

FOR FELIXSTOWE

The newsletter of Felixstowe Town Council



TOWN TALK

- Successes for Felixstowe CCTV** – Felixstowe's CCTV system, which has been an important initiative, with the Town Council taking a major role in the partnership, has been hailed a success thanks to the dedication and commitment of volunteers donating their time to keeping the community safe. The CCTV system was installed in the town in December 2008, providing a live link to the police station and a recording facility monitored by the volunteers. The volunteers direct police resources to potential problems as they arise through the police internal radio system. This gives the police the opportunity to react and intervene in current situations as opposed to using it purely for evidential purposes. Since January 2009 the CCTV system has assisted in many specific incidents. An example involved an affray between two males in the town centre. The CCTV volunteer directed officers to the ongoing incident to diffuse the situation. The footage was later used as evidence and both males were charged with affray. The initial funding for the system came from a Home Office grant, with additional funding from partnership organisations involved. The project is managed by Felixstowe CCTV Partnership, which includes members of the police, town and district councils and the Chamber of Trade and Commerce.
- Fairtrade – Felixstowe** – On Wednesday, 9th December the announcement of Felixstowe's successful application for Fair Trade Town status was made. The Town Council has supported the application for Fair Trade status since October 2007 and the Mayor was delighted to be present when Felixstowe's success was celebrated. The Town Council serves Fairtrade tea and coffee at its meetings! In Felixstowe there are now twelve retail and eight catering outlets selling two or more products with the Fair Trade mark. These include: East of England Co-op, Great Eastern Square, East of England Co-op, Wadgate Road, East of England Co-op, High Street, Walton, East of England Co-op, Garage shop, High Road West,

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- Fairtrade – Felixstowe cont'd** - Marks and Spencer, Morrisons, Tesco, Good Food Shop, By Arrangement, Boots, Harambee, Café Libra at the Library, the Little Ice Cream Company, River of Life Café, Bakers Oven, Coffee and Donuts kiosk, Sangha, Ruby's Kitchen and Café Nero. Fair Trade products are also used in a number of local work places. The Town Council would like to congratulate the members of the Felixstowe Fair Trade Forum and in particular its officers Alan Muchal, Margaret Morris, Stephen Wyatt and Brian Cutler.
- Mayor's Christmas Visits** – Every year the Mayor celebrates Christmas with visits to many of the residential and nursing homes in Felixstowe. This year the Mayor, Angel Goodwin and her Escort John Goodwin visited Foxgrove Retirement Home, Maynell House, Margery Girling House, Leopold Nursing Home, St Felix Home for the Blind, Suffolk Retirement Home, The Firs, Yetton Ward House, White Gables, 14 Montague Road, Abbeyfield at 53 Orwell Road, Bellstone, Highcliffe Nursing Home, Westcliff, Mill Lane Nursing Home, Coniston Care Centre, Coniston House, Rowland House and St Mary's Nursing Home. They thoroughly enjoyed talking to the residents and would like to congratulate everyone involved in providing such a high standard of care for many of the elderly residents in Felixstowe.
- Links with Voiron** – On 17th December a very successful initial meeting was held with the people in Felixstowe who had let us know that they were interested in links with Voiron. Voiron is a town in France near Grenoble with a population similar to Felixstowe. The Secretary of the English Club in Voiron had visited Felixstowe and liked our town so much that she suggested that we might begin to establish links. There will be another meeting on Monday, 1st February at 9.30 a.m. at the Town Hall. Please come along if you are interested. We hope that a Steering Group will be formed at this

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- **Links with Voiron – cont'd** – meeting with the hope of organising an exchange visit during 2010. For further information please contact Susan Robinson on 01394 282086 or email susan.robinson@felixstowe.gov.uk.
- **Civic Awards** – Each year the Mayor makes up to five awards to individuals in our community for outstanding voluntary community work. Since the awards began in 2002 there have been an overwhelming number of nominations for the awards. Last years recipients of the awards were:
Janet Bloomfield (posthumously), Bryan Frost, Lis Goddard, Sheila Richardson and John White. Nominations for the awards for 2010 are now being sought. The Town Council also presents the HMS Ganges Youth Trophy each year. This is for outstanding community work either by an individual young person under 21 or an organisation involving young people. Nomination forms and further details for both awards can be obtained from Celia Page on 01394 282086 or email celia.page@felixstowe.gov.uk
- **Mayor's Charity Ball 2010** – The Mayor, Angel Goodwin and her Escort John Goodwin will be holding their 2010 Charity Ball on Saturday, 3rd April at the Hotel Elizabeth Orwell. This year two very worthwhile charities, the St Elizabeth Hospice and the Felixstowe Alzheimers' Carer's Support Group will benefit from the Ball and from the fund raising events which the Mayor has been holding throughout the year. If you would like to make a donation to the Mayor's charities or for information regarding ticket availability please contact Lorna Monsen on 01394 282086 or email lorna.monsen@felixstowe.gov.uk

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- **New Town Centre Toilets for Felixstowe** – Plans are now well advanced for the provision of new town centre public toilets for Felixstowe. High standard modern facilities will be constructed in the Crescent Road car park close to the corner of Cobbold Road and Crescent Road. When these toilets are open the current block on the Triangle will be demolished. This area of the Triangle will then be landscaped using funds donated by the Town Council. It is hoped to include a public performance area as part of the refurbishment of the Triangle.
- **Martello Coastal Path Launch – Monday, 3rd May** – Plans are now well advanced for the launch of the Martello Coastal Path on Monday, 3rd May. The launch will follow the Rotary Fun Run which has been a feature of the Bank Holiday Monday for many years. There will be a series of walking events during the afternoon including a semi competitive walk of the full route from Landguard to Felixstowe Ferry; walking led by the Ranger at Landguard; a music oriented walk along the prom and a fun one mile walk for children. There will be various exhibitions as part of the event at locations including the Hut, the Spa Pavilion and the Town Hall. Pictorial way markers in the form of discs designed by the artist Lizzie Jane Grose will be sited at 38 points along the path and there will be maps also designed by Lizzie Jane available to guide walkers along the route.

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- **Suffolk Befriending Scheme** - Suffolk Befriending Scheme, a charity with 20 years' experience working with adults with a learning disability, has launched new services in Felixstowe. There are two main elements, both of which offer volunteering opportunities:
- an informal drop in (A place to Talk) meets every Thursday 10.00 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. at the United Reformed Church, Tomline Road (corner of Orwell Road)
- 1 - to – 1 befriending, linking local volunteers with adults with a learning disability

If either of these are of interest to you, as a volunteer or for someone with a learning disability, please contact Seamus Bennett, Felixstowe Coordinator, on 07960 424217 or just drop in to the URC any Thursday morning.

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