



OFCA NEWS

October / November 2024

Newsletter of the Old Felixstowe Community Association

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

Registered Charity No. 1163286

Update from the Chair

Christmas Card Scheme

In 1982 the OFCA Christmas Card scheme was established and twenty-one years ago Pauline Varden and her Tennis Club colleagues took over the running of this popular scheme. After all these years Pauline will no longer be at the helm, so we are looking for somebody to take over this annual operation. Our grateful thanks go to Pauline and her team for all their hard work over the years. There are over fifty “posties” ready and waiting to deliver the cards, but we need a team to sort the cards as they are handed into the Community Centre over a period of three days in December. If you or your organisation are interested in taking over this excellent fundraiser for the Association, please contact me at ofcabookings@gmail.com.

Nettie Trigg

As reported in a previous newsletter Nettie sadly passed away last year. Nettie has very kindly left a generous legacy to the Association for which we are most grateful. As many of you know Nettie was a regular stall holder at our monthly Community Market raising money for her beloved Small Animal Rescue charity, she was also a member of General Council. The Management Committee will carefully consider how to use this legacy and will spend it wisely.

Donations

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

Hire of the Centre

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. The bookings calendar can be viewed via our website at www.oldfelixstoweca.org.uk.

Annual General Meeting

A reminder that the Association’s 51st Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 17th October at 7.30pm in the Margaret White Hall followed by light refreshments in the Jane Bolton Lounge. Please join us as we celebrate another year of this great facility in Old Felixstowe.

Best wishes,
Celia Page

OFCA Community Markets

The OFCA Community Markets are back after a well deserved rest in August. Forthcoming dates are October 12th, November 9th and December 14th.

Over the past year we have raised £4,808 which added to the Summer Fair money makes a grand total of £6,623, so thanks to our stall holders, affiliated groups and the wonderful OFCA Team.

Thank you to the Cake makers, the Raffle ticket sellers, the bollards, bunting and banners people, the advertisers, the bookings organiser, the table and chair movers, the washing uppers and the sweepers, the Nurses, the Councillors, the people who turn up every month to support us. THANK YOU ALL.

Elaine Wright

Peter Field

We are sad to let you know that Peter Field passed away in September. Many of you will remember that Peter was head of Kingsfleet School some years back. Peter and his wife Marion were always good supporters of OFCA.

Old Felixstowe Churchyard

A centuries-old churchyard in the heart of Old Felixstowe is to begin a new season of growth with plans to manage and develop it to ensure it remains a welcoming and environmentally friendly space.

St Peter and St Paul's Church in Old Felixstowe can trace its roots back over 800 years, but the churchyard is being managed and developed with the guidance of experts.

“We asked the professionals at 'Caring For God's Acre' to help us make a plan to manage the churchyard and ensure it is kept at the heart of this community“ said Rev Chris Hood, Vicar at the church.

“Churchyards are true havens for wildlife, containing species which were once much more common" said Harriet Carty, Director of God's Acre, a charity specialising in working with churchyards. “Conservation management is about active management ... we have drawn up a plan appropriate to St Peter and St Paul's Church that is realistic for their resources, and will be welcomed and valued by the community.”

Managing the grass areas, making the paths more accessible, attracting wildlife, helping the environment, and encouraging new species are all important steps.

As part of this project the church will also be undertaking work on the thirty-year-old Garden Of Remembrance to make it easier to maintain, and continue to meet the future needs of the Parish.

Chris is inviting local residents to attend a meeting at the church to hear more about these plans; there are two dates and times to choose from:

Sunday November 10th at 4.00 pm, or

Thursday November 14th at 6.30 pm

“We would love people to get involved and help us bring these plans to life, there are some wonderful gardeners in Old Felixstowe, and we would welcome anyone who would like to join in the work in the churchyard – you don't need green fingers, just willing hands.“

For more information simply email the church office at office@oldfelixstoweparish.org.uk

Gardeners meet in the churchyard at 9.30am on alternate Thursday mornings to bring the plans to life - Chris and the team hope to see you there.

Spencer Smith

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



Martello Ladies

In August we went on our annual mystery trip. This time it was to the Tosier Chocolate Factory at Reckford farm, Middleton. We were shown how 'craft chocolate' is made and instructed in the correct way to taste chocolate with a lesson in tasting. We were then shown the process in making the chocolate from start to finish and all the equipment involved. Afterwards we had a nice buffet lunch followed by chocolate cake "of course". On the way home we stopped into Dobbies Garden Centre for a look round and a drink.

In September we were treated to a "Who Dunit?" murder mystery evening by Upfront Productions. It was a fun evening and kept us guessing.

Our AGM will be held in October followed by a cheese and wine buffet.

Our next meeting is on 7th November at 7.30 and is entitled "Ship Ahoy". Why not join us? We are a friendly group and visitors are always welcome.

Rosey Freeman

Brackenbury WI

We were entertained by What No Cake ukulele band in September, everyone enjoyed the singalong. We are continuing with our lunches - the Regal in September, October will be an early dinner at Anatolia. Our walks have been along the seafront both ways enjoying a lunch at the Ferryboat or Viewpoint, our coffee mornings continue each month too.

Some of us help at kitchen at the OFCA Community Markets each month, there is always a great variety of stallholders and of course the Parish Nurse Helen who is absolutely lovely.

We are in the middle of planning next year's programme and hope to have a good variety of speakers, alongside the trips that are in the pipeline.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm.

Liz Sampson

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



Felixstowe Garden Club

As we enter the Autumn season we will meet on Tuesday 8th October from 18.30 for free refreshments. Our speaker (tba) will begin their talk at 19.00. We will also hold our Autumn Mini Show (show schedule on our website or Facebook), which is sure to be a delight of seasonal fruit, vegetables, flower arrangements and traybake cooking (and tasting!), created by our members, so don't miss it.

*From the Garden Club's
2023 Autumn Show*



On 12th November, Jim Paine from Walnut Tree Nursery in Attleborough will visit to talk to us about Trees for all Seasons.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held on 10th December followed by Christmas entertainment and festive nibbles. We welcome visitors on the night, £5 cash and can offer reduced Annual membership for £10 until year-end, so encourage your friends and family to come and see what we can offer. We meet in the Community Centre, with parking outside or close by on-street parking. Further details can be found on our Facebook page or website at <https://felixstowedistricts.onesuffolk.net/> or contact our Secretary, Jayne, on 01394 211739. We look forward to meeting you soon.

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 December, please send any contributions to Dave Songhurst by November 25th.