# OFCA NEWS

## April - May 2025

## Newsletter of the Old Felixstowe Community Association

*The Community Centre, Ferry Road, Felixstowe, IP11 9NB*
*Registered Charity No. 1163286*

### Update from the Chair

**HELP**! As you know the Association is run by a group of wonderful volunteers and the Community Centre certainly would not be as successful without them or indeed would not be able to operate and provide the great services to the community.

The Association's Secretary, Mary Whiteley is having to step down from the role due to personal reasons. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mary for all her hard work over the years, she has been a real asset to the Association and her attention to detail and conscientious approach has been second to none. We are therefore looking for a new Secretary to take minutes at the General Council meetings and the Annual General Meeting, act as a Secretary to the Trustees and report to the Charity Commission. This is a vital role within the Association so if you would like to discuss the position and join our friendly committee, please contact Mary on 07840 696520 or mlandbrwhiteley@hotmail.co.uk

In the last newsletter I told you that OFCA had been contacted by the People's Postcode Lottery and informed that we would receive a grant of £15,000 as part of the Millionaire Street Grant Fund. I can confirm that OFCA has received this money and we are extremely grateful to have been considered for this award. The People's Postcode Lottery had researched our organisation and decided we are a worthwhile cause; the money will be spent on the roof of the Jane Bolton Lounge. Over the years several repairs have been carried out, but it is now time to find a more permanent solution.

The Community Markets continue to thrive and with the Parish Nurses and Councillor Steve Wiles in attendance, it really does add to the community spirit. The Market, which is to be held on Saturday 12th April, from 10am – midday, will feature an Easter hamper so come along, purchase some raffle tickets, grab some bargains and enjoy a cuppa and a slice of cake in the Lounge.

If you would like to make a booking for a private function, please contact the Administrator on 07494 599265 or email ofcabookings@gmail.com. The bookings calendar can be viewed via our website at www.oldfelixstoweca.org.uk.

Best wishes,

*Celia Page*

# Dot and Do-Dah Sale

Pre-loved clothing and accessories

**Saturday 5th April 2025**
**10.00 to 2.00 pm**

**Old Felixstowe Community Centre**
**Postcode IP11 9NB**

Brands including

Boden, Joules, White Stuff, Whistles, Hobbs,
Seasalt, Monsoon, Next, Fat Face, Zara
Plus many others.

Donations of pre-loved clothes welcomed
Contact 07391 116977

SUPPORTING OLD FELIXSTOWE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Refreshments available ENTRY FREE

## 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

## HEEL THE SOLES

Theresa Walker
DipCFHP, MPSPract

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

College of Foot Health Practitioners

Established since 2017

## Community Markets

Come along to our next Community Market on Saturday April 12th, which will include our Grand Easter Draw.

## Martello Ladies

In February Catherine Buchanan gave us a very interesting talk about prominent "Women of Felixstowe" who were born, lived or died in this town. We learnt about several women who had a connection with Felixstowe including Wallis Simpson (the wife of Prince Edward, Duke of Windsor) who stayed in Felixstowe for six weeks whilst her divorce went through at Ipswich. Apparently she wasn't fond of Felixstowe. We also heard about Ada Maddocks who was born in Felixstowe and was one of the leading women trade unionists of her day. She supported equal pay for women. Also Barbara Ward the journalist and writer lived in Felixstowe for some time and later helped Jews escape from Hitler.

In March we welcomed Jim Jarvie O.B.E who had spent the majority of his 40 year career investigating and prosecuting organised crime groups involved in drug trafficking, money laundering and border crime. He gave us many insights into his work and we learnt about the banned drugs that criminals try to smuggle into our country and the various ways they try to do it.

On April 3rd a well known personality is coming to give us a talk entitled "Babies to Broadcasting". Why not join us ? We are a friendly group who meet in the Centre at 7.30 and visitors are always welcome.

*Rosey Freeman*

## Peace Glass Crafters - Stained Glass Club

PGC are a club of friendly “glassers”. We share an interest and enjoyment in creating art from sheet glass of all colours and textures.

As a group we support each other by sharing ideas, knowledge and experience when creating our projects. Projects have included: Panels, Windows, Clocks, Suncatchers, Lamps, Christmas decorations and 3D items. We also created a panel between us which is displayed in Felixstowe library.

The Club is mainly for “Tiffany” (copper foil) glass work but there are occasions where a member decides to make a leaded piece where glass is joined with lead. We have our own equipment including grinders and soldering irons plus a few consumables for use on Club nights.

We are always keen to welcome new members to our friendly and informal Club. Having attended workshops or classes previously, most people who come to the group have some experience in the main stained glass techniques, including glass cutting, grinding, foiling and soldering.

We are now able to consider taking on new members who do not have experience. This will be on a case by case basis as each person would need to be sponsored by an existing club member and places will be limited.

We meet on Tuesday evenings (except the third Tuesday of each month) from 7 to 9pm in the Margaret White Hall at the Community Centre. We have some breaks around Christmas and peak Summer holiday time. There is a modest membership fee.
If you are interested in joining us please contact our  Secretary on 01473 625782.

## Brackenbury WI

We had an excellent speaker in February, SERV Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Bloodrunners, who do an unpaid service covering the County.

March was our 56th birthday meeting, our speaker was Sean Hedges-Quinn who made all the statues at Portman Road, along with Captain Mainwaring (Arthur Lowe), James Herriot (Alf Wright) and many more.

He explained the whole process from start to finish. He is extremely thorough on each of his projects, taking photos and measurements, and reading biographies for any information he can obtain. Following his talk we ended the evening with birthday cake.

Our lunch club and coffee morning are continuing, and the walking group will be starting shortly. We have trips planned for the next few months.

We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30, come along to meet and make new friends.

*Liz Sampson*

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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 June, please send any contributions to Dave Songhurst by May 23rd.