

THE FELIXSTOWE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 2017 Issue No. 116



The Felixstowe Society is established for the public benefit of people who either live or work in Felixstowe and Walton. Members are also welcome from The Trimleys and the surrounding villages. The Society endeavours to:

stimulate public interest in these areas,
promote high standards of planning and architecture
and secure the improvement, protection, development and preservation of the local environment.

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Notes from the Chairman

Well, here I am, new Chairman of The Felixstowe Society, something that was certainly not on my agenda this time last year. I knew that I was coming out of the Mayoral Chair in May and had intended to slow down for a year. However, when I learned that Roger was standing down as Chairman after 4 years, having done 2 more years than he had intended, and that there was no-one coming forward to take his place, I volunteered. After Roger's heartfelt letter telling all 600 members that The Society would have to fold if it could not be officered, I felt sure that there would be lots of candidates for the posts, but I was wrong. In fact we are still lacking a Secretary, although I do thank Elizabeth Horn for taking on the role as Minute Secretary. It is with some trepidation that I have taken on the Chairmanship, but I have a great Committee with two very experienced Vice Chairmen in Roy Gray and Keith Horn who, I know, will be a great help. The whole Committee and, I hope, the whole Society join with me in thanking Roger for his wonderful work as Chairman for these last 4 years and I am, especially very pleased that he is staying on in charge of Newsletter Distribution.

On the subject of the Newsletter, this is the last one being compiled by Bev Boyce. This redoubtable lady has been producing our wonderful magazine for three years and certainly does an amazing job. I think this is the best Newsletter of all the other societies in the Town. She will be very sadly missed but she is a very busy lady and I can understand her position. However it will be a great blow to The Society and she will be a hard act to follow. I want to take this opportunity of thanking Bev for all the work that she has put into the Newsletter over the years and also for cataloguing and keeping the archives for The Society. I know that you are not retiring, Bev, as you are so involved in the Archives for the old Deben High School at the International College and the War Memorials, to name just two of your "jobs". I am pleased to announce that Honor Dines has agreed to become The Society's new Editor.

I don't know how many people realise that The Society has a dedicated team of "planners" headed by David Crawford. These folk meet every three weeks at the Town Hall and go through planning applications. The Felixstowe Society is one of the consultees together with the Town Council, Highways, the public and others on planning applications at SCDC. I went along to one of their meetings and was very impressed to see what they do and how deeply they go into all the applications. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, I really enjoyed the afternoon, and will come again.

On the subject of planning, we don't have any further news re Bala Cottage and I have asked Roger to carry on with this as he has all the information at his fingertips and we really need continuity on the matter. He and Mike Thomas are considering the next steps. Thanks from me especially to Keith and Elizabeth Horn who organise such wonderful trips. Plenty more planned for next year. By the time you read this the Harwich trip will have been and gone. Hope all enjoyed this, sorry that I couldn't make it. However Jon and I did come to the Summer Evening at the Hut, which was fabulous, especially with the lovely Hattie Bennett and her friends doing the entertainment.

Well enough waffle from me and shall see you all, I hope, at the next Speaker's Evening on September 26, when we welcome Richard Standing speaking on Suffolk Workhouses. Have a lovely Summer.

Jan Garfield

Calendar - September 2017 to November 2018

(All Speaker Evenings are at 7.30pm at The Salvation Army Church, Cobbold Road)

September

Monday 4 - Felixstowe Walkers - Martlesham Heath - meet at 10.30am in the M&S Simply Food car park - 3 miles - Grade 2

Friday 15 - Felixstowe Walkers - Trimley St Martin - park on the grass outside Goslings' Farm shop and meet at 10.30am outside the Garden Café - 2½ miles - Grade 3

Saturday 16 Beach Clean - meet at 9.30am at the shelter nearest Seagull Cottage. Guy Pearse will be leading this event.

Sunday 17 Phil's Sunday Walks - The Walton Walk - meet outside St Mary's Church, Walton at 2.30pm

Tuesday 26 - Speaker Evening - Suffolk Workhouses - Richard Standing

Thursday 28 - Felixstowe Walkers - Waldringfield - meet at 11am in the Maybush Inn car park - 2½ miles - Grade 3

October

Wednesday 11 - Felixstowe Walkers - Suffolk Food Hall - meet at 10.30am at Suffolk Food Hall (off Wherstead Road) - 2 ½ miles - Grade 3

Sunday 15 Phil's Sunday Walks - the new graveyard tour - meet at St Peter and St Paul' s lych gate at 2.30pm

Tuesday 24 - Felixstowe Walkers - Landguard Common - meet at 11am at the car park opposite Landguard Fort - 2½ miles - Grade 3

Tuesday 24 Speaker Evening - Felixstowe and Offshore Radio- Brian Nichols and Charles Wright

November

Monday 6 - Felixstowe Walkers - Fairtrade Walk - meet at 10.30am at Trinity Methodist Church, Hamilton Road - 2½ miles - Grade 2

Friday 17- Felixstowe Walkers - Woodbridge - meet at 10.30am outside Deben Pool - 2½ miles - Grade 2

Tuesday 28 Speaker Evening - Suffolk Sandlings - Richard Moore

Thursday 30 - Felixstowe Walkers -The Grove - meet at 10.30am at The Grove car park - 2½ miles - Grade 3

December

Thursday 7 - Beach Clean - meet at 9.30am at the shelter nearest Seagull Cottage

Wednesday 13 - Felixstowe Walkers - Kesgrave - meet at 11am at the Community Centre on Twelve Acre Approach off Bell Lane - 3¼ miles - Grade 2

Thursday **28** - Felixstowe Walkers - The Promenade - meet at 10.30am opposite Fludyer's Public House - 2 miles - Grade 1

January

Wednesday **10** - Felixstowe Walkers - Old Felixstowe - meet at 10.30am at Brackenbury Sports Centre - 2 miles - Grade 2

Tuesday **23** - Speaker Evening - [Further Stories of My Life in Athletics](#) - Bill Tancred

February

Tuesday **27** - Speaker Evening - [Bus Travel in Suffolk](#) - Pip Wright

March

Tuesday **27** - Speaker Evening - [Coastwatch](#) - Julian Milsom

April - no dates

May

Thursday **17** - Sunday **20**, 2018 Three night stay in Derby and more - see insert

Tuesday **22** - AGM and Speaker Evening - [40 years and counting...The Society's contribution to the heritage and development of Felixstowe](#) - Bev Boyce

September

Tuesday **25** - Speaker Evening - [Angel Roofs in East Anglia](#) - Michael Rimmer

October

Tuesday **23** - Speaker Evening - [A Local Author](#) - Ruth Dugdale

November

Tuesday **27** - Speaker Evening - [Oceangoing Yachting](#) - Bridget Keevil

Walking Grading system:

Grade 1 - easy flat good surfaces, **Grade 2** - mostly on the level but can be muddy in places, **Grade 3** - generally good surfaces but some moderate slopes and mud in wet weather, **Grade 4** - more challenging - may include steeper slopes, rough ground and mud in wet weather.

**DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER-
NOVEMBER 12, 2017 to fxsocnewsletter@gmail.com**

Society News



The Society Dinner - April 10

The Society made a profit of £335.00 on the night, made up of £94 from the sale of the tickets and £241 from the Raffle. The Society donates this money to a charity. 97 people attended and the evening was enjoyed by all.



By all accounts everyone enjoyed the excellent carvery main course. A special presentation was made to Susanne Barsby for her sterling service to The Society. Tony Horrocks was also thanked for his service as Treasurer during the last few years. Grateful thanks to Keith and Elizabeth Horn for their excellent organisation of this event. **Thanks to Jean Macpherson for the photos**

A request from Felixstowe Forward:



In 2016 we opened two beach huts with the Visit Felixstowe logo and converted them into Tourist Information Points. These are located opposite the Town Hall and, for 2017, at Martello Park. Inside there are leaflets on local attractions and information about events and activities in the town. Some of our members already volunteer to man the hut and welcome visitors to our town.

We are looking for Visit Felixstowe Volunteers who will man the beach huts at weekends, Bank holidays and during the school holidays.

Get In Touch and Register Your Interest...

Email -Felixstowe.forward@eastsex.gov.uk Tel: 01394 444884

Radio Caroline Commemorative Stone

The stone being laid by The Felixstowe Society, commemorating Radio Caroline as Britain's first offshore radio station, while anchored off Felixstowe, is being unveiled at 5.30pm on Saturday September 9, at the Wolsey Gardens' viewing area, directly above the Town Hall Gardens.

In conjunction with this, there will also be an exhibition held over the weekend in Trinity Methodist Church Hall (on the corner of Orwell & Hamilton Roads), where we will be joined by some offshore radio guests, including Alan Turner, who worked on board the MV Caroline whilst she was off Felixstowe, and Ray Clark from Caroline & BBC Essex, author of 'Radio Caroline, The True Story of the Boat that Rocked'. On the Saturday, this will be open from 9am to 5pm, and on the Sunday between 10am and 4pm. Entrance is FREE!

For any further information, please contact Brian Nichols on 07714 596655, or there will be updates published on our Felixstowe and Offshore Radio Facebook page.

We look forward to meeting you over the weekend of September 9 and 10

The Society's Archive

The Society's Plans Committee has been invited by the Town Hall to sift through old plans; some of which might prove useful additions to The Society's archive.

The photo, below, shows members hard at work looking through a fascinating number of old plans.



The Society much appreciates the kindness of The Felixstowe Museum, particularly Colin and Sue Tod, for giving us storage space to house the archive. Some volunteers will be cataloguing items in August and it is hoped to have a fully revised catalogue, available to members, later this year. Any documents, photos, maps or objects relating to the heritage and history of

Felixstowe, Walton and The Trimleys would be very much appreciated. Please contact Bev Boyce - 01394 672184 - if you would like to help or to donate items.

Minutes of the AGM held Tuesday May 23, 2017 7.30pm in The Salvation Army Hall

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Mr Benton, Mr & Mrs Bristol, Mr English, Mr & Mrs Bowler, Mr Rollings, Mr & Mrs Allsop, Mr Barsby, Mrs Todd.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on May 24, 2016

A motion to accept the Minutes was proposed by Mr R Daniels and seconded by Mr R Dunthorne

3. Annual Report for 2016:

A motion to accept the report was proposed by Mr M Elmes and seconded by Mr H Dossor.

4. Annual Accounts for 2016:

Due to printing problems, the Accounts which were included in the 2017 AGM papers were not legible. A more readable version is included at the end of these minutes The Chairman reported to the meeting that the Accounts showed a satisfactory situation. A motion to accept the Accounts was proposed by Mr M Elmes and seconded by Mr R Dunthorne

5. Election of Officers, Executive Committee, and Independent Examiner

A. Election of Officers

Chairman: Jan Garfield

Proposed: Jon Garfield

Seconded: Richard Holland

Interim Joint Vice Chairmen: Keith Horn & Roy Gray

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer & Members' Secretary: Hilary Eaton

New Committee Member: Katy Topping

Proposed: Hilary Eaton

Seconded: Andrew Halliday

New Committee Member: Michael Sharman

Proposed: Roy Gray

Seconded: Keith Horn

Independent Examiner: Alan Middleton

The election of the above officers was proposed by Mr R Daniels and seconded by Mr M Elmes.

B. Election of Committee Members

The following members were proposed by Mr R Daniels and seconded by Mr M Elmes.

David Crawford, Laurence Gilbert, Roy Gray, Elizabeth Horn, and Keith Horn,

The Chairman reminded members that Bev Boyce would be retiring as Newsletter Editor after the September edition and a replacement was urgently required.

6. The Felixstowe Society Award for the Enhancement of the Environment.

No nominations had been received.

7. Any Other Business

No other business.

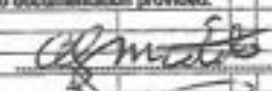

The formal business of the meeting closed at 19.40.

After closure of the meeting, the retiring Chairman was thanked for his contribution to The Society during the four years that he had held office.

Thanks to Meg and Roger Baker for the minutes.

The following are The Society's Accounts for 2016. **Thanks to Tony Horrocks and Roger Baker for the inclusion of these accounts.**

FELIXSTOWE SOCIETY FINANCIAL STATEMENT- Year Ending 31st December 2016

2016 INCOME		2016	2016	EXPENDITURE		2016
£		£	£			£
2825.00	Subscriptions Individual	3004.09	595.00	Newsletters		1155.00
	Corporate	49.00	425.00	Activities	Hire Hall	360.00
479.67	GR Aid	455.32	140.00		Speaker	225.00
847.50	Activities Meetings	675.00	2655.79		Outings	2850.00
3080.00	Outings	3000.00			Quiz	215.00
883.30	Quiz	855.00	1155.00		Dinner	1880.00
1439.30	Dinner	1470.00	492.48		Hut Social	363.00
852.00	Hut Social	643.00	1990.78		Minibreak	5465.00
1990.00	Heritage Weekend	3330.00			Heritage weekend	2337.00
10414.00	Minibreak	8841.00	37.24	Administration	Stationery	90.00
	Sales	0.00	67.00		Postage	471.00
21.00	Colman walk	0.00	181.65		Framing	158.43
10.00	Donations	120.00	144.40		Travel	0.00
	Plaques	30.00	10.80		Website	177.15
	WOODLAND A/C	1276.09	58.00		Hospitality	75.00
	Bank Interest	192.62	75.00	Printing		322.00
			245.00	Insurance		284.73
			36.00	Subscriptions /	Protect Rural England	36.00
			600.00	Donations	Civic Voice	800.00
			65.00		Feltz in Flower	45.00
			25.00		Suffolk Preservation Soc	0.00
			254.49	Salv Army (Raffle)	FACTS (Raffle)	350.00
			290.00		Voucher Returns	15.45
			44.98		Worker Gifts	0.00
					Hope Trust (Phil H)	100.00
				Plaques		
				Refunds	Mini break	645.00
				WOODLAND A/C		2093.75
					Walkers	98.00
					Bank Charges	5.00
21481.47	TOTAL	26889.94	17,495.41	TOTAL		23491.99
				Difference		1317.85
CURRENT & DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS						
			10,423.05	BANK		1,149.48
			7,095.41	VIRGIN MONEY		38,095.85
			17,518.46	TOTAL		39,245.33
						1,317.85
Certified as correct according to documentation provided.						
Independent Examiner						
Alan Middleton						
Treasurer						
J.A. Horrocks						
5 th January 2017						



Royal Yacht Britannia

Derek Peters

Tuesday May 23

The Royal Yacht Britannia was the subject of Derek Peter's description of a Trade Mission aboard the Royal Yacht in 1987. Derek explained that the yacht was not just a floating royal palace but had, for example, saved some 500 British and French citizens from a civil war in Djibouti by collecting them from the shores of the Red Sea. It would also serve as a hospital ship in war time and as a platform for



British Industry which explained why the Port of Felixstowe was chosen as one of 12 companies to make trade presentations - theirs to the port of Ningbo in China, in the



hope of forming a trading partnership. The Britannia Captain went to the same school as Derek so preferential treatment was given to Derek who was shown parts of the yacht not normally seen by trade delegations. He was told that the Queen washed her own 'smalls' and that Princess Diana loved

having a beer with the crew!

Derek described the immense attention to detail taken by the crew, as they took their trade partners on a 'Sea Day' down the river Yangtse, followed by a splendid dinner in the presence of HM Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, who characteristically said to Derek, "What the is Felixstowe doing here?!"

At the conclusion of the visit the Chinese visitors watched the Royal Marines Band play the retreat on the quayside, followed by a medley of Chinese folk tunes. As they were about to leave the ship their Chinese guest said, "What a marvellous day - we never expected to meet Mrs Thatcher herself!"

Derek's pride in his visit to the Royal Yacht was very obvious and it was an enlightening peek into a 'royal residence'.



Beach Clean - June 21

On a lovely summer's day, 45 people attended this beach clean comprising Felixstowe Society members, the Beach Hut and Chalet Association and a team of 15 employees of Damco Logistics from Felixstowe Port.

With this excellent turnout we were able to clean the beach from The

Pier to Cobbolds Point from 9.30am to 10.45am and during this period we collected 21 bags of rubbish weighing 127 kgs of which 3 ½ kgs came from the 100 metres on the beach by the Spa Pavilion. In this area of beach not only do we have to pick up but record every item. The information collected is emailed to the Marine Conservation Society. 390 items were recorded and over half were plastic and polystyrene items. Other pickings included pieces of cloth, bottle caps, pieces of fishing tackle, drink cans, foil wrappers, toilet refreshers, wet wipes, roof felting, a pair of goggles, a bucket handle and much more.

Many thanks to all who came along to give a hand and to celebrate Suffolk Day and to appreciate how lucky we are to live in this lovely seaside town of Felixstowe.

Many thanks to Keith and Elizabeth Horn for this article and for their splendid organisation of this event.



The Marine Conservation Society has published its report on last September's Great British Beach Clean involving 6,000 volunteers and 364 beaches, including Felixstowe.

268,384 pieces were collected over the September 2016 weekend and the finds reflected the usual items found on the stretch of beach cleaned by our own volunteers ie plastic and polystyrene pieces, cigarette stubs and packets which had contained crisps, sweets, lollies and sandwiches.



MCS also reported that the number of plastic bags found on beaches around the UK has halved probably due to the levy introduced in 2015. However the amount of litter found on UK beaches is rising annually.



Free Beachcomb for The Felixstowe Society members Thursday October 26 at 9.30am

Are you a member of The Felixstowe Society who comes out and helps collect litter from Felixstowe Beach? Are you a bit fed up of this? Does your heart sink every time you see a bit of litter on the beach?

(Copyright- Rachel Sloane)

Then come on a free beachcomb (booking essential) to see some of the treasures to be found on Felixstowe Beach.



Thanks to an “Enabling Communities” grant from a local councillor this walk is free although donations at the end of the walk towards the work of British Divers Marine Life Rescue will be

welcomed.



Kate Osborne from Beach Bonkers (who has joined in the 2017 beach cleans) will be leading a beachcomb to encourage you to discover the wonders of Felixstowe Beach. There are animals that look like seaweed as well as the fascination of fossils and shark’s teeth. And can you meet the challenge of finding at least ten different shells?

If you are unable to make this date, or can’t wait that long, please take a look at the events page on the Beach Bonkers website: www.beachbonkers.org.uk for details of all her beachcombing activities.

The walk will last about 90 minutes. Suitable for all ages so do bring along any family visiting for half-term. Please wrap up well with layers for warmth and against the wind as we will be moving very slowly. Well behaved dogs on a short lead welcome.

We are expecting this beachcomb to be popular so booking is essential. Felixstowe Society members, their children and grandchildren are welcome (maximum 5 any one family)

If you would like to go on this walk or have any queries please telephone me, Keith Horn, on 01394 270845 or email me at kjandehorn@btinternet.com

If you find you are unable to come please let us know so the place can be given to someone else.

Keith Horn

Thank you to Beach Bonkers for the two photos of beach finds.

Visit to Harwich - Thursday July 20

There will be a full report in the January Newsletter. The following declaration was presented to The Society's members by the Harwich and Dovercourt Town Crier.



Oyez Oyez Oyez



Members of The Felixstowe Society

The Citizens of Harwich, together with our Mayor, Councillor John Brown, bid you welcome to our historic old town and the neighbouring blue flag resort of Dovercourt Bay.

The Harwich Society guides, who are expert in the local history and the many local hostelries, will be showing you around.

We hope you enjoy your visit and leave with a good impression of our town.



God save the Queen

July 20, 2017





Felixstowe Beach Hut & Chalet Association

Website: www.felixstowehutschalets.co.uk

E-mail: felixstowehutschalets@gmail.com

Correspondence Address: Fells Cottage, 72 Ferry Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9LU

Tel: 01394 274331 (Treasurer)

Chairman: Jo Woodward

Secretary: Julie Downton

Vice Chairman: Roy Gray

Treasurer: Trevor Mason

In our article in the last newsletter I set out the proposals from Suffolk Coastal District Council to raise fees by beach hut owners by an extortionate amount. Our protestations led to a consultation exercise and we are still awaiting the outcome, which is expected by September. Had it not been for the outcry from our members we are sure that the matter would have been done and dusted by now and many owners would have given up their huts. Fingers are firmly crossed that any new proposals are more reasonable, appreciating that our licence fees are bound to rise. Over 200 members attended our AGM at the Orwell Hotel in June and re-elected the Committee. Jane Warden has since been co-opted onto the Committee to fill a vacancy.

We continue to be involved in community events. In May several members took part in a litter pick on the beach from the Pier towards Manor End and in July we entered a float in Felixstowe Carnival, which was very fitting as the theme this year was 'Seaside Traditions'. To see our members Barbara and Alan dressed as Punch and Judy was quite something to behold! An awful lot of work went into making the float and those involved had a really enjoyable time.



Nine beach huts (including mine!) had to be moved from their position in front of the Spa Pavilion due to beach erosion making them unsafe. They have been re-positioned in vacant spaces at various places along the sea front. Our hut was transported the furthest – to Manor End. Suffolk Coastal say they will 'monitor' the situation with the beach, but whether or not we will be able to return there in due course is very much up in the air.



Pavilion due to beach erosion making them unsafe. They have been re-positioned in vacant spaces at various places along the sea front. Our hut was transported the furthest – to Manor End. Suffolk Coastal say they will 'monitor' the situation with the beach, but whether or not we will be able to return there in due course is very much up in the air.

Finally, the beach hut 'Grandma's Little House' at Manor End, which is owned by our Committee member, Joy Reeve, is one of ten shortlisted in a national 'Beach Hut of the Year' competition organised by Towergate Insurance. There has been a public vote and Joy would be a worthy winner as she does a great job raising money for charity at her hut every winter when she sells teas, coffees and cakes three mornings a week. **Thanks to Trevor Mason for this article**

The Felixstowe Society Visit to North Norfolk

May 17-19, 2017

Day 1

Early on a wet and cool morning in May, forty four intrepid travellers boarded a coach for another of Keith and Elizabeth's 'Excellent Adventures'.

Our visit for the first day was Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse. This was an interesting place that contains a museum of local life, a preserved part of the Workhouse and a working farm. They say the sun shines on the righteous and there must have been at least one of the group who qualified because the rain stopped



almost as we drove up to the site! After a reviving cup of coffee, we set off to explore the museum.

Gressenhall Farm and Workhouse contain a vast collection of sounds, sights and objects relating to the ordinary people of Norfolk, particularly those who worked on the land. Many of the buildings had been restored to the way they would have been used when it was a Workhouse.

Originally the 'Mitford and Launditch House of Industry' was set up by 60 parishes of North Norfolk to support the deserving poor. After the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834 the House of Industry was converted into the Union Workhouse. This remained until 1948 when the National Assistance Act finally closed the Workhouses.

We were treated to a tour around the Workhouse by a very knowledgeable and interesting guide who gave us some feeling as to what our lives would have been like as paupers, tramps or unmarried mothers. It would not have been pleasant, as men, women, boys and girls were kept separated and had to undertake tough and dirty work. The whole point was to make it so horrible that people would rather try and leave to find work, rather than flee to the Workhouse.

A much more cheerful part of the site was the working farm, where they used Suffolk Punch horses (or Norfolk Punches as the farmer said they should be called!) to carry out many of the farm tasks. After a ride round the farm in a tractor and trailer we climbed back onto the coach just as the rain started pouring down again.



We arrived at our Hotel in Old Hunstanton to a welcoming cup of tea and coffee while our bags were swiftly whisked to our rooms.

Day 2



After a good evening meal, a quiet night and a hearty breakfast we were now ready to carry on with our trip, especially as the sun was shining. First stop was Sheringham where we embarked on to the Poppy Line Steam Train 4MT 2-6-0 76084 for the trip to Holt.

A very nostalgic trip for many, with the sight and smells of a steam locomotive made more fun by the addition of a school trip who were dressed up, and treated as evacuees.



Our efficient Coach Driver Steve met us at Holt and we moved on to Thursford to see the Thursford Collection. This was founded by George Cushing who started buying redundant Steam Engines in the 1930s. It was set up as a museum in 1976 to avoid death duties and is run today by youngest son John. Thursford is also the site of the

Christmas Spectacular and Santa's Magical Journey. We had a very interesting backstage tour round the training and rehearsal areas as well as seeing the vast collection of costumes stored there. We then enjoyed Santa's Magical Journey (alas Santa was on holiday) and marvelled at the animated characters, as well as the clever incorporation of some of the steam engines of the collection. There was also plenty of time to listen to beautifully played Wurlitzer organ music and, for those brave enough, a ride on an old fashioned Carousel.





Day 3

Friday was an early departure from our very comfortable hotel for our trip to Blickling Hall. The weather had turned inclement again but fortunately we had been scheduled for an inside tour of the house to start with. Blickling Manor was mentioned in the Domesday book and had previously been the site of a hunting lodge owned by King Harold and later by

William the Conqueror. Previous owners of the Hall had been Sir John Falstaff and Geoffrey Boleyn, grandfather of Anne.

The then 11th Marquis of Lothian, Philip Kerr who owned the property in 1948 gave the site to the National Trust to avoid Death Duties. The trip round the house was done in small groups and led by knowledgeable guides. We were told not only the history and facts about the house but several little anecdotes that may or may not have been true. Following the tour and some refreshment in the café there was time to explore the grounds and view the Bluebell woods (unfortunately just past their best) before boarding the Coach for the trip back to Felixstowe.



Many thanks from the Group to Keith and Elizabeth who organized the trip superbly and also to our driver Steve who chose some interesting routes squeezing past farm vehicles on very narrow roads. We can't wait to see where we will go next.

Thanks to Dick Daniels for the text and photos





The Felixstowe Walkers

'When walking, you see things that you miss in a motor car or on the train. You give your mind space to ponder'.

The writer of the above quote would certainly have had the opportunity to see much of the beauty of our local landscape on this season's walks.

May heralded a popular walk around Felixstowe Ferry and along the sea wall. Much comment was inevitably made about the building development in that part of Felixstowe but walkers were fortified by the fresh sea air and the welcome refreshment in a local hostelry.

Waldringfield, a quaint little village on the Deben estuary, always provides some of the best river views contrasted with a ramble through woods and fields. Our third walk, in May, was a stroll around Ipswich's Christchurch Park, designated as the town's first public park in 1895. The walking route took the group past some of the 14 Grade II listed structures such as the Brett Drinking Fountain, just across the road from Ipswich School, and the Ipswich Martyrs' Memorial constructed in remembrance of nine Protestant martyrs from Ipswich and other villages who were put to death for their beliefs in the sixteenth century.

Local walks such as on the Promenade and around Langer Park were enjoyed despite the threat of rain and thunderstorms.

A highlight of this season's programme, evidenced by the enthusiastic comments at the end of the walk, was the ramble around Stutton. The route took us past a well-known celebrity's garden to encounter some delightful alpacas (not llamas, I am reliably informed) who were as curious about us as we were of them!



The views along the River Stour were stunning on a beautiful July day.



A perennial favourite with the group is the walk around part of Rendlesham Forest as seen in the photo, left. We followed the UFO trail for part of the walk. Walks in the pleasant countryside around Trimley St Mary contrasted with a stroll along part of the Woodbridge riverfront. The season closed with another favourite walk through the woodland and heathland around Martlesham; a real variety of scenic delights.

Thanks to Laurence Gilbert for organising the walks programme and to all the walk leaders.



The Society Members' Feature

During Heritage Weekend, 2016, Graham and Debbie Phelps agreed to open part of their home to the public. A brave decision as they had only moved in three years before and they were still in the middle of a complete renovation of their Edwardian house. Over three hundred people took the opportunity to admire the progress and to hear of their future plans for the house. I was fortunate to have a guided tour of the whole house and to discuss the renovation project with Graham and Debbie.

Born in Bristol, Graham was brought up in Kent and pursued a career as a Building Engineer before re-training as a Maths teacher. Debbie was born in London and brought up in Harwich and Dovercourt as her father was a Trinity House Pilot. Debbie worked in banking and then as a legal secretary before establishing a successful business in Colchester, selling gifts and home accessories.

Graham and Debbie met as cast members of an amateur dramatics company. Prior to moving here, they had lived in and around the Colchester area. Graham had a colleague who lived in Felixstowe and Debbie, from her upbringing, knew of the town so they had both visited on various occasions. They both love walking and the sea so Felixstowe was an obvious place to look for a new home. The first time they viewed the house, they realised it had potential but needed plenty of work. Debbie now admits that she didn't realise quite how much work they were letting themselves in for! Graham with his engineer's eye had already drawn up plans for the renovation two months before they moved in.

From their research, Graham and Debbie know that the house was designed in 1912 by a noted local architect H W Buxton who designed many buildings in Felixstowe including Cliff House. The house stands on one of four plots bought by the builder W R Andrews in 1900, incidentally the plot allowed room for a garage suitable for a model T Ford, but not wide enough for a modern vehicle. Andrews built himself a house on the corner plot and two other large houses were constructed on the adjacent plots. The photo, above, shows the house before renovation.



Andrews' house suffered severe damage as a result of a 1,000kg bomb in World War Two. The house next door, now lived in by Graham and Debbie, also suffered some damage.

Many of the visitors during Heritage Weekend last year, provided more information about the history of the house. For instance, in the 1930s the house was not a private residence but had been bought by a local hotelier to house some of the staff.

From the 1960s, the house was converted into bedsits and later it became a Residential Care home. Graham and Debbie's task was to convert the house back into a private residence.



Most of the work they have undertaken themselves and have restored the balcony, retained the sash windows as well as the beautiful staircase with rather quirky heart shapes carved out in some of the balustrades. The architectural drawings refer to the cupboard under the stairs as the 'China Pantry' and during the renovation the carpenter's signature was found within a door joint dated 1912. There is an elegant feel to the home, particularly the furnishings which complement the period of the house. Graham and Debbie relate stories of passers-by who have stopped outside the house and commented on the renovation particularly the improvements to the front aspect of the house. This year's project has been to begin the back garden by demolishing a flat roofed extension to the rear and

using the 'garage' space for their very own petanque playing surface.

Before moving to Felixstowe, Graham and Debbie did their research about the town and knew of The Felixstowe Society which they joined a few months after starting the renovation of their house. They were pleased to join a Society which was concerned with the preservation of the heritage of Felixstowe. It says much for Graham and Debbie that they volunteered to open part of their house for Heritage Weekend; an exhausting experience but wonderful feedback from visitors made the day so worthwhile. Debbie had been visiting some of the other events on the Sunday and returned to her house only to find that there were so many people waiting that she could not get in! She patiently waited outside, talking to the visitors.

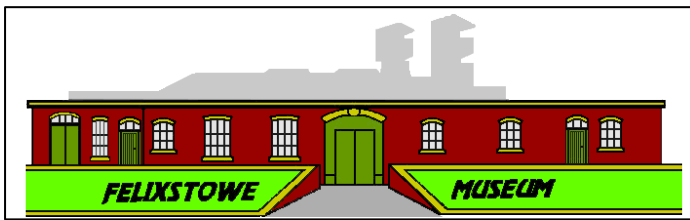
This is an exciting time for Felixstowe according to Graham and Debbie who recognise that new housing has to be built as much as our architectural heritage needs to be preserved. They also note that many people, around the town, take such a pride in their gardens and they enjoy walking around the town to appreciate the renovations made to other properties.

Both Graham and Debbie feel that Felixstowe is not an 'end of the line' town but has a vibrancy which shows itself in the huge variety of activities which are on offer.

I very much enjoyed talking to this charming couple who have put so much work into renovating an Edwardian house which is appreciated by other local residents.



Thanks to Graham and Debbie for the photos.



News from Felixstowe Museum

With only two more months to go before we close, Felixstowe Museum volunteers are already involved in planning exciting possibilities for next year. One of these is our involvement in an HLF funded project through Heritage Solutions. It is entitled 'Surrender and Sanctuary' and will encompass the period from the U-boat surrender into Harwich in 1918 up to the Kindertransport rescue scheme which commenced in 1938. We are interested to hear from anyone who may have family reminiscences/anecdotes, local information or memorabilia. Please call on 01394 674355 or email felmuseum@btopenworld.com

Earlier in the summer Felixstowe Museum was awarded the 2017 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence which is a testimony to the efforts and dedication of everyone involved in this volunteer-run museum. Take a glance at the reviews to see what our customers have enjoyed about their visit which very often has been made special by our friendly and knowledgeable volunteers.

The museum remains open on Sundays until the end of October with additional opening on Wednesdays throughout September. On Sunday 10th September the museum is open free of charge in recognition of the national 2017 Heritage Open Day's event and will be hosting members of the East Anglian Practical Classics Club who will be showing their cars in the grounds. The ever-popular Spooky Day event will be held on Saturday October 28th this year. It's a day of 'gentle chills and thrills' designed for children aged 2 -12 and early booking is recommended. Details of our events may be found on the museum website www.felixstowemuseum.org

Finally it is with sadness that we announce our honorary treasurer is retiring. He has done a sterling job over the past 13 years and has seen the museum grow and flourish. The hours are not onerous and training and support will be available, if required. We would be pleased to hear from anyone who may be interested in filling this post.



This wonderful airman's coat is believed to have been worn in WW1 and was donated to the museum by a local gentleman last year. It's now part of our WW1 display in the Felgate Room.

Many thanks to Pam Cole for this article and the photo.



A number of our members use the Record Office so we are grateful to Anne Murray for this article.

There are many treasures in Felixstowe - fine buildings to view, horizons to scan, and fish and chips to devour. However, some of your greatest treasures have gone upriver to Ipswich - we hope you will follow in their wake and make a voyage to Ipswich Record Office. We can offer you a wide range of civic, business and legal records relating to Felixstowe, including the papers of the famous Pretyman family. The Pretyman papers chart the enterprise and determination of Colonel George Tomline, the founder of the Felixstowe Railway Company and a key figure in Felixstowe history.

On a lighter note, the Tinkler School of Dancing and an amateur dramatic production by the Green Owls Players feature in an album of photographs and newspaper cuttings from the 1930s. We hold over 800 photographs of Felixstowe within the Suffolk Photographic Survey (SPS). A quick "dip" in the SPS found a crowd of citizens watching a suffragette arrive for trial, charged with setting fire to the Bath Hotel in 1914. In another image, workmen pose precariously on scaffolding while building Felixstowe Lodge at the start of the twentieth century.



Images of workers making kettles at the Best Products factory in the late 1950s record the economic history of the town, as seen on the left.

Reproduced by kind permission of the Suffolk Record Office (Ipswich branch), K 681/1/158/777 - making kettle leads at Best Products factory on Felixstowe Road.

Many of our visitors are researching their family history. At Ipswich Record Office, we hold almost all the parish registers for Suffolk on microfiche for the period prior to 1900 and most of the post 1900 registers for East Suffolk. The Felixstowe parish register entries (for St Peter and Paul in Felixstowe) start in 1653, the Walton parish registers are even older. Staff are always on hand to guide customers seeking elusive ancestors and we offer an "Introduction to Family History" session for those new to genealogy - our Autumn dates are Friday September 15 and Friday November 17 at 10 am; the fee is £7.50.

Visitors aiming to write a history of their home, street or village, will often find maps, sales particulars and photographs to help create a timeline. Our Ordnance Survey

maps of Felixstowe date from 1884; we also hold a copy of the Felixstowe tithe map (1845) and the matching 'apportionment'. If your ancestor was a landowner or tenant in Felixstowe in the 1840s you may well find their name listed in the apportionment. My colleague Heather Marshall offers a House History workshop which highlights the key sources available to historians and house detectives for a fee of £12.50. Our Autumn dates are September 21 and November 2 (both Thursday) at 2 pm at Ipswich Record Office and Friday November 24 at 10 am at Lowestoft Record Office.

A new offering on our outreach programme is 'Desert Island Records' hosted by Bridget Hanley, the Collections Manager. Find out which volumes Bridget would row across the ocean on Saturday October 14 at 10.30 am. Ipswich architects Cautley and Barefoot left a vast legacy of plans and drawings of public and private buildings across Suffolk (please see our website for more information). Hilary Ritchie, archivist, will give an illustrated talk about the collection on Saturday November 18 at 10.30 am. Places for both talks are available at £7.50 per session.

The Record Office has wifi and offers free access to the library edition of two major family history websites - Ancestry and Find My Past. These sites give customers access to census records from 1841 - 1911, military records, school admission registers, the 1939 UK register and thousands of other online records.

Access to the tangible and 'touchable' documents we keep in our strong rooms is completely free, though some confidential or fragile items are closed to general view. Items can normally be photocopied or scanned for a fee - please ask for details when you visit. Our new website suffolkarchives.co.uk allows customers to request quotes for copies of documents or to pre order items - this means your document will be waiting for you when you arrive. The website also gives details of our professional research service. Naturally, we will be pleased to receive enquiries via email, letter and phone calls, as always.

The Record Office is based in a Victorian school on the corner of Bramford Road and Gatacre Road (as seen below right); theatre goers may be familiar with the building, as we share the premises with the Eastern Angles Theatre Company.

To find out more, request a course brochure or book onto a course, please ring Ipswich Record Office on 01473 263909, email: ipswich.ro@suffolk.gov.uk or view our website www.suffolkarchives.co.uk. When you visit, please bring ID which includes your address so we can issue a Reader's Ticket on arrival.



The No 8 bus runs from the Tower Ramparts bus station and we have a large, free car park. The Record Office is open every day except Wednesday and Sunday from 9.30am to 4.30pm.

We know that many members of The Felixstowe Society are already frequent visitors to the Record Office but we'd love to meet more of you. We look forward to welcoming you during the Autumn.

Research Corner 28 - The Royal Observer Corps in Felixstowe

Thanks to Douglas Hart MBE who contributed this article.



During last year's Heritage Weekend in Felixstowe, I realised that nothing was recorded about the wartime role of the Observer Corps at Martello P, at that time, a Coastguard station. Over the roof of the Coastguard, a lookout post was erected from where enemy aircrafts' position, type and height was reported to Colchester

operations' plotting table and onward to Fighter Command. Royal Observer Corps was given the 'Royal' prefix by King George VI in April 1941, in recognition of the vital contribution to the Battle of Britain.

The ROC Museum has provided the following details from its current records:-

- A map, dated 1935, shows the post designated 18/L3 with Grundisburgh being L1 and Wolverston L2. However, the post opened operationally in March 1938 as Felixstowe 18/L1 at M292347. I make this to be in Mill Lane about 75m NW of Stour Avenue road junction.
- The post was re-sited to M294331 at Martello Tower P IN July 1940, presumably to better sight low flying aircraft approaching the coast.
- No uniform was adopted for Observers until 1941 when boiler suits and berets were issued.
- The same year, Women Observers were accepted.
- In 1942 RAF battle dress uniform was issued.
- In 1943 'Totter' Rocket apparatus was used to visually warn patrolling fighters of the presence of low flying enemy fighters/bombers.
- The post was re-designated as 14/E3 in November 1953.

I enrolled in The Royal Observer Corps on March 1, 1954, as a volunteer when the post had again been re-designated as 4/E3 (4 Group, Colchester, Echo 3). At this point, in post war Britain, regular NATO exercises took place and we were part of it. Exercises took place for a weekend or sometimes over a period of a week, or even two weeks. Posts operated in clusters of 4, Felixstowe being a component of 'Echo' cluster. This cluster included Claydon E1, Burgh E2, Felixstowe E3 and Shottisham E4, thus bearings taken by each post on a specific target aircraft intersected and provided a positive 'fix'.

A typical event took place that I remember quite well. One sunny Saturday afternoon it was a NATO exercise and we were briefed that certain types of aircraft were the enemy (codeword 'rats') and friendly planes were 'terriers'. A squadron of Douglas Skyraiders ('rats') were spotted approaching just above the sea level, under the radar. Within a few seconds, a flight of RAF Meteor fighters ('terriers') swooped from

the sky and scattered them in all directions as they endeavoured to escape. Later briefing revealed that they were aiming to attack RAF Bawdsey Radar Station.

With aircraft now flying higher and faster, radar was in control of the skies and the need for human eyes ended. In June 1962 a new job was allotted to the ROC, that of plotting the direction and strength of nuclear bomb bursts. From 1959, underground bunkers were being constructed at ROC post locations and as these became available, we started training in a new role. In January 1959 I entered the Air Ministry Works Directorate and became Clerk of Works responsible for the maintenance of RAF Wattisham. Attached to this duty was responsibility for the maintenance of new bunkers; most were leaking ground water due to bad workmanship.

I resigned from the ROC in April 1961 due to being posted overseas for duty in Aden (now South Yemen). The ROC was officially stood down as a Corps in October 1968, at the time of the Civil Defence cuts.

The list below is part of a Register of WWII ROC personnel which has been compiled by the ROC Museum over the last twenty years in the absence of an official register. They hope that, locally, we may be able to put some details to the crew members ie occupations, ages etc. On this list I can see some chaps who were with the post during my time. Stan Bradbeer was Head Observer and owned the cycle shop that Alford's now run in Hamilton Road. Norman Jacobs had an electrical shop on the corner of High Road and Exeter Road (now a residence) in E Walton. Tom Vaughan, who lived in Ipswich, was Deputy H/O. Not on the list is Bill Mutter who had the gentleman's outfitters' shop in Hamilton Road. Robin Grayling worked with me at W F Cross Builders in Langer Road. There will be others who I can't recall and will now, perhaps, contact me to forward their details for inclusion on the list.

WWII Post on Martello Tower		
Group 18 Colchester Post Desig/Location - L3 (Felixstowe)		
1.	P. E. Artis (3/5/40 - 28/5/40)	S.M. Douthwaite E 1/40
2.	V.R.B. Andrews E 10/39	H.Eade 11/41-10/42
3.	C.L.Bell (L/O) E3/38	C.G. Garnham E1/41
4.	S. Bradbeer E6/40	P.J.Goodwin R 1/40
5.	K.B.W. Bugge E8/41	J. Greenwood 1/41-11/42
6.	W.A. Burman 2/40 - 6/40 RE-E 11/41 -12/41	E.W.Hill E3/42
7.	H.S. Coker R12/40	H.A. Hobart E6/42
8.	O.O.Cracknell (H/O) E3/38; H/O 12/43	N.W.W. Jacobs E3/38
9.	H.W.Dallow (H/O) R12/42	R.S. Jay R1/42
10.	J.W.H.Dear E4/42	H.N. Long R6/40

WWII Post on Martello Tower		
Group 18 Colchester Post Desig/Location - L3 (Felixstowe)		
1.	H. I. Masterton R12/39	A.C. Sharman R6/40
2.	J.H. McKeane E 10/42	B. C. Smith E12/43
3.	C.W.Packe E10/39	C/R/Smith R 12/42
4.	H.Parker E3/38 (to A 8/40)	E.B.V. Stephenson R1/40
5.	A.H.Perry E8/41	T.R.Spencer E5/39
6.	H.A. Pettit R6/42	S.H. Taylor R6/40
7.	W.S.Porter E6/41	L.L. Turner 3/40 - 7/40
8.	T.P. Powell R 12/39	T.F. Vaughan E3/38 (to A 8/40
9.	A.E. Priest R2/40	W.P. Wood 5/40 - 6/40
10.	A. J. Ruffles E11/42	



The above photo shows an ROC Ops Room

In the September 2014 Newsletter, Michael Sharman wrote an informative article - Underground Nuclear Observation Post, Wireless Green, Felixstowe.

Online Access to Planning Application Letters, Details and Drawings

After a few years of development, including mergers, East Suffolk District Council (which includes former 'Suffolk Coastal') now has on-line free public access to all recent Planning Application documents as well as to key documents for Applications going back several years. The complex access system now seems to work well but new users should be careful with Step 1 and Step 10.

Step 1. From your browser go direct to www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk
(See **Footnote 1**, below).

Step 2. Click on big box, usually in third row, titled - Planning.

Step 3 Click on box titled - Planning applications.

Step 4 Click on box titled - View planning applications.

Step 5 Click on - 'Search for applications on Public Access'.

Step 6 Enter keyword (such as Application number or postcode or line of Address) in box and click on 'Search' (See **Footnote 2**).

Step 7 If screen then offers several entries all containing the same keyword, click on the entry required.

Step 8 Click on - 'Documents' in the headings tabs (See also **Footnote 3**).

Step 9 Click on - 'View associated documents'.

Step 10 Click in left-hand column (Document Link) on any item that looks interesting. (See **Footnotes 4 and 5**).

Footnote 1 Do not open this website through a link on other documents because you may not then be able to access all the following steps.

Footnote 2 An application number including year such as 16/0000 should bring up a unique Application. Use of an address line such as '00 High Road East' may bring up several decades of history at that address. The address line may also occur in more than one town or village in East Suffolk. If simply a postcode is entered, all applications within that postcode walk will come up.

Footnote 3 It can be useful at **Step 8** to first click on 'Comments' in the heading tabs and then click on 'Public Comments' and/or 'Consultee Comments'. These entries identify and sometimes summarise some of the documents to be seen at **Step 10**.

Footnote 4 These documents are all filed in pdf format. They can be -

- Scrolled across the screen.

- Zoomed to see drawing details - put cursor arrow over lower right of screen to make + and - zoom buttons appear.
- Rotated and printed - put cursor arrow near top of screen.

Footnote 5 Letters sent by post may be scanned in as received, with sensitive details such as a signature redacted or a summary may be entered. Consultees should check the accuracy of summaries.

In conclusion, a reminder for those who do not have access to the internet :-

Felixstowe Town Hall holds one paper copy of all Planning Applications within Felixstowe and Walton area but not subsequent consultation letters and discussion, except those originating from the Town Council.

The Town Hall copy of any recent Application may be viewed by the public during business hours. It is prudent to telephone to make an appointment.

May 2017

Thank you to Peter Bridge for this information.

Planning Applications - March to July 2017

SCDC has granted permission for the following:

Flat 2, 5 Beach Station Road - Replacement of ground floor bay window

The Felixstowe Society objects to this proposal for the reasons stated below:

The location for this proposal lies within the historic part of Victorian Felixstowe. The replacement of the window should, and can, replicate the existing window; most notably in the placement of the 'glazing bars'. The brochure, filed with this application, offers configuration similar to that appropriate for this location.

The Felixstowe Society believes that the proposals, listed below, will have little effect on the Conservation Area:

- **2, The Churchmans, Undercliff Road East: Proposed porch on north side of dwelling.**
- **3, The Churchmans, Undercliff Road East: Proposed porch on north side of dwelling.**
- **101, Bath Road: Proposed conversion of HMO bedsits to residential flats.**
- **25, Constable Road: Single and two storey rear extension.**
- **Flat 2, Ranelagh Court, Ranelagh Road: Replace existing wooden frame windows to match adjacent flats.**
- **White Gables Residential Home, 16, Stanley Road: Erection of porch and works to driveway.**
- **48, Princes Road: Erection of one and a half storey dwelling.**

- **Flat 2, Beach Road West: Removal of existing timber windows to front and rear elevations to be replaced with white UPVC double glazed windows.**

22, Berners Road: Rear extension. The Felixstowe Society believes that the proposals will enhance the current appearance of this prominent Conservation Area building and closely restore the original architecture of the south elevation.

Cliff House, Chevalier Road: Creation of new front and side balconies, alterations to fenestration, creation of roof-top terrace. Relocation of car-lift port and amendments to approved car park layout. The Felixstowe Society believes that the proposals will enhance the current appearance of this prominent Conservation Area building and closely restore the original architecture of the south elevation.

Applications awaiting a decision:

The Felixstowe Society believes the proposals, listed below, will have little effect on the Conservation Area.

- **105, Undercliff Road West: Erect an oak and brick veranda with glazed roof and bifold doors to the rear elevation of the property.**
- **159, High Street, Walton: Erect single side extension (following demolition of existing conservatory and outbuilding).**
- **3, Undercliff Road West: Fell one self-set sycamore tree.**
- **115, Hamilton Road: New fascia and projecting signs.**
- **Holm Oak, 4a, Hamilton Gardens: Front extension to replace conservatory.**
- **25, Constable Road: Rear extension (revised scheme - amended materials)**
- **12, Holland Road: Rear and side single storey extensions.**
- **Bath Road (Tennis Club): Four houses in one block with associated landscaping, parking and amenity spaces.**

40, King Street: Erection of one and a half storey dwelling. The Felixstowe Society objects to this proposal. In our view it is an overdevelopment of the site and an undesirable fragmentation of the rear garden.

Suffolk Private Residential Home, 9, Sea Road: Proposed studio flat to third floor loft space with road-facing pitched roof dormer window and part removal of external staircase. These alterations will have little effect on the Conservation Area.

Part side garden of 40, King Street: Variation of conditions 2 and 3 of DC/15/3519/FUL, Erection of two storey dwelling. The Felixstowe Society objects to this application because there is no block or site plan to enable us to establish how these changes relate to the surroundings. We request clarification of these matters.

Harvest House, Cobbold Road, Listed Building Consent: Fitting of replacement lightning conductor system. This fitting will have little adverse effect on the Listed

Building and the Conservation Area.

Proposed Scoping Opinion for Logistics Facility at Innocence Farm. The Felixstowe Society objects to this industrial development on the north side of the A14. It is an intrusion into an open countryside 'Greenfield Site', giving rise to excessive lorry movements on a narrow country lane.

Thanks to David Crawford for the Planning Applications article.

Can You Help?



In 1979, the body of a horse-drawn bus, which had been in use as a garden shed for over fifty years, was found in the garden of a house somewhere in Felixstowe.

The bus came to the attention of The Felixstowe Society who decided to remove the bus from the garden for

restoration and rebuilding to its former glory. Local historians thought it was painted yellow and known as The Mustard Pot, in service between Felixstowe and Ipswich in the days before the A45 existed. The journey was described as, 'twelve miles of slush and muck, ruts and dust, according to the season'. The journey was made once a day, taking anything up to four hours each way. It is also said that a ticket issued for this bus exists, showing it to be an Everett's bus.

Society members remember that the bus was taken away, somewhere up north, to be restored with the possibility that the town would be able to have the bus on long loan for exhibition and display.

However, nothing more has been heard of this bus so if any member knows of its whereabouts, please get in touch with Bev Boyce – 01394 672184.



Building developments in Felixstowe

Cliff House, originally designed by H R Buxton is receiving a long-awaited refurbishment. This building, originally a hotel, a military hospital and latterly offices, is being turned into flats.



The picture, left, shows part of the interior of the basement



The former Trent's café/Tourist Information Centre may finally have been refurbished to provide flats and some kind of establishment on the ground floor.



Thanks to all contributors and Susanne Barsby for proof reading this edition.