Autumn

Issue 26

The Seasonal Magazine 2025 for Felixstowe Residents







LA VIDA SHOWBAR GOES LIVE IN '25



SEPTEMBER

5TH DJ NIGHT
6TH BEYONCÉ TRIBUTE CLUB NIGHT
12TH 88MPH BAND NIGHT
13TH MARK ANTHONY & ISSAC REGGAE RNR NIGHT
19TH SHAR COOTERIE DRAG QUEEN
20TH LUNR DISCO PROJECT
25TH LA COMEDA COMEDY CLUB LEGENDS
26TH DRAG BINGO
27TH LUSCIOUS LEONA'S CAMP NIGHT OUT

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OCTOBER

3RD RANKIN 2 TONE SKA NIGHT
4TH BEARY POPPINS DRAG QUEEN
10TH SHANE BAXENDALE SOLO
11TH MISS DQ DRAG QUEEN
17TH DJ CLUB NIGHT
18TH MOVIE NIGHT TRIBUTE BAND
24TH ROCKY HORROR VIEWING PARTY
25TH MONSTER BALL LADY GAGA TRIBUTE
31ST DRAG BINGO WITH LUSCIOUS LEONA



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Hello and welcome to this Autumn edition



t was a great summer and Felixstowe has had numerous events to entertain both young and old.

The Felixstowe Carnival weekend was amazing! The sun shone for the parade, and people came out to support all those who took part. I really enjoyed walking in the procession as Mayor of Felixstowe; it was so lovely to see faces I knew and so many I hadn't met yet. There was music, a Lancaster Bomber fly past, an amazing drone show thanks to Port of Felixstowe, rounded off by fireworks on the Sunday evening. Thank you to all the people who lined the parade route, and everyone that attended the events over the weekend, and, of course, a special thanks those who took part in the procession, to the Carnival committee and all their helpers for their hard work, which made the weekend such a success!



It was a privilege to attend the VJ 80 service, held at Felixstowe War Memorial on 15 August and organised by the Felixstowe branch of the Royal British Legion, to mark the end of all hostilities of World War Two. It was a service to remember and to thank all those who fought during the Second World War in many countries so that we could live in peace. It is so important to remember and to reflect, and a moment to think also of those who are currently at war in other parts of the world.

WAMFest put on 'WAM by the Waves' in the seafront gardens, which was a fantastic celebration of the fantastic women and local talent in Felixstowe. We had lots to experience and listen to, whether it was yoga on the beach or listening to folk music.

The Felixstowe Loves Festival events organised by the Felixstowe BID also brought a plethora of live music and arts to the town. The first weekend was great fun. The second, taking place on 6-7 September, will coincide with Art on the Prom. I'm looking forward to Art on the Prom, meeting the stallholders and enjoying the array of creative and imaginative local talent displayed along the seafront. Supported by Felixstowe Town Council, every year it is a hugely successful event, drawing people to our town.

This year it was the 40th Anniversary of Felixstowe in Flower and it was wonderful visiting our schools and seeing all the amazing work they have been doing. I got some lovely ideas for my garden too. Felixstowe in Flower is a wonderful concept and each year we celebrate our Felixstowe's achievements in making our town both more colourful, and environmentally friendly. I would like to thank all our amazing sponsors which help make this event happen, and to all the people who take part by entering into the competitions. I especially enjoyed judging the school competition this year and seeing the fantastic new entries. On that same note, it was great to see the work of Edible Felixstowe – particularly the bed by Felixstowe Library, which looked very impressive. It's fantastic idea to grow edible plants for Felixstowe people to pick and enjoy.



We are continuing with our Mayor's Charity events, one of which was a treasure hunt walk between the two charities (St. Philip's Community Hub and Felixstowe Opportunity Group). This was a chance to find out more about the work being done by the charities, and the amazing people behind the scenes. Coming up, we have a quiz night on 27 September and a Murder Mystery Evening, with lots more in the pipeline! You can read more about upcoming events on the following page.

After holding an Extraordinary Council meeting in July regarding the future of the Palace Cinema, Felixstowe Town Council decided to explore its potential acquisition and to begin a process of due diligence, including commissioning surveys, valuations and legal advice. Matters will be discussed further at our upcoming Full Council meeting on 3 September.

Have a wonderful Autumn!

[.M. fralli

Cllr Corrine Franklin, Mayor of Felixstowe

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 you would like to submit an article for consideration in the next quarterly edition Winter 2025/26 (covering the period from 1 December - 1 March), please email holly.miles@felixstowe. gov.uk by 15 November.

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. Felixstowe Town Council reserves the right to publish articles at its discretion.

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.

Photo credit: With thanks to Stephen Squirrell for the cover photo and various header images.

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

Felixstowe Opportunity Group:

Nurturing Potential, Supporting Families









The Felixstowe Opportunity Group held its very first fundraising event as one of the Mayor's chosen charities in August, and it couldn't have gone better. Blessed with glorious sunshine, families came together to enjoy a fun-filled afternoon of traditional games and activities.

Children were eager to try their luck at the ever-popular teddy tombola and hook-a-duck, with plenty of prizes being won and lots of laughter along the way. Younger guests especially enjoyed the teddy bear–shaped sandwiches, which proved to be just as much of a hit with the grown-ups!

One of the day's highlights was the moment Oscar won the giant toy dog, which he proudly carried away to the cheers of everyone watching. His smile summed up the spirit of the event—joy, community, and the simple pleasure of making memories together.

The following week also saw the Felixstowe Drama Group stage their annual Show in a Week, this year's production being Barnum. The children had a marvellous time learning and rehearsing the show, and their hard work shone through during the outdoor performance on the Friday evening in the Opportunity Group garden.

It was a wonderful start to the year as a Mayor's charity, with more events to come.



St Philip's Community Hub



Thank you to all who supported our first Mayor's Charity Fundraiser.



The Afternoon Tea was a fabulous afternoon opened by Corrine our Mayor with over 45 folk attending. The tables were beautiful dressed with vintage china and fresh flowers and the food served was delicious.

It was a chance to meet old friends and make new acquaintances and also purchase items from our bring and buy stall. The Afternoon gave us a profit of £430.38 and raised awareness of the work of St Philips Community Hub.

We look forward to seeing you at our next event, to be advised very soon!

OWN COUNC

Who Do I Talk To About?



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

- The office of the Town Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Mayoral arrangements.
- Awarding grants to support local community groups 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.
- Allenby Park and Gosford Way Park.
- Floral bedding at The Triangle.
- Felixstowe's Civic Awards scheme.
- Supporting the town's Twinning and Partnership arrangements with the Germans towns of Wesel and Salzwedel.
- Felixstowe Youth Forum.
- Funding the Christmas Lights (supported by the Lions Club of Felixstowe).
- Representation on local planning applications, strategic planning and consultations.

- 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 Suffolk County Council Registrar, open to the public for meetings and 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.
- Annual funding and contribution to key local service providers including Felixstowe Coast Patrol & Rescue, LevelTwo Youth Project, Citizen's Advice and the Landguard Fort Trust.
- Felixstowe Cemetery and its Gardens of Rest.

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



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

- 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 Services Ltd.)
- Benefits
- Community Safety
- Elections
- Housing needs
- Maintaining the resort of Felixstowe and the provision of the beach huts

- Maintenance of Felixstowe's public parks, open spaces and place areas (in conjunction with East Suffolk Services)
- Public car parks and parking enforcement
- Licensing, Environmental and Port Health
- Leisure Services (in conjunction with Places Leisure)
- Street cleaning

Call 0333 016 2000 or visit www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk East Suffolk Services can be contacted via 03300 166111



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

- Highways (except motorways and Major A roads, which are the responsibility of Highways England)
- Education and Libraries
- Social Services
- Trading Standards
- Public transport
- Fire and Rescue Services
- Waste and recycling centres

- 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

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

Town Councillors 2025/26

Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Corrine Franklin Deputy Mayor of Felixstowe: Cllr Darren Aitchison

Walton Ward



Amanda Folley * amanda.folley@felixstowe.gov.uk 01394 282086



Mike Deacon *
mike.deacon@felixstowe.gov.uk
01394 211146



Margaret Morris margaret.morris@felixstowe.gov.uk 01394 274345

Central Ward



Darren Aitchison

darren.aitchison@felixstowe.gov.uk 07838 215 964



Seamus Bennett * **

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Jan Candy * jan.candy@felixstowe.gov

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East Ward



Nick Barber

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Bernard Price

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Steve Wiles **

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South Ward



Sharon Harkin

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Wendy Underwood

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Port Ward



Stuart Bird **

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Marc James

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David Rowe

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Michael Sharman

michael.sharman@felixstowe.gov.uk 01394 213071



Corrine Franklin

corrine.franklin@felixstowe.gov.uk 07703 575 121

Kev

- * Councillor is also a Member of East Suffolk Council
- ** Councillor is also a Member of Suffolk County Council





Felixstowe Town Council

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

		8
3rd September	Ordinary Council	7:30pm
10th September	Planning & Environment	9:30am
10th September	Civic & Community	7:30pm
17th September	Assets & Services	7:30pm
24th September	Planning & Environment	9:30am
1st October	Personnel	6:00pm
8th October	Planning & Environment	9:30am
15th October	Finance & Governance	7:30pm
22nd October	Civic & Community	7:30pm
22nd October	Planning & Environment	9:30am
5th November	Planning & Environment	9:30am
5th November	Ordinary Council	7:30pm
19th November	Planning & Environment	9:30am
19th November	Assets & Services	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 Officer holly.miles@felixstowe.gov.uk

Janine Smith – Assets & Services Officer janine.smith@felixstowe.gov.uk



Felixstowe Library - What's on offer

Top Time - Every Tuesday - 2pm in The Hadwen Room Come along to our social group for older people and join in with our activities. Get involved with games and chat with others in a friendly and relaxed

Stay and Play - Every Thursday 10.15am - 11.45am Children's section Stay & Play groups for parents and babies. Socialise and meet other parents and carers at our Stay & Play sessions for preschool children and their adults

Open Space - Every Thursday - 2pm in The Hadwen Room If you're looking to meet new people and find out about local events and resources to support your wellbeing, come to an Open Space drop-in. Everyone is welcome.

Wordplay and Tot Rock - Every Friday 9.10am & 10.10am sessions -Children's section. Story time and nursery rhyme fun for preschoolers.

Baby Bounce - Every Friday 11.10am - Children's section Age 0-1yrs - meet new parents and enjoy songs and sensory activities with your

Lego Club - Every Saturday 10-3pm - in The Hadwen Room Join us for our weekly Lego Club! Get involved in fun creative building activities in the welcoming space of the library. Let your imagination run wild and create something unique!

Sunday Funday - 2nd Sunday of the Month 10.30am-2.30pm Fun crafts and activities in the Children's section. A different theme each

Barclays Bank - each week on Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am-5pm. Help with anything from money management and financial health, to buying or improving your home and supporting your business.

Halifax - fortnightly - Wednesdays 9am - 3pm. 3rd & 17th Sept, 1st, 15th & 29th Oct. Felixstowe Community Banker | Savings, Loans, Credit Cards & Mortgages in Felixstowe

East Suffolk Council - Every Friday - 10am-4pm A drop-in service run by the council to help and support any ESC queries.

Room Hire:

- The Hadwen Room Max 40 people
- The Room at the top Max 40 people
- Small meeting room Max 4 people

Cost: £11 per hour for community/charity/private bookings, £16.50 per hour for commercial/statutory bookings

Opening Hours:

Address: Monday 10am - 4pm Crescent Road. Tuesday 9am - 5.30pm Felixstowe, Wednesday 9am - 7.30pm IP11 7BY

Thursday 9am - 5.30pm Friday 9am - 5.30pm Saturday 9am-5pm Sunday 10am-4pm

Out of hours book return is available at this library.

Felixstowe - Suffolk Community Libraries www.suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/libraries/felixstowe Email: library.help@suffolk.gov.uk

The Friends of Felixstowe Library

The aim of the Friends group is to promote Felixstowe Library and to support the library through fundraising.

Library staff member, Amy Giddins – works hard to engage with the schools in our town.

Before the end of last term, 87 children from Fairfield Infant School (year 2) and 26 children from SET Felix School reception age all visited the library and were given a "I visited Felixstowe Library today" sticker.

In July, the library held a mini graduation for a small group of children that the staff had known since they were toddlers, who attended singing every

Friday. They are now off to big school (Reception). The Friends group sponsored the small goody bag. which included a little book.

Currently, we are looking to replace the large screen in the Hadwen Room and are engaging with Felixstowe Men's Shed to obtain a storage unit for

Felixstowe Newspaper journals and other historic books. Felixstowe Lifeboat Shanty Night at Landguard Fort – 27th September 2025



Ahoy there! One of Felixstowe's beloved community events is back—this time the Felixstowe Lifeboat Shanty Night is being held at the historic Landguard Fort on Saturday, 27th September 2025, promising an evening of maritime music and laughter. This unique event is key to raising vital funds

for the Felixstowe Lifeboat, a volunteer-run charity that plays a crucial role in keeping our coastline safe.

Operated as a fully independent lifeboat and HM Coastguard search and rescue asset and a founder member of NILA (National Independent Lifeboat Association), the team provides emergency response and safety cover along the

busy Suffolk coast around the Felixstowe coastline, the river Orwell and Deben.

This year's line-up includes:

- Swinging The Lead The acclaimed resident shanty singers of the Cutty Sark
- Hoy Boy Essex's own enthusiastic sea shanty singer
- The Orwellermen Shanty Crew -Based on the banks of the River Orwell, a mixed crew of shanty singers.
- The Smugglers of Alnesbourne A local shanty group from Alnesborne, Nacton.
- · A licensed bar and a chance to meet the lifeboat crew and learn more about their work.



Performances starting at 6:30 PM.

Please join us for a night of nautical nostalgia and help support the volunteers who risk their lives to keep ours safe. All proceeds of ticket sales go to Felixstowe Lifeboat. Tickets are now available on Eventbrite (search on Google for Felixstowe Lifeboat Shanty Night or tickets are available via https://felixstowelifeboat.org.uk/shanty More details about Felixstowe Lifeboat can be found at:-

www.felixstowelifeboat.org.uk

Felixstowe Fairtrade Forum





In the last issue of the magazine we wrote about two of the projects we have been working on over the past several months – the Felixstowe Fairtrade Chocolate Bar and the schools Fairtrade video. Both projects have now come to fruition.

The Felixstowe Chocolate Bar was launched by the Mayor, Corrine Franklin, on 9 July at the Town Hall (see picture) and the event was filmed for the final clip of the schools video, with children from Colneis and Trimley St Mary schools. Afterwards the Mayor visited Taba Naba, Stillwater Books and Cookie Barista – three of the initial outlets that had agreed to sell





The bar is now available at over a dozen shops and cafes in the town, with over 400 bars being distributed by the Felixstowe Business Improvement District in the first month.

Many thanks to Jon Trotter and his team for

all their support in launching the bar under their 'Love Felixstowe' brand.

The schools video is in the final stages of being edited and is being officially launched on Monday 22 September at the start of Fairtrade Fortnight. It is being made available to local schools and will also be shown at our Fairtrade Family Fun Day on Saturday 27 September at Felixstowe Library. The Fun Day will run from 10am to 2pm and there will be games, competitions, refreshments and a chocolate fountain. Entrance is free and all are welcome.

Felixstowe Chamber of Commerce: Upcoming Cyber Security Events



Cyber security is no longer an optional consideration for organisations of any size – it is a vital part of protecting data, reputation, and customer trust. This October, to coincide with Cybersecurity Month, Felixstowe Chamber of Commerce is

hosting two highly engaging events to help local businesses and organisations strengthen their defences and learn essential best practices.

On Wednesday 9th October at Felixstowe Golf Club, the Chamber presents Investing in Infrastructure. This informative session is designed to raise awareness of the importance of timely and correct decision-making when it comes to cyber security. Participants will explore why investment in digital infrastructure should be a business priority, with practical guidance on how to identify risks and safeguard operations.

A week later, on Wednesday 16th October at Felixstowe Sailing Club, the Chamber brings something a little different – the Cyber Escape Room. This interactive exercise places participants inside a high-pressure investigation with the 'police cybercrime unit'. Teams must work together to unmask an organised crime gang by completing a series of challenges within 30 minutes. Along the way, participants will learn about phishing, data leakage, strong passwords, and other crucial online safety behaviours. The event is ideal for teams of four, and with multiple 'rooms' running simultaneously, there is plenty of opportunity to take part – but numbers are limited, so early booking is essential.

Both events promise valuable insight and hands-on experience for businesses and individuals keen to boost their cyber resilience.

Book your place now at: https://felixstowechamber.co.uk/events/

Felixstowe Museum





After a super busy summer holiday period, the next big event on the horizon is the Museum's Heritage Open Day on 20th September. For one day only we will be open for free alongside Landguard Fort, so what better time to visit us? As well as our usual fourteen rooms of exhibitions and family friendly trails, we will have special environmental workshops with Clare



Sams, Suffolk Libraries first ever Environmentalist in Residence, as well as an extra special selection of cakes and snacks in our Beehive Café. The theme of this year's national Heritage Open Days Festival is buildings, and Felixstowe Museum's home is something unique. As possibly the last intact purpose-built submarine mining building in the country dating to 1878, it is worth seeing for yourself!

This autumn is also the last chance to see Clare Sams creative Self/Contained exhibition at the Museum. Featuring ten collage artworks inspired by trips to Felixstowe, the display highlights issues of sustainability and waste in the fast fashion industry through its depictions of the Port of Felixstowe. Supported by Museum Development South East, Self/Contained has been accompanied by a series of workshops teaching sustainable skills, the last of which will be on Heritage Open Day.

If you are interested in helping with any of these events, or are looking for a way to give back to the community and engage in the history of your area, Felixstowe Museum is always looking for volunteers. Volunteers at the Museum can get involved in any aspect of Museum work, from curation to visitor welcome and retail, so email felmuseum@btopenworld.com for more information!



Felixstowe Town Council Explores Future of Palace Cinema

 $Felix stowe\ Town\ Council\ has\ begun\ exploring\ the\ potential\ acquisition\ of\ the\ Palace\ Cinema,\ one\ of\ the\ town's\ most\ recognisable\ cultural\ landmarks.$

At an Extraordinary Council Meeting on 29 July 2025, Members agreed to begin a process of due diligence, including commissioning surveys, valuations and legal advice, to assess the viability of acquiring the building.

Mayor of Felixstowe, Cllr Corrine Franklin, said:

"The Palace Cinema has been part of Felixstowe's cultural and social fabric for generations. We recognise its importance to our community and the potential value it could bring if preserved and enhanced as a venue for culture, leisure, and community use. While no decision has been made to purchase the building, the Council feels it has a duty to explore this opportunity seriously and with care."

The Council will be engaging with the vendor, their agents, and potential partners as part of the process.

Subject to the outcome of these discussions and the findings of the due diligence work, a full business case will be presented to Council before any decision is made on whether to proceed with a formal offer.

"This is the start of a process — not the end," added Mayor Franklin. "We want to ensure that any decision we make is in the long-term interests of Felixstowe and its residents."

The Felixstowe RAF Air Cadets are Recruiting!



At 356 (Felixstowe) Squadron ATC - Royal Air Force Air Cadets; we are proud to offer a wide variety of high-quality activity and training to the young people of Felixstowe and the surrounding area. Powered flying, gliding, the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, adventure training, sport, fieldcraft, archery, parade drill, RAF station visits, leadership training, STEM activity, radio & cyberspace training, level 1, 2 & 3 BTEC's in different subjects, first aid qualifications, and more are on your doorstep.

We also undertake multi-squadron level camps, courses, competitions and weeklong camps locally, nationally and globally all year round. All residential activities offer a wide variety of activities for all Cadets of all experiences.

We meet every Monday & Wednesday between 19:00-21:30 at our Squadron HQ where Cadets undertake various training and activities in addition to finding out about upcoming events and opportunities in Felixstowe and beyond. There is a charge of just £15 per month to be a Felixstowe Air Cadet.



You can join in when you are in school Year 8 or above! Email 356@rafac.mod.gov.uk to sign up or ask any questions.

Flight Lieutenant Reece Seaman RAFAC | 356 (Felixstowe) Sqn ATC | Royal Air Force Air Cadets | HQ Adastral Close off Carr Road, IP11 3RX | W3W = spacing. nicer.shops

Felixstowe Wesel Association

In July we welcomed our largest group of visitors from Wesel, for many years, to join us for Carnival. There were over 60 in the party. The first part of the group arrived on the Thursday morning on the overnight ferry to Harwich. Our thanks to Ruby's for dealing with our group of 33 for breakfast. Then the Fanfare Corp arrived on the Friday evening. Thank you to Level 2 for their help in accommodating many of the group.



The Wesel Fanfare Corp were honoured to lead the procession this year. The Wesel Karneval Prince and Princess followed Felixstowe Carnival Queen and were joined by members of the Wesel Karneval Group and Wesel Firefighters. The rest of Saturday and Sunday the group were left to do their own thing, with many exploring Felixstowe and further afield in Suffolk.

On the Sunday evening the association treated to visitors to a Fish & Chip supper at the Fish Dish, who once again looked after us very well. The weekend concluded with most of the group joining our chairman, at his home, to watch the fireworks. Monday was an early for the day ferry home. It was a great weekend for reconnecting with old friends and making new ones.



In October there will be a group going to Wesel for their Hansa Fest. In November we have our popular Quiz Night and December we will have our annual St Nikolaus Fest supper.

If you would like to become a member of the association, take part in our social events or maybe see if your group/club could find a twin in Wesel, then contact The Secretary, Anthony, by emailing felixstowe.wesel.assn@gmail.com

Seasonal volunteers needed - can you help?





So soon after a glorious summer, it feels too early to mention Christmas, but preparations are already underway for Santa and Rudolph's tours around Felixstowe and the surrounding villages.

This beloved and decades-old tradition sees a collaboration between three Felixstowe charities - Rotary, Save the Children, and Lions - who share the planning, routes covered and

proceeds collected. Maps are reviewed and amended, dates decided, equipment and provisions checked and replenished, and crew volunteers approached.

These crews comprise trailer drivers, team leaders, tech supervisors, Santas, and people to collect the much-appreciated donations to our causes.

If you are interested in joining in any of these capacities, we'd love to hear from you. Perhaps you are skilled at towing, happy to set up the sleigh and operate the contactless machine, or can knock on doors to collect contributions. Maybe you'd like to don the red suit and white beard! Perhaps you just love the build up to Christmas, with its bright lights and festive tunes. Are you community minded, and keen to make a difference to fellow citizens? Or are you a local business that could sponsor some of the costs, such as the sweets that Santa distributes to the town's children, to their delight!

Whatever your talents or motivations, please contact us to find out more about how you can get involved, using the following email address: p.j.griffiths@btinternet.com

Your Local Funeral Professionals

Serving families in Suffolk for many years



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79 St Andrews Road, Felixstowe IP11 7BW **01394 671 999**





We are proud to be Dignity Funeral Directors, providing a 5 star service to families across the UK.

Our Environment

Edible Felixstowe: BBC Suffolk Make a Difference Awards 2025 Finalists



July brought some wonderful news for Edible Felixstowe we've been named as finalists in the prestigious BBC Suffolk Make a Difference Awards 2025!



To mark the occasion, one of the BBC's producers joined us in town to find out more about what we do. You can watch the brilliant reel they created on our Facebook page, and some of you may have caught our segment on their breakfast show. The awards ceremony takes place in mid-September – so watch this space for the results!

A Growing Season to Remember

This summer has been one of our best yet. Our new raised beds at Felixstowe Library have been a real highlight – they look smarter, are easier to maintain, and have been producing a generous supply of fresh herbs and vegetables. The space has been further enhanced by the unveiling of the TULIPs memorial tree on the wall beside our beds, which beautifully complements our garden.

Elsewhere, the salad bowl, station planters, and the blue planters along Hamilton Road are bursting with life. As we write, the tomatoes are ripening, lettuce and herbs have been plentiful, and the sweetcorn is shooting up by the week. Please do help yourself to anything ripe – it's there for everyone to enjoy. This is why we grow stuff

Looking Ahead: Grow, Cook, Eat Festival 2025

We're also thrilled to announce that our second Grow, Cook, Eat Festival will take place on Saturday 4th October from 11-2 at Great Eastern Square. If you joined us last year, you'll remember the buzzing atmosphere, free delicious food, heaps of fresh produce, and stalls from local makers and growers as well as live music, and remember the smoothie bike? It's back with a smaller version so children can have a pedal as well. This year's event promises to be just as exciting, so save the date and watch for more updates as the day approaches.

From tending raised beds to bringing the community together through fresh, local food, Edible Felixstowe continues to grow – in every sense of the word.

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Coastal Discoveries Await at **Landguard Nature Reserve**

Landguard Nature Reserve



Felixstowe's Landguard Nature Reserve is offering local schools, scout groups, and youth clubs a chance to get hands-on with nature through its exciting new Coastal Discovery programme.

This free outdoor learning initiative is designed to spark a lifelong love of wildlife and inspire young minds to explore the maritime world right on their doorstep.

Jointly funded by Harwich Haven Authority (HHA) and Boskalis Westminster, the programme offers tailored sessions for EYFS, KS1, and KS2 pupils. Led by the Landguard Ranger, children explore one of Suffolk's most ecologically rich landscapes, including rare, vegetated shingle, acid grassland, and bramble scrub.

The programme features three themed sessions:



- Biodiversity Discover wildflowers and marine life using ID guides and classification keys.
- Environmental Protection -Learn about ocean plastics and take part in a beach litter pick.

• Maritime Industry -

Use Landguard Beach to explore the Port of Felixstowe, estuaries, and the role of dredging and habitat creation.

Each session can be enjoyed individually or combined into a two-hour coastal adventure. The impact is already being felt by local pupils:



"The children had such an incredible time—they were completely engaged throughout and loved the hands-on experience. So many of them said the litter pick was their favourite part of the day, and it's been truly inspiring to see how motivated they are now to look after our seas and local environment."

Grange Primary School

To find out more email enquiries@landguardtrust.org.uk

Felixstowe Seafront Gardens Presented with Coveted Green Flag Award for the 10th Consecutive Year

Felixstowe Seafront Garden receive prestigious Green Flag Award after achieving international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

The site is one of 2,250 in the UK to achieve the award, which is the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

The news that the Felixstowe Seafront Gardens have met the standards required for the accreditation is testament to the hard work and dedication of the team that care for the green space so that visitors and residents alike can enjoy it.



Green Flag Award Scheme Manager, Paul Todd MBE, said: "Congratulations to everyone involved in the upkeep of Felixstowe Seafront Gardens who have worked tirelessly to ensure that it achieves the high standards required for the Green Flag Award.

"Quality parks and green spaces like the Felixstowe Seafront Gardens make the country a heathier place to live and work in, and a stronger place in which to invest.



"Crucially, the Felixstowe Seafront Gardens are a vital green space for communities in Felixstowe to enjoy nature, and during the ongoing cost of living crisis it is a free and safe space for families to socialise. It also provides important opportunities for local people and visitors to reap the physical and mental health benefits of green space."

The Mayor of Felixstowe, Cllr Corrine Franklin, said: "Felixstowe can be immensely proud of its Seafront Gardens, which have been awarded a Green Flag for the 10th year running. Whatever the season of the year, there is always life and colour to be found there.

The beauty of our Seafront Gardens is down to the hard work of the staff at East Suffolk Services, and to the Friends of Felixstowe Seafront Gardens, who spend many hours maintaining the flower beds and shrubs, as well as the attentive care of Mr London who looks after the Arch Cascade Pond".

The Green Flag Award scheme, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy under licence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of green spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.



Community Energy is coming to Felixstowe

Deben Climate Centre works across Suffolk engaging communities in climate action & nature recovery. They are bringing their Lottery-funded Community Energy project to Felixstowe.

In a community energy project, people work together to reduce their energy use and generate low carbon heat and power locally. In practice, this takes the form of increasing awareness, providing funding for insulation, increasing solar generation, and exploring local opportunities for onshore wind.

The group will be opening a Community Energy infopoint at the Felixstowe Wellbeing Hub on Great Eastern Square, where you'll be able to get free advice on all aspects of home energy efficiency, lowering your energy bills, insulation and more from their Energy Champions. Wew will even visit your home to help you understand how you could cut your bills.

In addition, the project will be looking to work with local groups to identify possible sites for the generation of community owned renewable energy, with the goal of reducing Felixstowe's carbon footprint. You can learn more and get involved at debenclimate.org, or on Facebook and Instagram.

Felixstowe Garden Club



By the time you read this we will have had our Annual Show on the 9th August and hopefully a good time was had by all, although what with the changing climate, a very dry and hot Spring and early Summer, I'm sure finding enough flowers etc to show was challenging!

Our September meeting will be taking place at Katie's Garden for a behind the scenes look at what makes a very successful business.

Our 14th October meeting will be held back in the OFCA building with Lucy Skinner talking to us about Auricular's.

11th November Chris Wiley will be delving into what goes on Behind the Scenes of Bury in Bloom

9th December is our AGM and Christmas Party

Visitors are very welcome, £5 cash on the door (refunded if you decide to join our membership). Free refreshments available from 6.30pm, meeting starts at 7pm.

Hope to see you there! For more details contact Val White 07858464932 or see on our Felixstowe Garden Club Facebook page.

Felixstowe Allotment Association



It seems that all growers, myself included are obsessed with the weather. In my last article only a few months back I spoke of drought and how fortunate allotmenteers in Felixstowe have access to water. Well the dry spell finished and boy did the crops catch up. This season has seen an

abundance of fruit, let alone other crops including my fantastic potatoes. The strawberries just kept coming and were huge. Looking at the shop prices I was picking a small fortune each week.

Now, in early August we have moved away from soft fruit into stone fruits and apples, let alone pears and figs. The plums are huge, some branches are laden and without support some trees are suffering from broken and snapped boughs. Just as an aside but a little worrying is the ongoing development of new homes, two estates being built alongside our two largest allotment sites, Ferry Road and Cowpasture in Candlet Road.

Articles are appearing in national newspapers and now social media concerning allotment sites being sold off for development by the parish or town councils. Government consent is required in accordance with the laws that govern allotments. The Felixstowe Allotment Association continues to meet quarterly with the Town council and we are assured there are no plans to reduce the plots in town. In fact within the current development "North Felixstowe Garden Neighbourhood "there are plans showing two new sites which may ultimately be handed to the Town council

The actual dates are not known given the consultation period has effectively been extended. We are closely watching this scheme as you might expect.



Felixstowe has long been known for its charming seaside ambiance and historic port, but this summer, the town gained something extra: an electric buzz that pulsed through every street, café, and shop. The inaugural Felixstowe Loves Festival, held from 15th to 17th August 2025, drew visitors from far and wide, literally hundreds of them, to soak up a weekend filled with creativity, community, and coastal celebration.

> This was no ordinary local fair. The festival. driven by the energy of Felixstowe BID in collaboration with Noise of Art.

transformed the town with a multi-venue extravaganza. Music and art featured everywhere, from the bustling seafront and Beach Street to The Triangle and even outside The Alex. An art trail wove through the town, while eco-activities and a heartfelt community art installation, The Wall of Hearts, made from hundreds of local contributions, added waves of meaning to the fun.

The impact on the local economy was immediate and welcome. Cafes filled with visitors chatting over coffee, shops saw footfall spike, and the seaside's usual charm was enhanced by the festival's vibrant energy. This was more than a cultural moment, it was a boost to businesses and visibility for the whole town. Local traders, hoteliers, artisans, and restaurateurs all benefited from the surge of traffic.

The lineup itself was an irresistible draw. The August weekend kicked off with Jazzie B, the founder of Soul II Soul, delivering a beachfront set that echoed with Grammy winning nostalgia and energy.



Wait, there's more!

What makes Felixstowe Loves even more exciting is what's coming next. This cultural festival isn't a one-off, it's becoming a feature of Felixstowe's summer identity. The upcoming Felixstowe Loves Art Festival, returning on 6th & 7th September, promises another spectacular weekend. Headlining is Aswad, often touted as Britain's biggest reggae act. Aswad arrives in Felixstowe in their 50th anniversary year, bringing sunshine reggae rhythms to the shoreline - a perfect soundtrack for the town's transition from summer into early autumn.

So here's to Felixstowe Loves, and to September's Art Festival. With

> Aswad on stage and art across the town, the coming weekend promises to be a celebration worthy of thi proud, industrious, and beautiful coastal town.

















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CHRISTMAS FAMILY PANTOMIME! 20 DEC, 2025 - 4 JAN, 2026



WHAT'S ON AT A GLANCE

SEP -06 EVE 7:30PM SAT Money for Nothing – Dire Straits Tribute FRI 12 **EVE** 8:00PM **Endless Love - Diana Ross & Lionel Ritchie** SAT 13 **EVE** 7:30PM The UB40 Experience **Chuckl - Stand Up Comedy** FRI 19 **EVE** 7:30PM SAT 20 **EVE** 7:30PM **Lipstick on Your Collar** FRI 26 **EVE** 8:00PM Oasish: As We Were SAT 27 **EVE** 7:30PM Thank You for the Music - ABBA SUN 28 MAT 3:00PM The Glenn Miller Orchestra OCT FRI 03 EVE 7:30PM **Traveling Wilburys Experience** 04 **EVE** 7:30PM SAT The Sound of Springsteen MORE @ FRI 10 **EVE** 7:30PM **Dirty Dusting (18+)** FXSPA. SAT 11 **EVE** 7:30PM Illegal Eagles CO.UK THU **EVE** 7:30PM **Jason Manford** 16 SAT 18 **EVE** 7:30PM **Lost in Music** WED 22 **EVE** 7:30PM In Conversation with Anton Du Beke

PRE-SHOW DINING BOOKABLE: 01394 336 336

The History of Rock

Twist & Shout





EVE 7:30PM

EVE 7:30PM

MAT 2:00PM

FRI

SAT

FRI

25



Flowers & Friendship Bracelets (Tributes to Taylor Swift, Miley Cyrus, Olivia Rodrigo & Sabrina Carpenter)





WED 22 OCT - 7:30PM

THU 11 DEC - 7:30PM

THU 16 OCT - 7:30PM

DO YOU HAVE A BRIGHT IDEA TO BENEFIT FELIXSTOWE?

APPLY FOR OCCASIONAL GRANT FUNDING FROM FELIXSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL BY

30 SEPTEMBER 2025.

MORE INFORMATION AND AN APPLICATION FORM CAN BE FOUND AT WWW.FELIXSTOWE.GOV.UK/GRANTS



Are you a local community group, organisation or charity with a bright idea to benefit Felixstowe and the surrounding area? Why not apply for Occasional Grant Funding from Felixstowe Town Council?

Felixstowe Town Council is committed to supporting and strengthening the many community groups, organisations and charities in Felixstowe and the surrounding area. If you have an idea for a community project, are looking to improve your facilities, or require financial support to expand your operations, you may be eligible for a grant from Felixstowe Town Council.

For the year 2025/26 a total of £35,000 has been made available to support community organisations which are able demonstrate a clear need for financial support and which contribute towards the vision and aims for Felixstowe. Projects and activities must have a specific benefit to residents of Felixstowe. The Town Council particularly invites applications for projects with an environmental benefit.

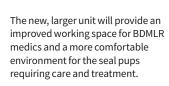
Examples of Previous Recipients

In the first round of grant funding, £11,622 was awarded to nine different community groups and organisations. Some examples of the projects that have previously been awarded with Occasional Grant Funding are:

The British Divers Marine Life Rescue



The British Diver Marine Life Rescue received £2000 to support the provision of a new and improved unit to provide care for seal pups in needs, proceeding the mobile seal rescue unit that was previously utilised.





New Application Deadlines

There are now three opportunities to apply for Occasional Grant Funding from Felixstowe Town Council.

- Round One 31 May
- Round Two 30 September
- Round Three 31 January

The upcoming deadline to apply for Occasional Grant Funding from Felixstowe Town Council is **30 September 2025.** Please see our website for further information, to download an application form and to view our Occasional Grant Policy. The policy gives details of how to complete the application and what information to include. If you require assistance with the application process or to submit your completed application form please contact Debbie Frost via **debbie.frost@felixstowe.gov.uk** or **01394 288192.**



6th Old Felixstowe Scout Group



In the first round of Occasional Grant Funding, the 6th Old Felixstowe Scout Group received £500 of funding for cooking equipment to be used at their District Camp. The cooking equipment has been utilised by the Cubs group to develop their skills.

Suffolk Mind



Suffolk Mind received £500 to support GreenCare – allotment based ecotherapy project, aimimg to improve the physical and mental health of participants and to encourage them to meet and work alongside new people.

The digging, sowing, planting and harvesting of crops is intended to provide a sense of achievement and community. Suffolk Mind have allotments across Suffolk, including an allotment at Felixstowe Town Council's Cowpasture allotment site, utilised for the GreenCare scheme.





Come and Sing: Ola Gjeilo's Northern Lights – A Day of Choral Beauty in Felixstowe



On Saturday 4th October 2025, singers from across the region are invited to gather at St Mary's Church, Walton, Felixstowe for an immersive day of music-making under the direction of Chandra Grover.

The focus of the day will be Northern Lights by Norwegian composer Ola Gjeilo – an SSAA choral setting of a Latin text from the Song of Solomon. Written in 2007, the work was inspired by the composer's memories of the aurora borealis over his home country. The result is a piece of music that seems to shimmer and glow, capturing both the mystery and majesty of the northern skies.





Come and Sing days are open to all you don't need to have sung the piece before. The atmosphere is relaxed and supportive, making it an ideal opportunity to try something new, connect with other singers, and deepen your choral skills.

The £20 ticket price includes your sheet music, and tea and coffee will be available throughout the day. Please bring a packed lunch.

Whether you're a seasoned choral singer or simply curious about this spellbinding piece, the day promises to be a celebration of harmony, community, and the sheer joy of singing.

For more information email Chandra Grover at lovetoharmonise@gmail.com Or to book www.ticketsource.co.uk/comeandsing-northernlights Best wishes, Chandra

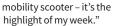
Singing for Health and Happiness in Felixstowe



Suffolk-based choir, Pop Chorus, are known for bringing smiles and joyful uplifting music wherever they go, and raising money for local charities, but you may not be familiar with the outreach work they do... Community Pop Chorus create opportunities for people all around Suffolk to participate in group singing, with a focus on improving wellbeing, in a friendly, and inclusive environment. They're now launching a new monthly

singing group at Felixstowe Opportunity Group (next to the Community Hub). "I know there are so many people who would love to take part in something sociable and uplifting like this, but can't travel far, so I'm really glad that we're starting this new wellbeing singing session in Felixstowe. And the great thing is, you don't need to be a 'singer' or have any experience – it's just a relaxed, fun thing to do with other people." said Pop Chorus Director, Yula Andrews.

Singing in a group is proven to offer many benefits, from helping with breathing (including people with COPD and asthma), to supporting memory and motor skills (particularly beneficial to the elderly and people with dementia). And, of course, everyone knows that singing is good for mental health – it just makes you feel good! As participant, Ann, says "The singing group means so much to me. My husband has Parkinsons disease and I'm his main carer; going to singing means we can relax and enjoy the company of other people." Another regular, Sam, agrees, "I have MS, so come on my





This new group will be singing well-known songs from the 50s, 60s, 70s and beyond – think Nancy Sinatra, Motown, Frankie Valli, Tina Turner, and so many more! Sessions are

predominantly seated, with the option to stand for some songs, but nobody is expected to do anything more than they're comfortable with. Everything is sung in unison, with words provided, and there's always a long tea break for chatting (and biscuits!).

Sessions will be on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 10.30am-12.30pm, although you're welcome to leave during the tea break, if an hour is enough. There's no need to pre-book, and the group is run on a pay-as-you-go, donation basis. You'll find them at Felixstowe Opportunity Group, Community Hub, Maidstone Road, IP11 9EF. You can just turn up, or contact Yula for more information – sing@popchorus.co.uk, popchorus.co.uk/wellbeing.

Felixstowe Art Group



FELIXSTOWE FIRT GROUP

During the summer we are busy preparing for our August exhibition, our biggest event of the year. At our recent AGM we held the poster competition for this annual event. The winner was Gillian Lait with her pastel painting 'Sunset over Felixstowe Port' congratulations Gillian.

This exhibition provides an excellent chance to showcase our group to the community, an opportunity for our members to display their wonderful art and a great chance for you to view or purchase original artwork at affordable prices. Cards and prints are also being offered. The excellence of entries on display are improving every year.

Start Wednesday 6th August, opening 10am - 6pm, ending on Saturday 9th August at 5pm. Entry is free, however donations are very welcome. Held at Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Orwell road, Felixstowe.



In addition we have our Tuesday evening events programme at Broadway House, Orwell Road from 7.30pm - 9.30pm. Some are for members only (see your programme included in membership). Those open for visitors include 22/07/25 Lorette Roberts demo and talk on keeping a sketchbook, 23/09/25 Carole Massey demo 'Atmospheric landscapes in pastels'. A £2 fee applies for visitors.

For further details visit www.felixstoweartgroup.org or our new Facebook page for events

Janet Woodard

OPERATION: RADAR

Black & White Productions are a semi-professional theatre company based at Two Sisters Arts Centre. We have been touring plays about local Suffolk events and characters since 2005 – so this is our 20th Anniversary year.

So to celebrate - in association with Bawdsey Radar Trust and supported by Victory 80 VE/VJ Grants funded by Museum Development South East (MDSE) - we are touring one of the first plays we ever performed First in The Field – but rewritten and developed into a new version with music by local Felixstowe author and founder of B&W Suzanne Hawkes

OPERATION:RADAR's first run of performances in April at Two Sisters Arts Centre was mostly SOLD OUT – with lots of good feedback. **RESERVE on 01394 279613 or buy online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/black-white-productions**



SCAN OR COL

It's a race against time as Boffins Robert Watson Watt and Skip Wilkins try to come up with solutions to the impossible problems of detecting aircraft and IFF (identifying friend or foe) before they succumb to the bleak conditions of Orfordness - or Hitler unleashes the might of the Luftwaffe and wipes out the RAF 'before the flying boys have got their socks on!'. But as they re-establish operations at Bawdsey Manor, and Churchill piles on the pressure, will Air Marshall Dowding retain his sanity long enough to be any help? And even if they do find answers - who will operate the new Chain Home Stations now all the men are being called up?

Performance dates:

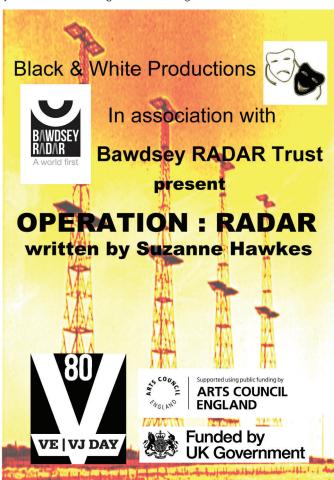
Tuesday 2nd Sept/Wednesday 3rd Sept 7.45pm **TWO SISTERS ARTS CENTRE, Trimley St Mary nr Felixstowe** - Preview performances - ALL TICKETS £10

Saturday 6th Sept/Sunday 7th Sept 2.30pm **BAWDSEY RADAR MUSEUM** - ALL TICKETS £15 – will include return ferry from Felixstowe – Bawdsey, shuttle bus between Bawdsey Quay and entry to the Museum before the performance.

Sunday 14th Sept 2.30pm **HARVEST HOUSE, Felixstowe** - Tickets £15/£13 (HH residents £10)

Tickets available to reserve on 01394 279613 or online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/black-white-productions

This VE and VJ Day commemoration project is supported using public funding by UK Government through Arts Council England



Pier Projects



In keeping with this period of transformation - the seasonal shift to Autumn - we want to share our latest news and developments.

We are excited to be working with artists and communities on a new publication and a symposium focused on art and social change which will both be shared in Felixstowe on 6th November.



There is additional poignancy to both the book and symposium because after careful consideration, these will be our final programmes as Pier Projects. We have taken the decision to cease activity and formally close as a not-for-profit organisation at the end of this year. The last eight years have brought to the fore many urgent issues we face as individuals and communities: we now

want to take time to reflect and seek new ways of contributing to discussions and actions that reflect these changes.

The books and the symposium will both explore the opportunities and challenges of working within the arts for social benefit - touching on beginnings, endings, sustainability, ambition and risk. Please consider this an especially

warm-hearted invitation to join these discussions and help us celebrate - and most importantly, thank - all those who have made our work possible.

The publication will bring together the artists that have been commissioned to make work in response in Felixstowe. Copies of the book will be shared with organisations we have collaborated with over the years, so keep an eye out.





Do join us for the symposium, 'Socially-Engaged Art Practice in the East: Ports, Portals and New Possibilities'.

Thursday 6 November, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Harvest House, Felixstowe, IP11 7SP

This event brings together artists, arts workers, community change-makers and more to:

- Map social arts practices in the region
- Ignite conversations & foster new collaborations
- Develop a Manifesto for Change
- Join learning clusters on themes like creative health, placemaking, and co-creation

Who Should Attend?

This event is open to all but is intended to primarily support; artists, cultural organisations, health and community workers, and anyone passionate about social justice, public space, and creative collaboration.

Bursary places are available as are lower-cost tickets for Felixstowe residents. For more information or if you have questions, please contact: natalie@ pierprojects.org

 $Head \ to \ the \ Events \ Page \ to \ book \ tickets. \ www.pierprojects.org$



Felixstowe's Wave of Community Creativity Continues on to Dorset





Hamilton MAS are delighted to share that we have been invited to represent the communities of Felixstowe with project WAVE at the 2025 grand finale for the UK-Wide coastal arts festival Beach of Dreams in Weymouth. We are proud that project WAVE was an important part of this festival where over 70 large-scale community events took place all around the British coast. Five Felixstowe Pennants, designed together with our communities, have joined the travelling National Art Commission of over 900 Beach of Dreams Silk Pennants, representing people and places all around our island's coastline.











We added Felixstowe's voice to a national story celebrating the beauty of our coastlines, and joined Beach of Dreams in confronting the challenges which our coastlines face to inspire meaningful, collective action for a sustainable future.

The visual designs which can be seen in the 5 Felixstowe pennants were contributed by a span of members from Felixstowe's community ranging from ages 18 months to 70 years old. They incorporate themes of hope, love and nature including; The wave of the sea, the wave of welcome, the energy of the wind, the ripples on the sand, the wave of warning and a call for help, the collective love for nature, the energy of the returning tides and the movement of the body of water across the surface of our globe.





On September the 15th, we will trade the Suffolk Coast for the Dorset Coast, reuniting with Beach of Dreams to join in with the finale festivities on Weymouth beach, proudly carrying the 5 Felixstowe Silks on the festival's last walking event of 2025 - 'Walking into Possible Futures'.

The walk will be joined by artists Ali Pretty and former UNESCO Head of Foresight for Futures Literacy Riel Miller as we set off on a two-day exploration along the South West Coast Path. We are very excited to reconnect with Ali

Pretty and to spend time with Riel Miller who brings decades of international experience in designing transformative processes that help people and communities see their world - and their agencies - in new ways.

We are also looking forward to taking part in the 'Continuing the Legacy of Beach of Dreams' workshop on September 20th with Dr. Gemma Connell, Associate Fellow of Ocean Generation. The workshop will explore creative approaches to climate action and, together with other participants, we will reflect on the 700+ climate commitments that have been made by individuals and communities across the nation.

To contribute and make your own Climate Commitment, head to www.beachofdreams.org/take-part

Ahead of our trip to Dorset, Hamilton MAS invites you to attend a legacy exhibition of our own. 'project WAVE Legacy Showcase' takes place at Hamilton MAS on Bent Hill from September 7th through the month of September. The showcase will feature work by; Photographers Jon Downes and James Crisp, Artworks by Cath Cartman, Heidi Yeo, Katy Bentall, Maria Proshcowska and with a performance by local folk band Hedgeriders at 2pm.

To find out more about the 'project WAVE Legacy Showcase, follow @hamilt0nMAS on Instagram for updates.





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The Old Bank, 225 High Street, Walton, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9DT. Tel: 01394 200793 Mob: 07546 754531

www.davidbuttonfuneraldirectors.co.uk













One Year of Community Wellbeing



This summer, Emmaus Suffolk is proud to celebrate the first anniversary of its Wellbeing Hub at Great Eastern Square in Felixstowe. Opened in summer 2024, the hub was created as a welcoming, inclusive space where local residents and organisations can connect, build relationships, and take part in meaningful activities that support both mental and physical wellbeing.

The Felixstowe Wellbeing Hub is part of Emmaus Suffolk's wider mission to support people at risk of homelessness and social isolation. Alongside other wellbeing hubs in Ipswich, Emmaus also run a community café offering affordable food, provide supported accommodation and a traineeship scheme. Over the last year the hub was



part funded by NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, Harwich Port Authority, Felixstowe Port Authority and Felixstowe Town Council.



Over the year over 2300 people have participated in events or groups held at the wellbeing hub, with over 27 organisations and agencies using the space. The range of services on offer have included financial support from Felixstowe Relief Charity, domestic abuse support groups with Lighthouse Women's Aid,

mobility workshops with Way to Go Suffolk, drug and alcohol support hosted by Turning Point and regular creative wellbeing hubs with Emmaus Suffolk. The Felixstowe Lions Club have also frequently used the space.

Laura Locke, Felixstowe Hub Coordinator shares "It's been amazing to see how the space has grown into a vital part of the community. As a more isolated part of Suffolk, we felt it was important to provide accessible wellbeing and health support to the town. We've formed some brilliant partnerships, and we're excited to continue building on them in our second year."

To continue offering these vital services, Emmaus Suffolk is currently seeking new funding to sustain the work of the Felixstowe Wellbeing Hub.

To support or to find out more, please contact us at hello@emmaussuffolk.org.



Breast Friends



Since our very enjoyable time as one of the Mayor's charities, Breast Friends have been enormously busy, and we are so grateful that the community in Felixstowe continues to support us.





So far in 2025 Breast Friends have distributed over 900 of our amazing Menopause, and Surgery Kits to women affected by breast cancer. Our team of Felixstowe based sewers have been busier than ever with their 'Sew Much Love' initiative, crafting with care the heart cushions and drain bags that are included in our surgery kits. The sewing

group meet once a month at The Ark, and last month welcomed an incredible 18 volunteers to help, a record number! If you're nifty with a needle, or just fancy giving it a go, the details of the next sewing event can be found on our website, and we would love to see you there!

Whilst on our site you can find details of how to sponsor one of our kits, which includes the chance to leave a personalised message to the beneficiary! You can also subscribe to our regular newsletter, which this month contains a very special royal surprise!

If you have an experience of breast cancer, or would love to see what we do, we open up our HQ at Needham Market on the first Saturday of every month between 10 and 12 for coffee, cake and chatting. Do come along and find out more about the support we offer, and how you can get involved. www.breastfriends.co.uk

Spreading Kindness One Teaspoon at a Time

I'm one tiny human in a population of 8 billion. What can I do about suffering, injustice, conflict and indifference in the world? My simple answer is to spread acts of kindness and hope in my local community: small teaspoon-sized acts, bigger ones, anonymous ones, public ones.



When visiting a bare unwelcoming public building, I thought: 'We can do better than this...' so I mailed local organisations/projects, offering free – yes, free – tailormade murals inside their buildings. There are now beautiful murals around town and a waiting list!

The manager of the Hope Trust said: 'Charmaine approached us with the offer of painting a mural for us, we were thrilled. We'd been doing some work with the people who come to Hope Trust around our values, and how we can all enjoy being together. To then see the



values on the wall in such an artistic and engaging way is wonderful and a constant reminder of what we are all about: Friendliness, Inclusion, Humour; Kindness, Patience, Community, Empathy, Respect, Honesty and Hope'.

If you know a community project/service which deserves a mural, please contact cmckissock36@gmail.com. We would love to make a special one for you.



Felixstowe Bowls Club



The 94th Felixstowe and Suffolk bowls tournament started in heavy rain and ended in bright sunshine. However the adverse weather didn't prevent some excellent bowling. This year saw entries from as far afield as Lincolnshire, Gloucestershire and Hertfordshire as well as attracting many top local bowlers from Suffolk, Norfolk and Essex. The trio of Mark Betts, Jack Burch and Peter

Halliday won four games across the Monday and Tuesday to lift the open triples crown. They showed their resilience in the semi final coming back from 9 shots down to win 23 18 before beating father and son Steve and Aaron Giles along with Adrian Burch in the Final.

Ella Baker who had just competed in the final of the Gloucestershire county pairs came back to Suffolk and scooped the Ladies Singles title winning 21 - 9 in the final. The last action from Tuesday saw 4 under 18s take part in a round Robin tournament with Maxi from Bramford taking the title on shots difference.

The Wednesday saw the return of the fun drawn pairs with pairings being drawn at random. After the group games in the morning the final saw Keira Thurston from Lincolnshire and Sarah Beeton from the home club defeat

Richard Vest from Braintree and Eileen Parker from the home club in the final.

The final two days of competition saw many county players and England Internationals enter the fray. After a thrilling semi-final win over Charlie Beeton and John Rednall, Steve Giles from the home club and Phil Last from



Marlborough took on Joe Sims from Ipswich and England International Dom McVittie from Spalding. After a tight first ten ends with some excellent drawing bowls, Joe and Dom started to pull away eventually taking the title 18-11. The Ladies pairs final saw a very strong pair from Cleethorpes Keira Thurston and Pat Reynolds race into a 9 - 1 lead over Sarah Beeton and Julie Spice. Beeton and Spice rallied to come back into the game but Thurston and Reynolds were too strong taking the title 19 - 9.

The week was thoroughly enjoyed by all spectators and players and showed that the sport can be enjoyed by all ages as there were players who were 10 and players in the eighties. Next year will see the 95th staging of the tournament at the end of July and players and spectators are always welcome.

Exciting New Play Areas for Felixstowe Families





Two much-loved play areas in Felixstowe are set to reopen soon following major refurbishment works, thanks to a successful partnership between Felixstowe Town Council and East Suffolk Council.

The play spaces at Walton Recreation Ground and Seaton Road have been completely redesigned with high-quality, durable play equipment to provide safe, welcoming and fun environments for children of all ages and abilities.

Felixstowe Town Council has contributed £100,000 from its Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to ensure the highest standard of play facilities for local families, recognising the importance of investing in



accessible, long-lasting spaces for children to enjoy. East Suffolk Council, who own and manage the sites, has provided significant additional funding alongside other contributions to deliver the project.

At Walton Rec, the play area has been relocated to the south of the site, closer to the basketball court, while Seaton Road has been refreshed with brand new equipment. Both schemes are being delivered by play specialists Kompan and are set to reopen during September. Look out for the official opening event soon!

These investments form part of a wider East Suffolk programme to improve play provision across the district. For Felixstowe, they represent the Council's ongoing commitment to supporting high-quality local facilities that enhance the wellbeing of our community.

Sailing Tradition Thrives at Felixstowe Ferry



Tucked between the mouth of the River Deben and the North Sea, Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club is a quiet hub of coastal life where tradition meets the



unpredictable beauty of the tide. For over 80 years, the club has been a steady presence in Suffolk's sailing community, offering a space where seasoned sailors and enthusiastic newcomers alike share the water and a passion for wind-powered adventure.

What makes Felixstowe Ferry unique isn't just its position at the edge of the estuary—it's the spirit of the people who sail there. Every weekend, sails rise against the skyline as dinghies, dayboats, and cruisers head out through the ever-shifting bar, navigating one of the most challenging entrances on the East Coast. It's a test of seamanship that rewards skill and local knowledge, and it's earned the club a reputation for serious sailing and serious fun.

The club remains firmly rooted in its community. Junior sailing programmes thrive in the summer, with local youth learning not just how to sail, but how to read the wind, tide, and teamwork. Regattas draw a wide mix of boats and characters, and the club's riverside setting offers a front-row seat to a way of life shaped by tides and tradition.

In an age of fast change, sailing at Felixstowe Ferry is a reminder of the timeless joy of wind, water, and community.

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Pedal Felixstowe - Update



We have had an amazing launch to our new cycle club, under the guidance and banner of Cycling UK.

Having completed the ride leader training, Danny and Howard have at the time of writing completed 4 guided rides including a lovely summers evening ride to the Newbourne Fox, and a shorter ride for those seeking to build

confidence, along the Prom' finishing with some skill building exercises. More recently we hopped on the ferry over to Bawdsey and had a lovely ride up to the Suffolk Punch Trust cafe at Hollesley.

We have met some lovely people from a diverse cross section of people, including two octogenarians. We have also seen a variety of bikes including several electric bikes, shopping bikes, triathlon bikes and everything in between.



Howard commented "the purpose of Pedal Felixstowe is to provide safe access to cycling for all, whatever your experience level or the bike that you ride. Its always nice to have a ride and a chat over coffee and cake and its great to meet new people."

If you are interested in joining us, please search for us on Facebook, or via our website https://www.cyclinguk.org/group/pedal-felixstowe. You can also email us directly on pedalfelixstowe@gmail.com

EKKA Karate Association



The EKKA karate association recently held their annual summer course in Ipswich where different martial arts disciplines were demonstrated.

Six members of Felixstowe Karate Club took part in the course and thoroughly enjoyed the weekend.

At the end of the course a grading examination took place and two Felixstowe club members were promoted.



Felixstowe club's head instructor, Paul Mortimore 6th Dan, was extremely pleased with their performance during the assessment.





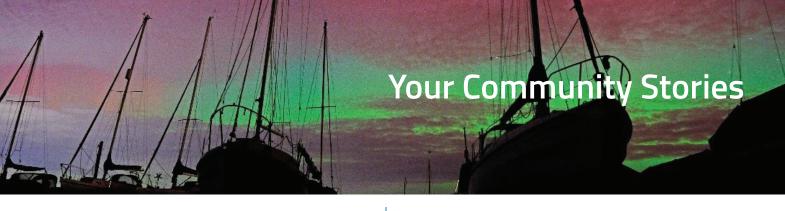
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We've had an amazing summer at Level Two!

From trips to London, camping, our Girls Music & Dance Workshop, brand-new Junior Jam sessions, and an Arts Award performance at Landguard Fort, to community sessions with Stennetts Community Café, Felixstowe Carnival, a Music Charity Fundraiser, and fantastic boat trips in collaboration with Mind Body Sea – it's truly been a summer to remember!



Term Time Sessions at Level Two Youth Project

Monday

Year 7 & 8 Session: 4:00–5:30pm

Tuesday

Home Ed Hangouts: 12:00–2:00pm Equals Session (low-sensory environment): 4:00–5:30pm

Wednesday

Drama Session (10+): 4:00–5:30pm Young Adult Session (16+): 5:30–7:00pm



Thursday

Year 9, 10 & 11 Session: 4:00–5:30pm Gardening Club – Meet at the Hub to travel to allotment: 11:00am–1:00pm

Friday

Music Session – Jamlab (Beginners, limited spaces pre-book only): 4:30–6:00pm

Saturday

Open Access Session (Year 7+): 10:30am–12:00pm

For more details, please visit: www.leveltwo.org

Instagram: @level_two_youth_project Facebook: Level Two Youth Project Email: fydg@leveltwo.org

Old Felixstowe Community Association



As I write, the Community Centre continues to thrive with forty groups regularly meeting along with many private functions being held. The Association is a registered charity and relies totally on volunteers to help with the smooth running of the Centre. If you would like to get involved in this popular facility, please contact me via email at chair@oldfelixstoweca.org.uk.

The Management Committee have been extremely busy over the past few months and have carried out a refurbishment of the Jane Bolton Lounge with re-decoration, new chairs, carpet, curtains and an electronic shutter to the serving hatch. This has really enhanced the area for our visitors and organisations that use this room. The boiler is due to be replaced, and we are planning to refurbish the kitchen which will again add to the appearance of the Centre. Along with these projects we are currently discussing replacing the roof to the Jane Bolton Lounge and the flat areas of roofing throughout the Centre. My thanks go to the members of the Management Committee who have worked so hard in putting these projects together.

The Association would like to pay tribute to Mary Whiteley who has stepped down as Secretary due to personal reasons. Mary has been a great asset to the Association, her professionalism and attention to detail has been second to none. We would like to welcome Gemma Gooch who has recently taken over this role.

The Community Markets continue to be extremely popular, and the next Market will be held on Saturday 13th September between10am - midday. We are so grateful to the Parish Nurses who attend and chat to visitors, this is becoming an extremely popular service. Councillor Steve Wiles is also in attendance and is always willing to discuss any issues concerning the community. Please join us, grab a bargain, have a slice of cake and a cuppa in our lounge.

This year's Annual General Meeting is on Thursday 16th October at 7.30pm. Please join us at the Community Centre to hear what has taken place throughout the year and look forward to the next year. You may like to join us and support this wonderful community asset in Old Felixstowe.

If you would like to hire the Community Centre please contact the Administrator on 07494 599265 or email ofcabookings@gmail.com Best wishes, Celia Page - Chair

The Landguard Trust



At Landguard Point, where the North Sea leans into the Orwell and Stour, history and wildness share the same horizon. The shingle spit and grassland of Landguard Nature Reserve form a rare coastal mosaic demanding careful, ongoing stewardship. Recent interventions by the Police reflect a broader effort to safeguard the reserve's wildlife and ensure respectful visitor conduct. The message from authorities is clear: Landguard's

natural heritage deserves protection, and enforcement will follow where necessary.

That meeting of grit and grit—nature and fortitude—comes alive at Landguard Fort, whose bastions now host family favourites as well as stories of siege. Autumn brings gentle chills and proper scares: the kid friendly Trick or Treat Halloween event turns tunnels into theatrics, offering a safe environment for young Trick or Treaters. As the year turns, Christmas at Landguard Fort transforms casemates with Yuletide trails and a visit to Father Christmas - A festive tradition for local families.

Felixstowe Museum has rolled up its sleeves, programming with purpose. Textile artist Clare Sams anchors the season with Self/Contained, a



shipping-container installation confronting fast fashion's waste, accompanied by hands-on workshops that stitch sustainability into daily life—from rag weaving to flag-and-banner making. Her collages look squarely at the Port of Felixstowe and our habits, asking visitors to remake, not discard. It's heritage as a living practice: learning, making, and caring for place, so the peninsula's stories keep breathing.

If you want to find out more about visiting and how to get involved as a volunteer visit landguard.com

Felixstowe Coastwatch passes annual assessment with flying colours



The volunteer watchkeepers at Felixstowe Coastwatch have had a busy summer, dealing with a number of incidents ranging from concern for swimmers, children on lilos and vessels with engine failure and steering problems. The station also helped keep an eye on the swimming part of Felixstowe's Triathlon in July, opening early at 7am and liaising the safety boats on NCI's VHF Channel 65. The first swimmers set off from in front of the lookout

at 7.35am, headed for the pier. The second group entered near the Ferris wheel half an hour later, with the swim safely concluding at 8.45am.

The station successfully passed its annual Declared Facility Status (DFS) assessment at the end of July. DFS is an accreditation granted by HM Coastguard to organisations involved in Search and Rescue (SAR), confirming their capability and readiness to assist in maritime emergencies. This designation signifies that the facility and its personnel meet specific standards and criteria established by HM Coastguard for effective SAR operations.

Coastwatch relies entirely on charitable donations. The Felixstowe station is holding its annual quiz night on Thursday 20th November at the Trades and Labour Club on High Road West to help raise much needed funds going forward. Teams of 4 to 6, £10 a head including nibbles. Contact Ian Clarke to book in a team: ian@ian-clarke.co.uk.

Considering a Neighbourhood Plan for Felixstowe

Felixstowe Town Council has been exploring the potential benefits of developing a Neighbourhood Plan to give the town greater influence over future development, land use, and planning decisions.

Over the past year, a Feasibility Working Group reviewed whether a Neighbourhood Plan would be appropriate for Felixstowe. The Group assessed:

- Where a Neighbourhood Plan could add value alongside the Local Plan
- Resource and time commitments involved
- \bullet Advice from planning consultants, councils with completed NPs and ESC planning policy officers

The Working Group reported that a Neighbourhood Plan could help shape development and protect valued local spaces not currently allocated in the Local Plan. However, they also highlighted that creating a plan would require significant commitment and careful alignment with broader strategic priorities. Neighbourhood Plans tend to be most useful where the Local Plan provides limited guidance. As a larger town, Felixstowe has been comprehensively appraised, so any plan would need to focus on areas where it could deliver tangible benefits, beyond the additional neighbourhood CIL receipts.

After reviewing the report, the Council has decided that while a Neighbourhood Plan remains of interest, it is prudent to pause further action for now. This reflects the need for clarity on the local government landscape, particularly in light of Local Government Reorganisation, devolution discussions, and the recent Government announcement cutting funding for Neighbourhood Plans.

The Council will revisit the plan later in the autumn, once there is a clearer view of governance arrangements and priorities for Felixstowe. In the meantime, the Council continues to work with East Suffolk Council and partners to influence local planning decisions and safeguard the town's interests. Residents will continue to be kept informed, and any future steps regarding a Neighbourhood Plan will include opportunities for community input and engagement.

Your Voice Matters: Neighbourhood Plan

Your views are essential to help shape the Town Council's priorities regarding any future Neighbourhood Plan, particularly in relation to:

- Future development
- Protection of green spaces and local heritage
- Community facilities and amenities Stay informed and get involved:
- Website: www.felixstowe.gov.uk Email: enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk Visit or write to: Felixstowe Town Hall, Undercliff Road West, IP11 2AG

An Update from the Felixstowe Town Council Grounds Team



Cemetery Road Access

From **1 October 2025**, the access road to Felixstowe Cemetery via Langley Avenue will be closed in line with the Cemetery's daily opening hours. This measure will help manage the site more effectively as the Council works towards planned improvements.

The gates will be open, allowing vehicle access to the Cemetery road, at the following times:

• 1 May - 30 September: 8.30am - 8.00pm • 1 October - 30 April: 8.30am - 4.00pm

Aligning the access road opening times with Cemetery hours will support future works, including the planned extension of facilities to increase burial capacity and provide additional options for the community.

Cemetery Extension

The Town Council is in the early stages of planning to extend Felixstowe Cemetery into the former allotment garden site on Langley Avenue. The aim is to ensure sufficient capacity for future needs, while also offering a broader choice of interment options. Careful consideration will be given to ensuring the new area remains sensitive to, and in keeping with, the character of the existing Cemetery.

Allenby Park Gates

Restoration work on the historic Allenby Park gates is nearing completion. The gates are being carefully restored using wrought iron and steel by local specialists, Kingdom Forge, and will soon be re-installed, enhancing the park's much-loved entrance.

Grounds Team Update

Over the summer, the Grounds Team has been busy keeping Felixstowe in full bloom by caring for the Felixstowe in Flower tubs, baskets and troughs across the town. As the seasons change, their focus will turn to autumn and winter maintenance, including hedge trimming, tree pruning and a wide range of other seasonal tasks to ensure our parks, open spaces and community areas remain welcoming throughout the year.

Protecting Felixstowe's Community Assets – The Grove and Eastward Ho



Felixstowe Town Council is pleased to report that key areas at The Grove and Eastward Ho have been successfully listed as Assets of Community Value (ACVs) following an application to East Suffolk Council under the Community Right to Bid process.

The listed areas include:

- The Grove Woodlands
- Eastward Ho Playing Field
- Children's Play Area
- Eastward Ho Pavilion and Car Park

This designation recognises the important role these spaces play in the social, recreational, and environmental life of Felixstowe. ACV status ensures that, if these sites are ever put up for sale, the local community has the right to be notified and a moratorium period is applied, giving residents the opportunity to prepare a bid to secure the sites for continued community use.

Some areas included in the original nomination — the paddocks leased for horse grazing and the agricultural land to the north and east — were not listed. East Suffolk Council determined that, due to their current use and limited accessibility, they did not meet the statutory tests under the Localism Act 2011.

The Town Council supported these nominations to ensure that Felixstowe's valued recreational and woodland spaces remain protected and accessible for the community. Residents are encouraged to continue sharing their views on local assets that are important to them, helping guide any future ACV nominations.



Felixstowe School



As we conclude another rewarding term at Felixstowe School, I am incredibly proud of the many achievements, experiences, and opportunities that have marked this year. From global trips to community celebrations, our students and staff have demonstrated unwavering commitment and passion.





This term, our Year 11 and 13 students approached their public exams with remarkable maturity, while Year 10 and 12 students tackled mock exams with focus and determination. Across all year groups, the dedication to learning has been inspiring.

Our Sixth Form students had the opportunity to take part in an unforgettable three-week trip to Panama, where they engaged in community service, environmental projects, and cultural experiences. Funded by the Turing Scheme and their own fundraising efforts, the trip nurtured global awareness and empathy—an experience we look forward to continuing next year.

In Iceland, our A-level Geography students explored glaciers, volcanoes, and coastlines, gaining valuable hands-on experience that brought their learning to life. We are excited for next year's geography trips, including a visit to Naples.

We marked significant milestones with our Year 11 Graduation, where students celebrated their hard work with their families, and the Key Stage 3 Awards Evening, where we honoured Year 9 students for their academic and extracurricular achievements.

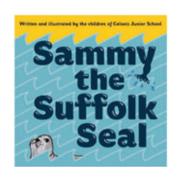
We also welcomed our new Year 6 students during their transition days, a time filled with enthusiasm and curiosity, while our summer Gala Concert showcased the incredible musical talents of our students.

Thank you to all the families, volunteers, and local businesses who support our community and help shape a brighter future for our students. Your involvement makes all the difference!



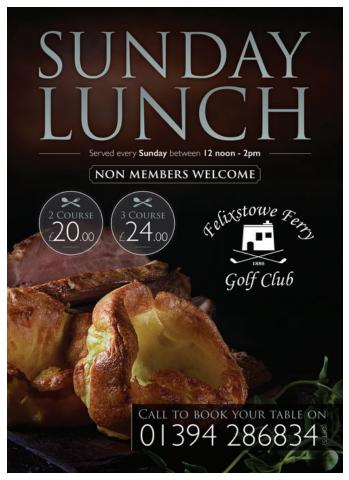
Fairfield and Colneis

I am writing this at what is towards the end of a very warm week! Our children are rapidly moving towards the end of the academic year and our schools are alive with sports days, happiness festivals, book launches and summer fairs to name but a few! Our summer fair is always a highlight of the year - not only does it give us a chance to raise some well needed funds for our children (£5000 this year!), it also is an opportunity to bring our school community together as



one. Children get a chance to see their teachers in a different environment including throwing wet sponges at some of us! We are very lucky to have such a fantastic 'friends of' committee made up of parents who work tirelessly to bring events such as this together.

We have also had a number of children at Colneis who have become professional authors and illustrators to raise money for two environmental projects. Working alongside Landguard Nature Reserve, over 70 children came together to create and publish a children's story book 'Sammy the Suffolk Seal'. We have recently launched this book to our school community and money raised will go towards both the British Divers Marine Life Rescue and towards creating a new outdoor learning classroom for Colneis. If anyone is interested in buying a copy - please contact the Colneis school office.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION & DEVOLUTION:

What it means for Felixstowe



Government has asked councils in two-tier areas to develop proposals for unitary local government as part of a wider devolution programme. In Suffolk there are two headline models being promoted:

"Three Unitary Councils for Suffolk" –

promoted by the district/boroughs (including East Suffolk and Ipswich). They argue three balanced unitaries would deliver local leadership, tailored services and financial sustainability, aligned to distinct places (East, West and Greater Ipswich). Their interim plan sets out design principles and indicative savings for reinvestment.

"One Suffolk" single countywide unitary –

promoted by Suffolk County Council. They argue one council would remove duplication, provide clearer accountability, and maximise devolution benefits and savings (citing analysis of more than £100m savings over five years).

Key timeline:

interim plans were submitted and feedback issued; councils are now working towards final proposals by 26 September 2025 (per published governance statements). National devolution policy changes also led to postponement of the 2025 local elections in Suffolk as part of the transition planning.

Devolution:

Authority for Norfolk & Suffolk
In parallel, Government has
consulted on creating a Mayoral
Combined County Authority (MCCA)
for Norfolk and Suffolk, with a
directly elected Mayor proposed for
May 2026. The MCCA would hold
devolved funding/powers (e.g., skills,
transport, housing/infrastructure

programmes) to be exercised across

a Mayoral Combined County

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR FELIXSTOWE?

Regardless of which reorganisation model proceeds, the arrangements will affect who runs local services and how public assets are managed. Felixstowe Town Council's priority is to safeguard the facilities and services most valued by residents and to ensure Felixstowe has a strong voice in any new system. Felixstowe Town Council does not deliver the full range of local government services, but we are responsible for important community assets such as Felixstowe Cemetery, allotments, play areas, the Town Hall, and a range of local events and projects. We are working proactively with East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council to ensure that any future changes safeguard the most important assets and services for the people of Felixstowe.

We're already:

- Reviewing town and public assets/services in Felixstowe (including those owned/managed by East Suffolk Council and Suffolk County Council) to understand potential impacts and options.
- Working with ESC and SCC so that, if responsibilities change, essential local facilities remain protected and well-managed.
- **Preparing evidence** on community priorities to inform discussions with all partners and, where relevant, with any future Mayor/MCCA.



QUICK EXPLAINER

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

A Government-led process to replace the county/district system with one or more unitary councils (single-tier authorities responsible for all local services). In Suffolk, the district/boroughs' proposal is for three unitary councils; SCC's proposal is for one countywide unitary.

Devolution & the MCCA

A separate but linked programme to hand down powers/funding from Government to places. For our area, the proposal is a Norfolk & Suffolk Mayoral Combined County Authority with a Mayor from May 2026 (subject to legislation/implementation).

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We know how important public facilities are to our residents, whether it's our parks and play areas, community halls, open spaces, or cultural venues. As part of our planning, we would like to hear which local assets and services matter most to you. Your views will help shape our conversations with partner

Felixstowe's voice is heard as decisions are made.
To share your thoughts, email enquiries@felixstowe.gov.uk.

councils and ensure that

PROCESS	WHAT HAPPENS	TIMELINE
Final LGR Proposal Submission	Unitary model proposals due from councils	By 26 Sept 2025
Government Statutory Consultation	Public and expert feedback on proposals	From Nov 2025
Decision & Legislation	Government assesses proposals, then legislates	Expected by March 2026
Mayoral Election (if approved)	First Norfolk & Suffolk Mayor elected	May 2026
Shadow Councils Elected	Prepare transition to new unitary authorities	May 2027
New Councils 'Go Live'	Older councils dissolved; new council takes over	1 April 2028

both counties.



Felixstowe Family History Society

The Felixstowe Family History Society have enjoyed large audiences at Broadway House to listen to a variety of speakers during the Summer namely the story of Ransomes Sims and Jefferies, Looking at Old Newspapers and Kinder Transport. Our support team have been busy offering help to people at the drop in sessions with their genealogy search. Why not pop along for some advice on any queries you may have.

Following our August break, we return on Wednesday 10 September for our AGM followed by Smallpox, Triplets and Double Murder – Stories from Parish Registers with Wendy Shepherd. Further dates for your diary - 8 October The Nacton Workhouse, 12 November Harwich Railway Ships that went to war -WW1 to Falklands War and 10 December - you'll have to come along and find out as we've yet to finalise a speaker!

We hold our meetings and drop-in sessions (drop in dates - 26 September, 31 October, 28 November) at Broadway House, Orwell Road, Felixstowe IP11 7DD with free parking available after 1800 at the rear of the meeting place, accessible from Highfield Road, Felixstowe IP11 7BZ.

Members are free. Non-members £3. If you'd like to join us, please visit our $we bsite\ www.felix stower hs. one suffolk.net\ for\ membership\ details.$

We have a raffle and refreshments at the end of the meeting to socialise.

If you have any questions, contact us via the website. We look forward to seeing you soon.

The Felixstowe Society



When I first became the chair of the Felixstowe Society in May this year I was asked by friends 'So, what does this Society do?'. I found myself struggling with a reply that captured the essence

of what the Society is about without rabbiting on for ages and watching a glazed look come over the faces of the patient listeners. So here is now my best shot four months on – 'The Felixstowe Society is the champion for the Heritage of Felixstowe and the surrounding area, both the built environment and the landscape'.

To champion that heritage cause has kept our volunteer committee very busy. Setting our priorities for the future will be key to how effective we will be in challenging the threats to our heritage and protecting the Victorian landscape and the precious open spaces at the end of this wonderful peninsula.



Some of the challenges for the future include - hotels falling into disrepair, cobbled lanes that are a neglected eyesore and valuable green spaces being built on.

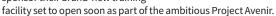
We will work closely with all the organisations that share our cause. At the time of writing we have managed to secure funding to re-vitalise Gulpher Pond to keep this historic pond in good condition for future generations. We are blessed in Felixstowe with many volunteers that want to contribute to the town's heritage, do contact us if you want to be a champion and join the cause.

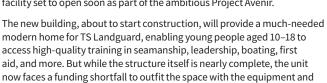
chairman@felixstowesociety.org

Felixstowe Sea Cadets Launch Sponsorship Drive for New Unit



Felixstowe Sea Cadets are calling on local businesses, community organisations and individuals to step up and sponsor their brand-new training





"We're incredibly proud of how far we've come, but we need help to finish the journey," said Vivian Fox, Commanding Officer of Felixstowe Sea Cadets. "By sponsoring a room, a boat, or even a single piece of equipment, supporters will be helping to build a better future for young people in our community."

Opportunities to Sponsor Include:

resources cadets need.

- Rooms: Name a classroom, office, training space, mess deck or galley
- Boats: Support sailing dinghies, powerboats, or trailers
- Equipment: Fund safety gear, paddles, IT equipment, or tools
- Memorials: Dedicate a bench, plaque, or award in someone's honour
- Bursaries: Provide an annual scholarship for a cadet

All sponsors will be recognised at the unit and on social media and invited to attend the official opening event later this year.

"This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity," said Petty Officer Fox. "Our new unit will give young people from all backgrounds a place to learn, grow and thrive. We're asking the community to help us bring it fully to life."

How to Support

If you or your organisation would like to get involved, please contact us to request a Sponsorship pack at:

Email: Enquiries@FelixstoweSeaCadets.co.uk

Website: www.sea-cadets.org/felixstowe

You can also find us online at:

Facebook Instagram LinkedIn JustGiving

About Felixstowe Sea Cadets

TS Landguard is the home of Felixstowe Sea Cadets, a volunteer-led youth organisation that provides maritime adventure and training for young people aged 10 to 18. Part of the national Sea Cadets charity, the unit helps cadets build confidence, learn practical skills, and become active citizens with a strong sense of service and teamwork

Felixstowe Rotary Club



The Rotary Club of Felixstowe sponsored sixteen year 9 (age 14) students from Felixstowe School to experience an afternoon of sailing at Alton Water: a stunning setting with the largest stretch of inland water in Suffolk.





The event was well received by all the children with most of them absolute beginners to sailing. Taught by enthusiastic and fully qualified instructors, the lessons were designed to be safe and enjoyable with the focus on learning the basics and building confidence on the water. The students were provided with all the necessary equipment, including buoyancy aids and wetsuits and shared a laser dingy between two; the winds were strong but surprisingly four students remained dry to the end!

Despite living in a coastal town many young people do not have access to sailing or other water-based activities, so this initiative broadens their horizons and introduces them to new experiences. Sailing can be a challenging activity that promotes teamwork, leadership, and problemsolving skills, all of which are important for character building and personal growth. Our youth is our future, and these sailing events might well develop a passion for the sport or related activities, potentially leading to future career opportunities and leadership roles.

The Rotary Club of Felixstowe has a strong emphasis on its Youth Development programme run by Andrew Rowdon. Andrew said: 'Sponsoring these sailing events, our second at Alton Water, demonstrates just one aspect of the club's commitment to youth development. We use funds raised to support those that live in the community, providing our young people with new, confidence-building, and perhaps life-changing, experiences.







Remembrance 2025

Sunday 9th November

Civic Remembrance Service 9.45am, St Johns Church

Civic Act of Remembrance 10.45am, War Memorial

Service at the War Graves, Midday, Felixstowe Cemetery

Tuesday 11th November - Armistice Day

Two Minutes' Silence, 11am, War Memorial



News from Felixstowe Landguard Rotary Club



President Philip Young (24/25) handed over the Presidency to Jonathan Fison one hot evening on the 3rd of July. We had a pleasant evening at Café Saltpeter situated at Mannings sampling tasty tapas washed down with a glass of Spanish red wine.

Do you want to raise money for your own charity? President Jonathan and our club are running a Swimarathon at the Leisure Centre between 3pm to 5pm on Saturday 29th November. All you have to do is to raise a team of four swimmers to swim as many lengths as they can in 40 minutes. All the sponsorship that you raise will go directly to your own charity. There is no entry fee, though we do ask for a £25 deposit to secure your team's place. The deposit will be refunded to you on the day of the event. If you would like to enter a team



and get help with sponsorship forms then please e-mail our Club Secretary, Philip Young on landguardsecretary@hotmail.co.uk

The event is kindly being sponsored by Maritime Transport.



Felixstowe 'VJ Day 80'

On Friday 15th August, The Royal British Legion, Felixstowe Branch had an evening memorial service at the War Memorial on the sea front. The service was led by Rev Philip from St John the Baptist Church, Felixstowe Mayor, Suffolk County RBL Chairman and Felixstowe RBL Chairman. 356 Sqn Air Cadets were on parade alongside 8 Standards. The service was well attended with over 400 people and a good contingent of Veterans.





On Saturday 16th August the Royal British Legion, Felixstowe Branch celebrated VJ Day 80 in the Felixstowe Triangle. Alongside Deb's and Ruth from the Woolbaa, who kindly manned the stall with craft

donations form the Woolbaa crafters. Raffle tickets and name to Land Army Doll were on sale. Debs also decorated the Triangle in theme with the VJ Day event. All the funds they raised also went to the Felixstowe Poppy Appeal. Whilst listening to the nostalgic music the public had the opportunity to purchase teas/coffees, delicious cakes and sausage rolls all provided by the local community.

There was an added visual attraction of various vintage military vehicles on display owned by Sim and Dave, local enthusiasts. Felixstowe Sea Cadets were in attendance helping to raise Poppy Appeal funds. The Felixstowe Branch of the Royal British Legion ran a tombola stall alongside everyone with traditional Poppy Appeal merchandise.





The events of the day raised over £1,200 for the Felixstowe Poppy
Appeal which supports our Armed
Forces, Veterans and their families.
We would like to thank everyone who
participated and attended the event,
which clearly showed the ongoing
commitment and the support of the
local community.

Felixstowe Carnival



Felixstowecarnival.org Email: contact@felixstowecarnival.org

What a fabulous weekend.
Our best yet! So many people enjoying our wonderful community event -and all for free. A great Friday evening concert from the Three Chordettes with the Rhumboogies. Saturday and Sunday we had the Craft Fair in the Leisure Centre. In the Family Area we had TwinkleToes, a Punch & Judy Show and Dinosaurs. The Fun Fair ran all weekend and the Traders/Food Stalls were busy all the time.



Saturday's procession with a theme of the Wonderful World of Books was a great success. The Overall Winner was the float from the Foggies Theatre Group. We had several dance groups, some unicyclists, walking washing machines, Stowmarket Royalty and visitors from our twin-town Wesel with their marching band. Our own Royalty Float was magnificent. The Queen and Princesses visited several care homes before the Carnival weekend and were very warmly welcomed.

Saturday was a busy day with lots of entertainment and our headline act that evening was the Counterfeit Brits who were fantastic. We even sold bucket hats in their honour! These are now being sold in local shops and via our website Donation Page. At the end of the evening, we had an unforgettable and breathtaking Drone Show. Over 300 drones lit up the night sky for approximately 14 minutes, leaving spectators in awe. This incredible show was a generous gift to the community from the Port of Felixstowe in honour of their 150th anniversary. We extend our heartfelt thanks for this remarkable contribution to our community celebrations. It was a moment of magic that brought people together and will be

remembered for years to come! On Sunday we had another day full of entertainment, plus an absolutely wonderful Lancaster Bomber fly-past. The evening ended with our headline act of Supersonic Queen, followed by an exciting 15-minute fireworks display. We could not have squeezed in anything else!

We are very grateful to all the volunteers who helped us put on such a huge event, and special thanks go to the 356 Felixstowe Squadron of Air Cadets. There are many photos on Facebook, and we will be uploading more to our website soon. The latest total of money raised in our buckets is around £6600. If you would like to make a donation towards next year's Carnival, please go to the Donation Page on our website. You can also purchase one of our bucket hats here too.

Thank you to everyone who was involved: those organising, helping, entertaining, watching, singing, marching, cycling, cheering and dancing. Let's do it all again from 24th to 26th July 2026.

The AGM of the Felixstowe Carnival Association will be held at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 20th October 2025 at The Grand, Bent Hill, Felixstowe

Bawdsey Radar Museum



The museum is open as usual on Thursdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays until the end of October. Don't forget kids get in free.

During September, Black & White Productions, with Bawdsey Radar Trust, present a touring production of the successful show "Operation: Radar", written by Suzanne Hawkes. Twelve shows are planned at venues around East Suffolk between 2nd and 20th September.

For further details of tickets, times and venues please contact the Black & White Box Office on 01394 279613 or the website: www.ticketsource.co.uk/black-white-productions

The planned date / venues for "Operation: RADAR" are as follows:

2nd / 3rd Sept.	7.45pm	2 Sisters Arts Centre, Felixstowe (Previews)
6th / 7th Sept.	2.30pm	Bawdsey Radar Museum
9th Sept.	7.45pm	Martlesham Community Hall
12th Sept.	7.45pm	Darsham Village Hall
13th Sept.	7.45pm	Old Jet, RAF Bentwaters
14th Sept.	2.30pm	Harvest House, Felixstowe
15th Sept.	7.45pm	Waldringfield Village Hall
16th Sept.	7.45pm	Bury St. Edmunds Guildhall
19th Sept.	7.45pm	Orford Village Hall
20th Sept.	7.45pm	Jubilee Hall Aldeburgh

Back at the Block, the virtual reality "climb a tower" will be available on 21st September and 26th October, and the popular 1940's pop-up café will return on 6th and 7th September, and will be open to non-museum visitors too!

Further details are on our website: www.bawdseyradar.org.uk

For more information contact: info@bawdseyradar.org.uk or phone 07821 162879.

Felixstowe Lion's Club



We were delighted to be part of both the Suffolk Show and Royal Norfolk show, Kirton and Trimley Fetes, and the Felixstowe Carnival where we chatted with visitors about the ways Lions make a difference locally. These events are always a wonderful opportunity to connect with the community.

One of the big highlights was our annual Dog Show, which saw wagging tails, smiling faces, and a brilliant £972.00 raised for our charitable work. We are so grateful to everyone who came along and supported the event.



The club is also thrilled to welcome Lion Martin Norman as our newest member. "It's fantastic to have Martin on board," said a member. We are always looking for people with a passion for helping others.

July also marked our Charter celebration, a chance to reflect on the past year and look ahead to the future. A heartfelt thank you goes to Lion Peter Cooke for his dedicated service as President over the last year. Stepping into the role for the year ahead is Lion Graham Phelps.

Model Railway Exhibition – 19th October – at the Felixstowe Leisure Centre is back.

We are also looking for Singer or Band to perform in our Christmas Light up on 29th November 2025. Please send an email to flxchristmas@rayners.org. uk with a brief description of your act and a link to a live recording/filming of a performance or demo that you have previously made.

From fundraising to friendship, the Felixstowe Lions remain committed to serving with pride — and always with a smile.

Visit felixstowelions.org.uk



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FELIXSTOWE



