



## Felixstowe/Wesel Association

Felixstowe twinned with the German town of Wesel in 1974.

The Felixstowe Wesel Association was formed to encourage closer ties between organisations and individuals in the two towns.

We host and entertain visitors from the town of Wesel on a few occasions each year and in doing so promote Felixstowe and surrounding areas. The association is run by a committee who organise the activities in these visits

We have approximately 100 members in our association – a level that has been maintained over a number of years

### Groups visiting from Wesel

In the past year we have welcomed visiting groups from Wesel on three occasions. When these groups arrive the committee arrange day-time activities and evening functions. On occasions this has included visiting nearby towns in East Anglia, though the main focus of the visits is in Felixstowe.

Last year we have welcomed visitors to Felixstowe in April, when among other activities, they attend the Mayor's Ball. Another group of visitors came in October. There were also representatives from Wesel in the carnival procession in July.

By continuing to entertain our visitors from Wesel we aim to have growing numbers of exchanges in the future which will be of benefit to the town of Felixstowe as these visitors obviously spend money while they are here. It also promotes the town of Felixstowe in Germany, and in 2016 we also had a neighbouring town to Wesel represented in the Felixstowe carnival procession.

### Groups from Felixstowe visiting Wesel

Each year the association advertise and arrange trips for members to Wesel where we have activities organised by our counterparts in Wesel. These visits are often organised around the time of festivals in Wesel – eg Culture weekend and the Christmas Markets. The visits have proved very popular, and for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014 over 40 people from Felixstowe went on the trip.

### Fund raising and social activities

The association holds fund raising events throughout the year including quiz nights and raffles. The quiz nights generally have around 50 attendees.

We have a St Niklaus fest meal on 6<sup>th</sup> December each year and this is also very well attended.

Additional funds have been received from Felixstowe Council and together with the quiz nights and raffles, these are used to fund the visits from Wesel and the activities undertaken.