



OFCA NEWS

February / March 2026

Newsletter of the Old Felixstowe Community Association

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

Registered Charity No. 1163286

Update from the Chair

I do hope this newsletter finds you well and that you all had a good Christmas and New Year. Hopefully, Spring is on its way to brighten our days.

In most newsletters I stress the importance of volunteers to the Association and I have good news to report. Paul Weavers will continue as Treasurer of the Association but is now being joined by Steve Fairweather who will carry out the invoicing to those who use the Community Centre. I would like to thank Steve very much and welcome him to the team.

The Management Committee is busy as ever and quotes are being sought for work to be carried out to the roof of the Jane Bolton Lounge. Planning permission is required so this may prove to be a lengthy process, I will keep you updated. Work on the refurbishment to the kitchen is to commence on Monday 16th March and will last for 10 working days. All users of the Centre have been informed but we hope to keep disruption to a minimum. I am sure the end result will be worth it as we continue to enhance the appearance of the Centre.

As many more houses are being built in Felixstowe, lots of new people are moving into the area and may like to visit the Community Centre. If you would like to advertise your group/organisation on our website 'Centre Activities' page, please email a short description of the activity, time and cost, and contact details, and send it to dave.songhurst@gmail.com. We also welcome contributions to our two-monthly Newsletter providing news updates on Centre activities, see our Newsletter web page for details.

The next Community Market is being held on Saturday 14th February, (Valentines Day) from 10am until midday. We are putting together a Valentines basket as the main prize in the raffle and donations for this would be most welcome.

Celia Page

OFCA



**Community Market
Table-Top Sale**
Saturday February 14th
10am to 12 noon

Old Felixstowe Community Centre
Ferry Road

Craft Stands ♦ Bric-a-Brac ♦ Books ♦ Raffle
Cakes ♦ Produce
Parish Nurses here for advice

REFRESHMENTS

In aid of OFCA Funds Registered Charity No. 1163286

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




OFCA Website

A reminder of the information available on our website, for anyone who may not be familiar with it.

The Centre Activities page lists many of the activities that take place at the Community Centre, with short descriptions and contact details. Please let us know if you would like to include details of any other active groups that are not listed.

The Centre Bookings page provides information for hirers, including up-to-date bookings calendars for the Wyn Brackley Hall, Margaret White Hall, and Jane Bolton Lounge.

Our Newsletter page includes a sign-up form to receive the Newsletter by email, information for advertisers, and links to download printable copies of recent newsletters.

There is also a contacts list for OFCA responsible positions. All pages are accessible through the menu from the home page.

Dave Songhurst, OFCA Website Manager

Felixstowe Garden Club

Happy New Gardening Year to you all.

We have a great selection of speakers booked for 2026 and our visitors entrance has been reduced from £5 to just £3 including free refreshments!

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Doors open at 6.30 for refreshments and start time is 7pm. There is a garden-related raffle too.

Our speaker on Tuesday 10th Feb is Clive Boase on Climate Change Gardening. On Tuesday 10th March we welcome Kate Elliot, the Head Gardener of Columbine Hall.

Another date to look forward to is Saturday 27th June ...Our Annual Flower and Produce Show. Doors open at 10.30 am to buy plants from Katie's Garden and delicious refreshments, 11.30 - 4pm to view the exhibits. Grand Draw, and free entrance for all.
We hope to see you there!

Martello Ladies

In December Phil Corey and Upfront Productions presented us with a "Christmas Cabaret". This was a mixture of comedy and music and certainly put us in a festive mood. It was followed by seasonal refreshments of mince pies and mulled wine.



After all the Christmas and New Year celebrations were over it was nice to have our annual meal to look forward to which took place on the 8th of January. This year it was held at the Spa Pavilion who kindly stepped in at the last minute when the Golf Club had to cancel due to circumstances beyond their control. It was well attended by our members, many of who commented that they had really enjoyed their meal. They then had the chance to win one of the over thirty raffle prizes!

On 5th February our meeting is entitled "Mad as a Hatter" and on 5th March "Reaching the Heights". Intrigued, why not join us? We meet at the centre at 7.30 and visitors are always 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: 07896 267513




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



Felixstowe Morning WI

Felixstowe Morning WI enjoyed a double Christmas celebration with the excellent Colneis singers at our December meeting followed by an excellent Christmas lunch at the Alex. January found us debating this year's national resolutions and hearing about ways to avoid scams and fraud from two representatives of the Yorkshire Building Society.

Linda Page, committee member

Brackenbury WI

We have started 2026 with our speaker Paul, a local underwater diver/photographer, with his photos from an archipelago off Malaysia bringing colour to a dark and cold January night.

We have a trip to the Wolsey Theatre coming up to watch 'Murder at Midnight', and plans to visit Stowmarket Food Museum and sample their school dinners from the 50's, 60's or 70's, which I think will be interesting bringing back mixed memories.

New members have joined us from Levington as their WI closed, we are always happy to welcome new members. Our speakers for the year are all booked, which will have us entertained. We continue with our lunches, coffee mornings and walks each month.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7.30 in the Margaret White Hall, or just follow the sound of chattering ladies.

Liz Sampson

Visit OFCA's website at <https://www.olfelixstoweca.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 April, please send any contributions to Dave Songhurst by March 23rd.