the councils have submitted many recommendations designed to improve access to safe and convenient routes for walking and cycling.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Council received CIL payments from East Suffolk Council totalling £77,289.65 in 2021/22. These funds are held in a separate Earmarked Reserve and are ringfenced to support appropriate projects within a five-year timescale allowed by legislation. Consultation has taken place to identify suitable projects and a Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan (PIIP) is being drawn up to priorities these in advance of delivery. £10,000 from previous CIL money received during the period 2018-20 was granted to the Felixstowe Allotment Association to provide a community hut.

Climate Action

Climate Emergency

Councillors consider biodiversity and environmental impact at the heart of all decision-making. Since Council declared a Climate Emergency in July 2019, our dedicated Climate Emergency Working Group has regularly met to review processes, services, products and actions and to raise awareness locally.

Action we've taken so far.....

Felixstowe Town Council is committed to doing as much as it can at a local level to work towards carbon neutrality and protect and enhance thriving ecosystems within and around our community. The Town Council has been recognised amongst parish and town councils across the Eastern region as leading the way.

- **Introduced Single use Plastic Policy**
- **Cycle to Work Scheme**
- **No Idling promotion in Schools**
- **Re-wilding in Langley Avenue**
- **Encouraging Wildlife at the Cemetery**
- **Reducing use of Herbicides or Pesticides**
- **Separating and recycling waste**
- **Car Sharing and holding more meetings online.**
- **Replacing all lights at end of their life with LED**
- **Insulated to 270mm in uninsulated areas**
- **Replacing all garden tools with battery rechargeable power tools**
- **Use 100% renewable energy Suppliers**
- **Grey Water used for watering Felixstowe in Flower baskets**
- **New electric van on order**

Plans for the future...

A project is underway to replace the Town Hall's single glazing with innovative slimline double glazing, using the latest technology to provide high levels of insulation whilst respecting the building's heritage.

The Climate Emergency Working Group will be working closely with the Felixstowe Youth Forum which has been relaunched since the pandemic with a focus on the environment.

Council continues to work closely with community groups to support environmental projects, and, as we emerge from the pandemic, more carbon-reducing schemes will be supported, such as a Repair Café and a 'Library of Things', and to help the Allotment Association FAA become a 'Champion' for composting.

The Council is particularly keen to hear from any organisations seeking funding to assist with local environmental projects.



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