



### **Grant Award from Felixstowe Council 2022**

We were delighted to receive £990 towards our Christmas celebrations at The Hub.

We were able to purchase a real tree and lights and pay for it to be safely installed in our grounds. Many in the community commented on how lovely to see the tree shining brightly during a difficult time with many worried about the winter ahead, the tree was a message of hope to many!

On Thursday December 23<sup>rd</sup> we held our Hub Christmas Party the hall looked very festive, the tables beautifully decorated, and we were overwhelmed with over 80 attending. We were entertained by Lee one of our Hub users who serenaded us with Christmas melodies and had us laughing at his festive jokes! We all sung Christmas carols and then enjoyed a delicious Christmas buffet prepared and served by our amazing team of volunteers. We prepared so much that everyone took home a bag of leftover food in a goody bag along with a Christmas posy of fresh flowers and a gift-wrapped box of biscuits.

The hall echoed with laughter and happiness as people who are often alone came together to celebrate.

The folk were overcome with the afternoon experience and the generosity of Felixstowe Council, and we raised a glass of Schloer as a thank you.

As folk left many commented how wonderful the event had been and the gift would go under their tree with a few adding it would be their only Christmas gift!

So thank you Felixstowe Council for making St Philips Community Hub Christmas special this year for so many.

Carolyn Jones

St Philips Community Hub Lead