



# OFCA NEWS

## August / September 2024

### Newsletter of the Old Felixstowe Community Association

*The Community Centre, Ferry Road, Felixstowe, IP11 9NB*

*Registered Charity No. 1163286*

### Update from the Chair

The wait for summer seems to be going on forever, however the sunny atmosphere at the Community Centre continues and this was most evident at the Summer Fair and of course as always at the Community Markets.

The Summer Fair on 8th June raised the magnificent total of £1,815.94. The theme this year was Gold as the Association continues to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The Mayor, Councillor David Rowe opened the Fair and had the unenviable task of judging the best dressed stall and both the adult and children's fancy dress competitions. Sylvia Arnold won the best dressed stall for the Felixstowe Area Social Club for Retired Persons group who meet monthly at the Centre. The adult winner of the fancy dress was Kim Varden who looked resplendent in her gold cape and the runner up was Sue Hazelwood from the Martello Ladies group who ran a very successful raffle, I have never seen so many prizes!! The children's fancy dress competition was won by Florence and Jemima.



*Gillian Barnett, with the Summer Fair Craft Stall*

The last of this season's Community Markets was held on Saturday 13th July and although a grey and chilly day the Centre was vibrant. We are so grateful to the Parish Nurses who attend and chat to visitors and this is becoming a very popular service. Councillor Steve Wiles is also in attendance and is always willing to discuss any issues concerning the community. Community is at the heart of the Association and I am happy to report that we are going from strength to strength.

As you are aware we are no longer collecting a membership fee, but donations will be gratefully received, and these can be made to the following account:

TSB Felixstowe  
Old Felixstowe Community Association  
Sort Code: 30 93 22  
Account number: 22584960

Bookings at the Community Centre remain buoyant and if you would like to make a booking for a private function, please contact the Administrator on 07494 599265 or email [ofcabookings@gmail.com](mailto:ofcabookings@gmail.com). The bookings calendar can be viewed via our website at [www.olfelixstoweca.org.uk](http://www.olfelixstoweca.org.uk).

Best wishes  
*Celia Page*

## OFCA AGM 2024

This year's AGM will be on Thursday October 17th at 7.30pm in the Community Centre. Old Felixstowe residents and Community Centre users are invited to participate. The Agenda will be available from the OFCA website in due course.

### New leaflet holder for Community Centre

The use of the old letter rack in the Community Centre dramatically declined during Covid when people started using email more often. During the last twelve months there have been enquiries about displaying leaflets from local charities, doctors, and event managers, but the letter rack was not suitable as the leaflets 'flopped'. The Mens Shed were asked if they could produce a specially designed leaflet holder as a replacement – and it is now in place. There is still a spot reserved for mail for the OFCA groups/organisation.



*Paul Askew in front of the new Community Centre leaflet holder*

### Martello Ladies

In June Jane Hoggar gave us a very entertaining talk about her life and career as a dancer and a Bluebell Girl. At the age of twelve measuring six foot tall and with size nine feet she had to abandon her dreams of becoming a ballerina. However she went on to have a wonderful journey as a dancer to many exciting places around the globe culminating in her going to Paris and becoming a Bluebell girl. Many members said that they really enjoyed the evening and some even commentated that they thought that Jane was one of our best speakers.

In July our meeting at the Centre was cancelled due to voting for the election. However we decided to hold our meeting at the "Hut" down at the seafront. The evening consisted of a quiz and was followed by fish and chips, drinks and cake. It was a successful evening and one that we might repeat next year.

There is no meeting at the Centre in August as we have our "Mystery Trip".

Our next meeting at the Centre is on 5th September at 7.30 and is entitled "Was it Jeeves?" Why not join us? Visitors are very welcome.

*Rosey Freeman*

## ALL GARDENING – ALL SORTED

Grass cutting, shrubs, hedges & bushes pruned

General garden maintenance – lawns scarified

Drought-damaged lawns re-seeded

Garden sheds and summer houses re-roofed (wood & roofing felt)  
and repaired

Small landscape projects – log roll edging installed – lawn & path  
edging replaced

Weed control material with shingle / slate covering



Kevin & Patsy Abbott

Tel: 01394 279391

Mob: 07914 457526



### Brackenburg WI

We have had some very good speakers, including a forensic scientist talking about a couple of high profile investigations she had worked on, explaining the process and the amount of work involved. In July we learnt about bees and wasps etc, and how climate change is affecting our wildlife. He encouraged us to have a bee hotel in a sunny spot in the garden and to have flowers and some weeds.

Our extra activities - walking group, coffee morning and lunches - are popular, and we continue to grow as a WI, helping ladies that have moved here to settle in, and it is great to get to know them and for them to discover the delights of Felixstowe.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.  
Come along meet and make new friends

*Liz Sampson*

### Felixstowe Garden Club

Following a busy June which featured Roses and a tour of Landguard Nature Reserve, and July which was all about our Annual Show, we are looking forward to our August speaker on Tuesday 13th at 6.30 for 7pm start. Free refreshments available upon arrival.

Julian Ives from dragonfli.co.uk will hopefully be helping us to control the myriad of slugs which have colonised our gardens this summer! His Talk is entitled “Natural Pest Control in the Garden”.

On Tuesday 10th September we will be welcoming Chris Wiley to learn about “Sustainability in Horticulture“. I suspect that the topic of peat free compost might be on the agenda.

We would love to see you at our meetings on the second Tuesday of each month and visitors are always welcome, £5 cash on the door.

Looking ahead to 8th October, Riverside Bulbs will have a great selection of Spring flowering bulbs for sale.

**HEEL THE SOLES**

**Theresa Walker**  
DipCFHP, MPSPract




**Mobile Foot Health Practitioner**  
Phone: 07534 329 448  
Email: heelthesoles@gmail.com  
www.heelthesoles.co.uk




Established since 2017



Come and meet us in the Jane Bolton Lounge for tea, coffee and good company.  
Thursday mornings  
10am – 12 noon.  
We'd love to welcome you.



The Hope Trust  
Charity number 1159866  
Tel: 01394 272592



## Items for sale (for OFCA funds)



**Bricks – 25p each**

**Please phone Eleanor Clark (07774 547671) to arrange view.  
Cash only. Buyer to collect**

Visit OFCA's website at <https://oldfelixstoweca.org.uk/> for information on Community Centre room hire, activities available at the Centre, and Community Association contact details.

We welcome contributions to the Newsletter from community groups who use the Centre, and news and events items relevant to Old Felixstowe. The next Newsletter will be sent out on 1st October, please send any contributions to Dave Songhurst by September 23rd.