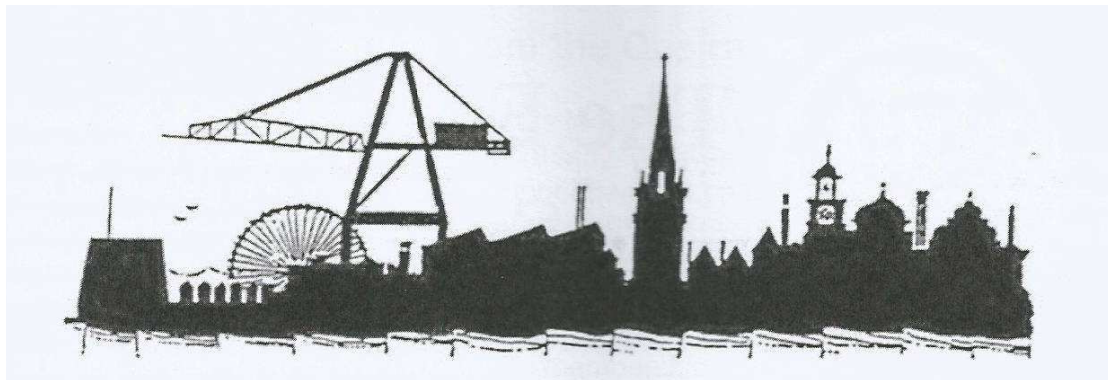


The Felixstowe Society

NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 119

September 2018



Registered Charity No. 277442

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

*The postcard illustration on the cover
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CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Before starting writing, I was reading my piece in the May Newsletter and saw that it was snowing whilst I was composing!! What a difference three months makes with this wonderful weather that we are experiencing for the beginning of summer. Incredible that we have had no rain for so many weeks. Wonderful for those who love the sun and consequent heat and for the shops and tourist-related businesses in Felixstowe but not so great for those who find it all a little too much, plus gardens and gardeners.

The Society is now in its summer rest period as far as speakers are concerned. Our thanks must go to Roy Gray who organises these with great success and liaises with the Salvation Army re the venue. We must apologise that we had to use the coffee hall for two meetings. This was due to the changeover of the Captains and, we hope, won't happen next season.

We have had some wonderful outings, thanks to Keith and Elizabeth Horn. A very interesting trip to Shotley Museum, lunch and then to the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook on another scorching day. A lovely evening was spent at The Hut with delicious food and entertainment by the Harbour Lights. There is a tour of the Police Headquarters Museum at Martlesham to look forward to. However, the most wonderful outing was the holiday to Derbyshire. The whole experience was fantastic from start to finish and I loved every minute. Fantastic coach, hotel, food, places visited and, most importantly, lovely companions. So, thank you Keith and Elizabeth, here's to the next one!

Bala Cottage. As you will note in Roger's article later in the Newsletter, we are now heading towards the Ombudsman as our second stage letter has been sent to SCDC asking for an internal review. If no satisfactory reply is received, we shall be applying to the Ombudsman. So watch this space!

In the last Notes I referred to the restoration of the Cream Plaque in the Spa Pavilion in memory of Percy Edwards. You may have noticed several of these plaques around the Town to various worthies who have lived or worked in Felixstowe. Most of these were instigated by a gentleman, a member of The Society, called George Buckland. Unfortunately George died recently and I am attending his funeral on behalf of The Society. Incidentally one of the plaques, Phil Hadwen's in the Town Hall Shelter, had to be replaced due to vandalism.

Also, in the last publication, I mentioned the Community Picnic being organised to celebrate 20 years since the planting of Abbey Grove and to dedicate the lovely seat that The Society has donated to the memory of the Chair at the time, Barbara Reid. Admittedly we didn't pick a good day with both the Wimbledon Men's Singles' Finals and the World Cup Final on the same day, but we had advertised and only 20 intrepid souls arrived. However, we all had a great time in the sunshine.

Our next major event will be the Heritage Open Day Weekend, 8 and 9 September. We do hope to see as many of you as possible as we have been working very hard together with Felixstowe Forward and the Town Council to bring the weekend to fruition. There is an article by Bev Boyce later in the Newsletter giving you all the information you will need.

Enough for now. Enjoy the rest of the summer.

Kindest regards

Jan Garfield

Calendar September 2018 - September 2019

All Speaker Evenings are at 7.30 pm at the Salvation Army Church, Cobbold Road

* * * * *

September

Monday 3 September

Felixstowe Walkers - **Trimley St Mary** - A walk towards the marshes.
Meet at 11.00 outside the Three Mariners Public House.
Distance 2 ½ miles Grade 3

Saturday 8 September

Felixstowe Walkers - **Heritage Walk** - A walk through Edwardian Felixstowe for Heritage Weekend.
Meet at 10.30 outside Great Eastern Square.
Distance 2 ½ miles Grade 1

Tuesday 11 September **Visit 1 to the Suffolk Police Museum.**

Friday 14 September

Felixstowe Walkers - **Kirton** - A walk through Suffolk countryside.
Meet at 11.00 outside the White Horse Public House.
Distance 2 ½ miles Grade 3

Saturday 15 September

BEACH CLEAN

Thursday 20 September **Visit 2 to the Suffolk Police Museum.**

Sunday 23 September

Phil's Sunday Walks - Victorian and Edwardian Felixstowe Part II
Meet at 2.30 pm outside Cliff House in Hamilton Gardens.
The walk finishes in Ranelagh Car Park.

Tuesday 25 September

Speaker Evening - Angel Roofs in East Anglia - Michael Rimmer

Thursday 27 September

Felixstowe Walkers - **Cliffs and Dip** - A walk through North Felixstowe including the cliff top.
Meet at 10.30 at Brackenbury Sports Centre.
Distance 2 ½ miles Grade 3

* * * * *

October

Wednesday 10 October

Felixstowe Walkers - **Brightwell** - A walk along country paths from The Stables Coffee Bar.
Meet at 10.30 and please park in the large car park to the rear of the premises.
Distance 2 ¾ mile

Grade 3

Tuesday 23 October

Felixstowe Walkers - A walk along the banks of the River Orwell.

Meet at 11.00 outside the Ship Inn.

Distance 2 ½ miles

Grade 3

Tuesday 23 October

Speaker Evening - At the Overseer's Door - Ray Whitehand

(Unfortunately the original speaker booked for October, Ruth Dugdale, is now not available.

Ray was going to speak to us last year but was indisposed. Ruth will now speak on Tuesday 22 October 2019)

* * * * *

November

Monday 5 November

Felixstowe Walkers - **Langer Park** - A walk along the South Promenade returning by Langer Park

Meet at 10.30 on the prom opposite Beach Station Road.

Distance 2 ½ miles

Grade 1

Monday 12 November

The Felixstowe Society WW1 Commemorative Talks 2014-2018.

The final talk in this series will take place at 7pm at St Andrew's Church.

Friday 16 November

Felixstowe Walkers - **Felixstowe Ferry** - A walk around the Deben Estuary and sea wall.

Meet at 11.00 outside St Nicholas Church.

Distance 2 ½ miles

Grade 2

Sunday 18 November

Phil's Sunday Walks

Felixstowe WW1. Meet at 2.30 pm at the Garrison Lane car park.

The walk finishes at the Seafront War Memorial.

Tuesday 27 November

Speaker Evening - Oceangoing Yachting - Bridget Keevil

Thursday 29 November

Felixstowe Walkers - **Old Felixstowe** - A walk around Old Felixstowe.

Meet at 10.30 at Brackenbury Sports Centre.

Distance 2 ½ miles

Grade 2

* * * * *

December

Wednesday 12 December

BEACH CLEAN

Wednesday 12 December

Felixstowe Walkers - **The Promenade** - A pre-Christmas walk and get-together.
Meet at 11.00 on the prom opposite The Fludyers Public House.
Distance 2 ¼ miles Grade 1

January 2019

Thursday 10 January

Felixstowe Walkers - **Woodbridge** - Enjoy a New Year walk on the banks of the river Deben.
Meet at 11.00 outside the Leisure Centre.
Distance 2 ½ miles Grade 3

Tuesday 29 January

Speaker Evening - Plastics - Tim Luckhurst

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February

Tuesday 26 February

Speaker Evening - Windfarms - E Rees, Scottish Power

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March

Tuesday 26 March

Speaker Evening - Ipswich - J. Field

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May

Tuesday 21 May

The Felixstowe Society Annual General Meeting

Speaker Evening - Martello Tower at Felixstowe Ferry - E Setchim

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September

Tuesday 24 September

Speaker Evening - Lost Airfield of Elmswell - P.McGee, G Mack

BEACH CLEAN

Meet at the shelter on the promenade near to The Bartlet. 9.30 am start.

* * * * *

FELIXSTOWE WALKERS - please note that the distances quoted are the maximum and we can accommodate shorter walks where required.

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.

The Felixstowe Walkers are part of The Felixstowe Society and regular walkers will be expected to become members of The Society. Annual membership is £7, or £10 for two adults at the same address. For further details of membership send a SAE to Hilary Eaton, Treasurer, 102C Queens Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7PG.

Copies of the programme can be obtained from the library or email felixstowewalkers@hotmail.co.uk.

* * * * *

Trip to The Port of Felixstowe

On a bright and sunny April morning a party of 56 went on The Society's last organised trip around the Port of Felixstowe. This was our third trip in a year and those on the coach this time enjoyed the tour as much as others have on previous trips.

Paul Davey from the Port was again our guide and gave us a very interesting insight to the Port working. We saw the reclamation work being carried out to extend the container storage area plus the two new cranes being erected which will be driverless (drivers will be in an office on quay working the cranes !!) sign of things to come, robots ?? Thanks to the Port for allowing us to have the tours and in particular to Paul Davey.

Roy Gray

The Felixstowe Society
Report on the talk given by Bev Boyce on
'40 years of The Felixstowe Society'
Tuesday 22 May 2018



Despite the difficulty of speaking without illustrations (the projector was faulty) Bev gave the very well attended meeting a tantalising glimpse into the formation and development of The Society since its formation in 1978.

Bev spoke, during her research, to Cynthia Parks, the first chair, who explained that the initial impulse for the formation of The Felixstowe Society was the threat by Fisons to demolish Harvest House. Taking the planning request to appeal, Fisons lost, and the building was saved.

The Suffolk Preservation Society was looking for someone to review planning applications, and to help with the fight to preserve the Station complex, at that time under threat of demolition. In 1978 the first committee was formed, and 75 people attended. The

first newsletter was produced in January 1979, and the first AGM held in April 1979.

At first concerned with road signs, litter etc, the committee soon moved on, and the first of many surveys of Felixstowe was carried out.

Getting more and more involved in the preservation of historic buildings and enhancement of architectural standards, The Society launched the Enhancement of the Environment Awards, of which 40 have since been given out.

During Cynthia Parks' chairmanship The Society began the Cotman Walks and then the Town Trails. The Walking Group was formed in 1984.

Speaker Evenings began in 1979, the year when the first of The Society Trips was made - to Ipswich!

With the arrival of Phil Hadwen on the scene came important talks including those on the 1973 Floods, and the Suffragettes and the Bath Hotel.

Those early days were principally concerned with conservation, but since then The Society has had innumerable beach cleans, litter picks, and the major task of creating the Abbey Grove woodland, together with the Woodland Trust, and clearing Gulpher Pond.

The Society also instigated the erection of commemorative plaques around the town, including those for famous residents such as Sir John Mills, Frank Whittle, Sir John Hall, and Captain Darrell.

With the encouragement of subsequent Chairmen, The Society has grown from 90 members to around 550, but still focuses on scrutiny of planning applications, maintaining the town's vital heritage, and approving good new buildings, as well as the enhancement of the general environment, not to mention the social events which are well supported on every occasion.

A full transcript of Bev's talk is included as a pull-out section in the centre of this Newsletter.

Midsummer Social Evening at The Hut Saturday 30 June 2018

Under a beautiful cloudless summer sky, a large contingent of members met at the well-used FOPWA 'Hut' on Felixstowe seafront for the traditional buffet supper and entertainment. Keith and Elizabeth Horn had, as usual, organised a magnificent spread, which was soon demolished along with the bottles of wine which had been brought along by members.

During and after the meal we were entertained by 'Harbour Lights', a very talented group of musicians who played and sang a wide variety of music incorporating piano accordion, melodion, guitar, 'cello, recorder and squeeze box, demonstrating a wide range of musical skills in a very relaxed manner. We had some very amusing songs, many of which seem to have emanated from that famous but difficult to find pub, The Blaxhall Ship, reminding us of the nautical influences on life in Suffolk.

Everyone was reluctant to return home after such a delightful evening.

* * * * *

We still have several tickets left for the visit to the Martlesham Police HQ Museum on Thursday 20 September 2018.

To avoid disappointment, please complete your form and return to Mrs Susanne Barsby, 1 Berners Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7LF together with your cheque and SAE as soon as possible. The cost is £5 per person

HELP !

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

to help clean up the area surrounding Gulpher Pond.

If you are interested and would like to help please Telephone Keith Horn on 01394 270845 or email Keith at

kjandehorn@btinternet.com

CARPET BOWLS IN FELIXSTOWE (continued)

A short history of other carpet bowls clubs in Felixstowe

URC CARPET BOWLS CLUB

The United Reformed Church Carpet Bowls Club was founded in 1991 by members of the Men's Fellowship at the church, meeting in the hall adjacent to the church in Tomline Road. The club is constituted by the church but people of any religion, age, sex or ability have always been welcome to join.

The club meets twice a week on Wednesday and Friday afternoons from 2pm to 4pm, although originally the Friday sessions were held in the evening but changed by popular demand many years ago.

The ethos of the club remains to this day as one of fellowship whilst participating in a social activity. Members do their best at playing bowls, but at heart, members are not competitive, and an atmosphere of friendship and fellowship ensues. Although the club doesn't participate in any carpet bowls leagues, they do play friendly matches against other local clubs including Nacton, Kesgrave, Martlesham, Little Bealings and Bucklesham, but the emphasis is always on having a social afternoon.

The club holds a singles and pairs tournament on alternate years where members play for cups donated by former chairpersons, namely Pat Thomas (Pat's Pairs Cup) and Reuben McKay (Alison Cup - named after his late wife). The club is also a member of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association and several members participate in the various charity events that are organised throughout the year.

The committee also organise various social activities throughout the year which members are welcome to attend. These include trips to local attractions, afternoon teas and fish and chip nights etc.

The club currently has around thirty members who participate in the two-hour sessions that take place on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. There is always a mid-session break for refreshments where members can take the opportunity to chat over a cuppa.

The annual membership fee is £15 and each session costs £1.50 including refreshments. New members are always welcome and can attend three sessions before deciding whether to join the club.

Contact Bob Durham on 01394 286772
for more details.



St. PHILLIP'S INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

The Indoor Bowls club was formed in 1978 by the Reverend Ken Wakefield, who wished to offer his parishioners some social activity and he used the Hall of St. Phillip's Church in Wadgate Road. His idea was to offer indoor bowls on virtually full-size mats and people could use their own bowls. Hence costs were kept down. The mats - 2-metre-wide and 16/18-metres-long - were specially made to fit into the dimensions of the Hall and because of this it is unique in that the mats are longer than both carpet and short mat bowls. It was one of the first indoor bowls clubs in Felixstowe.

Play took place each week on a Friday with four sessions in the afternoon and evening - where a late session allowed working people to take part. It became very popular and membership had to be limited to 72 at one point. There used to be tea served around 4pm, prepared by a

member, George Crofts, who did not play bowls. Currently they do not normally have regular refreshments but do have two shared teas each year.

The club currently has around 30 members, with sessions held on Fridays throughout the year: October to April - from 2-4; 4-6; 6-8pm, and May to September 2-4pm. The aim of the club is still to provide a friendly and social atmosphere. Internal competitions are held, as well as a couple of friendly games played with Old Felixstowe Carpet Bowls Club.

The present fees are £40 for the winter months and £28 for the Summer, with no extra for sessions played - occasional players may pay £3 for a single session. New members are always welcome, and anyone interested in joining should contact:

Roger Tel: 01394 286895
or Mary Tel: 01394 276564.



U3A CARPET BOWLS

After searching around for a suitable venue and equipment, The Carpet Bowls Group, within the University of the Third Age (U3A) in East Suffolk was launched in October 2014 at the Brackenbury Sports Centre, High Road East IP11 7JF (where the mats, bowls etc. can be hired).

Initially the Group comprised sixteen novices and one experienced player, who coordinated and led the Group. New members, including three experienced players, have joined so that now there are some 24 enthusiastic and friendly members who meet twice per month, on the first and second Tuesdays at 1.15-3.30pm for a friendly session. There is a small charge to cover costs of hire etc.

New members are welcome (no need to belong to U3A) and details of this Group, together with information on the 170+ groups within the U3A, can be found on

www.u3aeastsuffolk.org.uk.

SPEAKER'S CORNER



Dick Daniels

Felixstowe Coastwatch

Tuesday 27 March 2018

Formed in 1994 after a reorganisation of the Coastguard service in which local stations were closed in favour of larger regional centres, National Coastwatch is a voluntary service set up to provide a watch on safety at sea.

Dick Daniels, from Felixstowe Coastwatch, explained that the first station was set up in Cornwall after a local tragedy took place when the local coastguard station was closed. Now, he said, there are 50 stations nationwide with more than 2000 volunteers and a further 255 in training. Last year 493 incidents were reported, of which 218 initiated a lifeboat launching.

Felixstowe Coastwatch has the advantage of being situated atop the recently renovated Martello Tower P along Langer Road, and has a line of sight from Land guard Point as far as Cobbold's Point. It is in the process of fitting a webcam on a tower at the carpark on Brakenbury Cliff so that it can oversee the entrance to the Deben, a notorious blackspot for nautical incidents.

Dick Daniels explained that the number of volunteers at Felixstowe has steadily increased, so that with 3 people per watch, it aims at



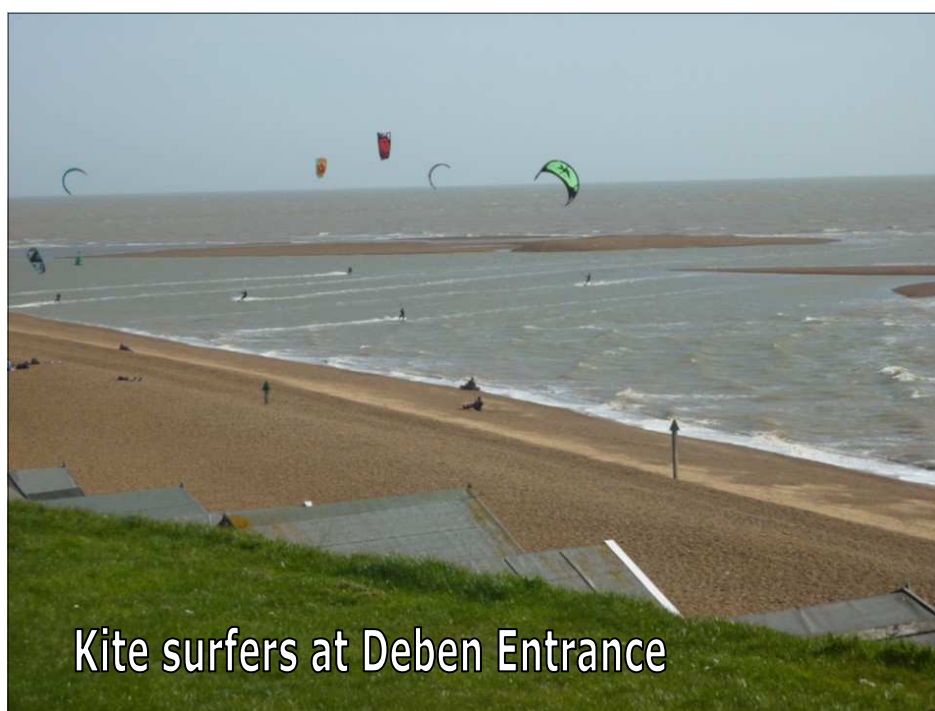
providing continuous cover every day from 9.00am to 5.00pm.

Well equipped with charts, OS maps, binoculars and radio, the station is able to spot, plot and report any incidents, and to relay them to the Lifeboat station at Harwich and to the Coastguard service where necessary. The station also liaises with the Felixstowe Volunteer Lifeboat.



Of course, all this has to be paid for and the station costs about £5,000 to run each year, which is raised by volunteers, people sponsoring a watch keeper, and local activities. In addition, £25,000 had to be raised for the webcam at Brackenbury, to which the Town Council and the District Council also contributed.

Dick Daniels fielded many questions after his talk and appealed to those present to 'spread the good news' about the Coastwatch service, and to invite anyone interested to call into the station for a conducted tour.



A SHORT HISTORY OF ROYAL AIR FORCE FELIXSTOWE

RAF Felixstowe was originally located at the extreme South West end of Felixstowe between the old Felixstowe dock basin and Landguard Fort, but nothing really now remains since its closure in June 1962. It has been completely replaced by the Port of Felixstowe for its operational needs.

RAF Felixstowe began life as a Royal Naval Air Service Station in August 1913 but by the end of the First World War it was the largest air station then in existence in the country with an area of thirty acres. It consisted of three large hangars – each roughly 200 feet wide and 300 feet long – with their own slipways to pull seaplanes and flying boats out of the water and jetties to enable them to be moored, as well as various temporary buildings.

During the First World War, seaplanes and flying boats based at Felixstowe provided escort for merchant shipping on the Harwich/Hook of Holland route. They also undertook extensive patrols over the North Sea to look for enemy submarines and Zeppelins and made the first successful aerial attacks against them.

On 17 July 1917, a German Gotha bomber airplane raided the seaplane base and left seven dead, twenty two wounded and one seaplane destroyed.

In order to conserve fuel to enable seaplanes to have a much longer range, they were taken to sea on special small barges or lighters until they reached the point where they were to be lowered into the water to go on patrol and then return to base. Another method that was tried for the same reason was for a submarine to take two single-seater seaplanes on its upper deck and then to submerge when appropriate.

RAF Felixstowe really gained prominence when the Marine Aircraft Experimental Establishment was formed there in spring 1924 to discover the characteristics of new water-based aircraft, including seaplanes and flying boats. The following year it was decided by the Air Ministry that its high-speed research programme would be helped by finding a team at Felixstowe to develop brand new aircraft to enter the International Schneider Trophy race for seaplanes. So it was that a great deal of the preparation and testing of British entries took place there.

Technically, although both seaplanes and flying boats were aircraft designed to take off and to land on water, seaplanes usually have two pontoons attached to the bottom of their fuselage whereas with a flying boat, the fuselage itself rests on the water.

Many new types of such aircraft, including the Short Sunderland, Saro Lerwick and Stranraer flying boats, visited Felixstowe during the 1930s to undergo trials and for development. The Atlanta, Calcutta, Singapore and Southampton flying boats were all flown from Felixstowe, as well as the Felixstowe Fury Tri-plane which was 123 feet wide and 63 feet long and developed at the base. The Blackburn Perth was tested between 1934 and 1936 and was the largest

NOTICES **IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER!** **NOTICES**

Felixstowe Society Website

The Society is looking for a volunteer to maintain the website.
All that is required is to keep the programme of Talks updated along with the details for the Felixstowe Walkers and Phil's Sunday Walks.
This will take less than an hour each month.
Help and training, if required, is available to guide you through the easy to use software.
If any volunteer requires more information please email webmaster@felixstowesociety.org

flying boat used by the Royal Air Force at the time. Indeed, every marine craft that came in RAF service was evaluated at Felixstowe

Another interesting experiment at Felixstowe in May 1938 involved the Short Mayo Composite aircraft which consisted of a heavily-loaded small Mercury seaplane lifted by crane on to the back of a larger Maia flying boat which would then carry it some way before release and its own return to base. This arrangement allowed the smaller plane to save fuel on its take-off and climb and would enable it to carry up to 1000 pounds of mail over longer distances of nearly 4000 miles. However, in fact only one long distance flight – Dundee, Scotland to South Africa – was actually undertaken with this arrangement as the Second World War prevented any further progress. The 50 ton Titan cantilever crane that was also used to lift seaplanes from the water on to a jetty continued to be a Felixstowe landmark for many years until it was dismantled as late as 1966.

Other planes based at Felixstowe, like the Short Singapore III flying boat, were used to assist the scientific research team which was developing radar just down the coast at Bawdsey Manor in the late 1930s. Perhaps the most famous type of plane at Felixstowe was the Supermarine S6B seaplane which won the 1931 Schneider trophy and then broke the world speed record with 407.5 mph. This plane is regarded as the forerunner of the Spitfire.

Apart from famous aircraft, RAF Felixstowe had at least two famous servicemen. Aircraftman Shaw joined the marine craft section of the station in April 1933 using an alias and was in reality Colonel T E Lawrence, better known as Lawrence of Arabia. However, within a few weeks he began to travel frequently throughout England on RAF business. At about the same time, Flying Officer Frank Whittle, the pioneer of the gas turbine engine, was also stationed in Felixstowe.

The 209 Flying Boat Squadron was established at RAF Felixstowe in 1935 but moved to Scotland when the Second World War started.

The Marine Aircraft Experimental Establishment was transferred to Helensburgh in Scotland in 1939. This created space at Felixstowe to establish HMS Beehive – a Royal Navy base for part of its Light Coastal Force. The existing aircraft hangars readily converted to workshops to refit motor torpedo boats and other small naval craft.

The First Motor Torpedo Boat Flotilla became operational from HMS Beehive Felixstowe in January 1940. This date is regarded as the start of Light Coastal Forces. Other East Anglian bases were established at Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth. They were essential to enable the East Coast convoy route to supply London to be patrolled as the coasts of Norfolk and Suffolk were within operational range of German torpedo boats or 'E boats' from their Dutch and Belgian bases. Indeed, such was the high level of enemy attacks on shipping that East Anglian coastal waters were nicknamed 'E boat alley'.

An interesting example of how things can go full circle is that when British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) decided to cease operations with flying boats, some of them were stored

NOTICES

IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER!

NOTICES

All contributions for the next newsletter should reach The Editor by Wednesday 21 November

You don't need to worry about spelling, layout or font size.

If you could just send a Word document to

fxsocnewsletter@gmail.com

We can do the rest!

at Felixstowe until 1953 when they were sold off to another airline or sold as scrap.

In May 1958, B Flight, 22 Search and Rescue Helicopter Squadron was stationed at RAF Felixstowe with Westland Whirlwind helicopters to provide an Air/Sea Search and Rescue role. Westland Wessex helicopters were later used until May 1961 when flying from Felixstowe ceased.

The fight against German 'E boats' was not an easy one but slowly their surface attacks on coastal shipping were curtailed. The British torpedo boats operated in groups at night and would lie in silent wait at likely locations for the noise of the enemy and then engage in a fierce gun battle. The arrival of the Sixth Motor Gun Boat Flotilla at Felixstowe assisted convoy protection, mine laying and raids on German shipping off the Dutch coast. Earlier and easier detection of 'E boats' was made possible when radar was fitted to British vessels which then became a very powerful force. At its height, HMS Beehive had 20 motor torpedo boats, 16 motor gun boats and four marine launches. By the end of the Second World War, these vessels had patrolled coastal waters and the North Sea in all weather conditions. Although most patrols did not make contact with the enemy, they did provide invaluable service in the protection of British convoys and attacks on German ones.

On 13 May 1945, a German rear admiral, with North Sea charts showing the position of enemy minefields, landed at HMS Beehive from one of the two 'E-boats' which had been accompanied into harbour by ten British motor torpedo boats.

A further presence at RAF Felixstowe during the Second World War was that of the 928 Balloon Squadron which was responsible for barrage balloon cover over the base and Harwich harbour. Barrage balloons were attached to the ground with strong cables and were filled with gas. Their purpose was to deter German planes from flying too low and so made bombing more difficult. A secret project operated from RAF Felixstowe involved hydrogen-filled balloons which were freed into the air when the wind conditions would allow them to reach enemy occupied countries like Belgium and Holland across the North Sea. According to their type, these released balloons would either strike overhead electricity lines – and so hopefully produce power cuts – or create fires when they hit buildings.

During the Second World War, special lighters or small barges were kept at Felixstowe to enable flying boats to be carried in the North Sea so that they could undertake long-distance operations after eventual take-off. In particular, flying boats were used to patrol the North Sea to spot German U-Boats or submarines.

RAF marine craft, many of which were built by Brooke Marine at Lowestoft, were also developed at Felixstowe and these included tenders and refuellers to service seaplanes and flying boats. High speed Air Sea Rescue launches were moored in Felixstowe dock basin and regularly patrolled offshore to pick up crews, of whatever nationality, that had been forced to ditch their aeroplanes into the North Sea. (These Air Sea Rescue launches were not redeployed to another

N O T I C E S	IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER !	N O T I C E S
	Do you take photographs of Felixstowe?	
	If you have any which show typical, recognisable and interesting views, and would like to have a chance to see them on the front cover of The Felixstowe Society Newsletter,	
	please contact	
	fxsocnewsletter@gmail.com.	
	We are always on the lookout for attractive illustrations!	

part of the country until March 1959.) RAF powerboats were also used off the Felixstowe coast to tow targets for coastal batteries to fire at – once shipping had been warned to stay out of the area.

In late spring 1944, there was heightened security at RAF Felixstowe which was designated as one of the embarkation ports for the D-Day landings in Normandy, France in early June 1944.

When the Second World war ended, the Marine Aircraft Experimental Establishment soon returned from Scotland in August 1945. There was a relatively limited amount of work for it but this included the investigation of captured German planes. However, it was soon evident that the way forward for aviation was with land-based rather than marine aircraft and so there was a significant decline in pioneering work with seaplanes and flying boats, although the investigation of basic problems of design and operation such as landing, acceleration and stability, was carried out. Its Air Sea Rescue Section tested life-saving rubber dinghies both in its hangar and offshore. One interesting test carried out was to see how many men an 18-man rubber boat would hold. The boat was towed three miles out to sea and then tested to discover the answer was 30 men at a squeeze. Other trials included those on floating docks. The Establishment ceased to operate as a separate unit in March 1956 when the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough in Hampshire took on overall responsibility for its programme. By March 1958 all experimental work at Felixstowe had ceased.

Other uses of RAF Felixstowe after the Second World War included training of flying boat pilots at the Marine Craft Training School between 1946 and 1948 and as a base for two RAF Regiment squadrons from April 1954 until early summer 1962.

An interesting example of how things can go full circle is that when British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) decided to cease operations with flying boats, some of them were stored at Felixstowe until 1953 when they were sold off to another airline or sold as scrap.

In May 1958, B Flight, 22 Search and Rescue Helicopter Squadron was stationed at RAF Felixstowe with Westland Whirlwind helicopters to provide an Air/Sea Search and Rescue role. Westland Wessex helicopters were later used until May 1961 when flying from Felixstowe ceased.

After RAF Felixstowe was closed in June 1962, the barracks accommodation was used by the Army. The First East Anglian Regiment occupied Normandy Barracks between September 1962 and January 1964 when it was sent to Aden. The Third Battalion of the Greenjackets followed from 1964 until early summer 1967 when it was posted to Germany. The Second Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment was stationed at the barracks from July 1967 until November 1969 when it moved to Colchester.

The Port of Felixstowe now occupies all the land that was RAF Felixstowe.

Michael Sharman

NOTICES **IT'S YOUR NEWSLETTER!** **NOTICES**

We welcome all comments, good or bad, about your Newsletter. If you have any suggestions or criticisms, whether you want them printed or not, please contact The Editor. Our Aim is to include anything and everything of interest to the people of Felixstowe and The Trimleys.

fxsocnewsletter@gmail.com
07916 236209

We look forward to hearing from you.



Felixstowe Beach Hut & Chalet Association

The issue I referred to in my last article concerning the erosion of the beach between the Pier and the Spa Pavilion, which meant that huts cannot go back on the beach, has a temporary solution. The original Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) proposal was to put all 63 huts on the grass areas between the Pier and Manning's Amusements, which was not met with any enthusiasm by hut owners. Our Association urged SCDC officers to meet with affected owners and a meeting was duly arranged at the Town Hall, which was attended by about 40 owners. After a lengthy input as to why the huts could not be returned to the beach and the dismissal of a number of potential solutions put forward, mainly due to cost implications, SCDC surprised us with the proposal that the huts could stay on the promenade for this year but turned sideways on to the sea, in pairs, back to back.

This was met with unanimous approval by the owners and it can be seen that the huts are now in place. So far it seems that this arrangement is not causing any difficulties for people using the promenade and owners have agreed not to use their huts while 'Art on the Prom' is staged later in the year. The annual vintage car rally was moved further along the promenade which did not cause any problems.

SCDC tell us that this is just a temporary measure and a permanent solution will have to be found. They have agreed to meet with our Association in September to let us know their intentions. It may be that the beach will be replenished naturally by next year – but we are not holding our breath!

It was disappointing that the refurbishment of the toilets at 'The Dip' was not started before the summer season was upon us. We had expected the work to be completed in time for the summer but unexpected hold ups put the work back several months. A row of 'Portaloos' is in place but they are a poor substitute for proper toilets and there have been several complaints that they are not being kept clean nor properly stocked with toilet paper. There is also an issue with a tap and drain that are frequently flooding the promenade area near huts. We are hoping for a swift resolution.

We held our AGM in June at the Trades and Labour Club in Walton, attended by about 50 members. All current Committee members were re-elected, but Jo Woodward (Chair) and Roy Gray (Vice Chair) informed the meeting that they intend to stand down next year. A search is on for replacements. It was agreed that the money which was donated by members



in 2016 towards a 'Fighting Fund' to get legal advice in our dispute with SCDC over a price increase, will be retained within the accounts in case any further legal advice is needed to represent our members in other issues.

Last year when Joy Reeve won 'Beach Hut of the Year' with her hut at Manor End, part of the prize was £500 given to the Association and in May we presented a cheque for that amount to 'Felixstowe Dementia Alliance'. At the same time, Joy presented a cheque for £2178 to 'Alzheimer's Research UK' which was the amount given as donations to Joy and her friend Karen, who opened the hut for tea coffee and cakes during the winter.

Trevor Mason

FORTY YEARS AND COUNTING . . .

After The Felixstowe Society AGM on 22 May, members were treated to a talk by Bev Boyce on the forty year history of The Society. This is a (slightly abridged) transcript of her talk, and includes some of the photos she was, unfortunately, unable to include at the time.

This is the third time I have given a talk to The Society and this one has been the most difficult to prepare.

Forty years of personalities, events, highs and lows – what do I put in and leave out in the time I have?

My apologies if I have not included your favourite events or if I haven't mentioned the names of all those members who have made a significant contribution to the creation and development of The Society.

So how did it all begin?

I managed to get in touch with the first chairman of The Society, Cynthia Park - a delightful lady - who has given me permission to include her story of how The Society started.

She writes:

I had got very interested in the buildings of Felixstowe when Fisons was seriously considering demolishing Harvest House in about 1975.

The planning application was refused but it went to appeal so I went along to the Enquiry and, shaking in my boots because I had



never done anything like that before, made a passionate little speech which, along with a number of other passionate speeches helped to win the day. Harvest House was saved. Following that, the Suffolk Preservation Society invited me to become their local 'watchdog' and keep an eye on any planning applications which were being considered.

Felixstowe was growing rapidly, there were lots of applications to review. Then there began to be loud rumblings about the future of the Town Station site. At that point the Suffolk Preservation Society felt it vital for Felixstowe to have a local group as well as the county group, to speak out for conservation and good planning. Their director, John Popham, helped my husband Murray and me to organise a public meeting at the Spa Pavilion in early November 1978 to announce the intention of setting up an amenity society - an organisation which monitors planning and development in a conservation area or other sensitive area.

The meeting was very well attended – maybe 75 people turned out - and everyone thought it was a good idea. So with that, The Society was launched. The Suffolk Preservation Society helped us to get our constitution in place and register as a charity. It wasn't long before we also registered with the Civic Trust.

Those are Cynthia's memories of the founding of The Society.

Of course with any new organisation, a logo is required. Students from both Deben and Orwell High Schools were invited to submit designs and the winning entry from



Andrew Flatman a student at Orwell, depicts a fairground big wheel, a crane and a church, symbolising three major aspects of the town.

FORTY YEARS AND COUNTING . . .

The first committee was formed before Christmas 1978 chaired by Cynthia Park, husband Murray as Treasurer, Barbara Slater as Secretary, joined by committee members Bob Castle, Tony Cox, Vernon Stanbridge and Helen Sweetman. Naturally since that time, so many members, too numerous to mention, have contributed their time and expertise to The Society's committee.

The first Newsletter was distributed in January 1979 - a 3 sided typed newsletter - a far cry from the excellent editions now produced.

The first AGM was held at The Grand Hotel in April 1979; John Woollan became Secretary (his wife Betty was Membership Secretary for many years) and Monica Smith took on the role of Survey Committee chairperson to co-ordinate a members' survey of the town, one of the first projects completed by The Society.

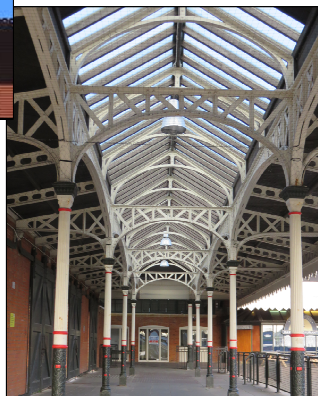
It focused on road signs, paving, parking, litter and the maintenance of council property. A meeting with Town Council members enabled the survey committee to present their complaints and suggestions; it was reported that there was a positive response from the Councillors. Over the years The Society has been busy conducting other surveys of footpaths, trees, stink pipes and Phil's architectural survey in 2014. The future of the Town Station site occupied much attention in these early years.

The Society supported a planning application from the Suffolk Building Preservation Trust.

The main objective was to preserve the town station buildings and together with the remainder of the site not required by British



Rail. They should be adapted to a variety of economically viable uses. As The Society stated in the March 1980 Newsletter:



The present station buildings are attractive, well-built and of historical importance to Felixstowe; conversion and adaptation would be less expensive than the alternative of demolition and re-building.

The article went on to suggest:

Felixstowe's most urgent need is for a swimming pool and the station site fulfils all the necessary criteria and we would suggest that squash courts should be built adjacent to the 25m pool which would be located behind the station buildings.

The Society suggested various ways in which this scheme could be financed. They even proposed that the site would be ideal for offices for the Town Council.



A step forward was the Grade 2 listing of the station's buildings in 1980.

1983 saw a public enquiry into the Co-op's plans for the station site. Cynthia Park made representations on behalf of The Society and The Victorian Society, alongside the Suffolk Preservation Society and various individuals - all in vain as the Co-op's plans were approved. The proposed superstore was to be attached to the south side of the station thus obliterating one of its finest elevations.

As the Newsletter of December 1983 stated:

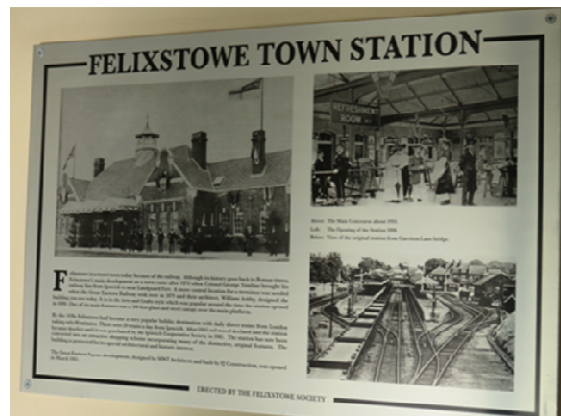
One final crumb of comfort - in fifty years' time when the superstore will have fallen down and the warehouse rusted away, our rail station will perhaps have another chance of being restored to its former glory.

A postscript to this story is that the Co-op had agreed to The Society unveiling a plaque on December 4 1987 somewhere in Great

FORTY YEARS AND COUNTING . . .

Eastern Square. As reported in the Newsletter:

The unveiling was going to be a gala affair; the Mayor and Mayoress would be there, The Town Clerk, Neil Ward from Suffolk Coastal District Council, Bill Knowles from the Co-op and the Press. The plaque had been delivered and on inspection it was noticed that the plaque-makers had left the 'l' out of Felixstowe. Luckily our distinguished guests thought this was rather hilarious and the press enjoyed the seasonal pun (No L in Felixstowe)...and the plaque-makers were profoundly apologetic.



to The Society was invaluable on a number of building issues. He also contributed superb drawings of architectural features in the town and cartoons on topical issues for the Newsletters, of which more later.



This photo I found in The Society's archive showed the unveiling in mid January 1988 with the plaque, and the correct spelling of Felixstowe, fixed to the wall surrounding Central Surgery. Unfortunately the plaque was vandalised on several occasions - it is now inside Great Eastern Square.

Cynthia told me that one of her priorities was the architectural heritage of the town and its preservation as reflected in the aims of The Society. Cynthia particularly praises Bob Kindred who was co opted onto the committee in 1979. Bob worked in the Ipswich Borough Council Planning Department and Cynthia notes that his advice

The inauguration of the Enhancement of the Environment Award in 1985 also reinforces the aims of The Society. The intention of the award is to give positive recognition to architectural or landscaping excellence in the town. Over 40 awards have been given since 1985 . . . including an award to the Co-op for its refurbishment of the Town Station. Don't ever let it be said that The Society isn't fair.

I presume, in a rather whimsical moment, The Society asked members, in 1990, for nominations for the 'Blot on the Landscape' award. Only one nomination was received: The Felixstowe College Sports Hall - but, from looking through records in the archive, I cannot find any evidence that this award was actually given. However, I am sure we would not be short of nominations now.

The scrutiny of planning applications began right from the first day of The Society. In the first Newsletter it was recorded that The Society objected to proposals for the former

FORTY YEARS AND COUNTING . . .

Burton's shop at the crossroads of Hamilton Road and Orwell Road and Burt's shop in the middle of the town should become building societies. It was felt that Felixstowe already had its fair share of building societies in the centre of town and that such sites should be kept for shops. In the case of Burt's there was the additional cause for concern in that, as it stood, the shop had an attractive front whose loss would be to the detriment of Hamilton Road. The last comment in this section of the Newsletter said:

Alas, Building Societies do not generally spring to mind in association with fine building and sensitive renovation.

I think that can be disproved if you wander along Hamilton Road.

This also echoes the more recent relocation of the main Post Office to the W H Smith's building which used to be one of Burt's shops and the protest over the proposed removal of the old doors; this debate was supported by a number of Society members who wrote letters of protest to the appropriate authorities. The Bala Cottage saga shows that The Society continues to challenge poor planning decisions and ugly architectural design.

A project driven by Cynthia Park in early 1980, the results of which are still being used today, was the idea of a 'Town Trail' which became The Cotman Walk, a booklet first published in 1982 and reprinted a further three times. We have run out of copies at the Tourist Information Hut on the prom. This walk highlights the architecture of Thomas Cotman and takes in most of one of Felixstowe's two conservation areas. An impressive publication for anyone wanting to get a flavour of Felixstowe's heritage. Society members also published 'Walking Around Felixstowe' in 1992 detailing seven varied walks around Felixstowe and its environs. This also sold extremely well.

A Footpath Walking group had been set up and its first outing on October 27, 1984 centred on the paths through the Grove, past the Duck Pond and across the field to Marsh Lane before arriving at Alan Muchal's house for a welcome cup of tea. The Felixstowe

Walkers group carries on the provision of varied walks in Felixstowe and further afield, ably led by Laurence Gilbert.

So the foundations of many of our current activities were established during those early years of The Society. The very first Speaker Evening took place on March 13 1979 when Michael Talbot delivered a talk on a topic very relevant to the founding of The Society- The development of Felixstowe in Victorian and Edwardian times.

Since then we have had a wonderful variety of talks incorporating both local and national issues and heritage topics. Phil Hadwen was the master in presenting talks which focused on topics such as the 1953 Flood, memories of school days in the town, Felixstowe Ferry, Old Felixstowe, The Suffragettes and the Bath Hotel and so on. I don't envy Roy's job in finding speakers for each new season.

From delving in the archive, the first trip organised by The Society was on May 19 1979 to . . . Ipswich. A guided walk around the town was hosted by The Ipswich Society with a return visit to Felixstowe, hosted by us. Both occasions were regarded as a success and in recent years there have been reciprocal visits with societies in Woodbridge and Harwich as well as two-day and now three-day mini breaks. Again we are so fortunate to enjoy such a varied programme of visits, superbly organised by Keith and Elizabeth Horn.

As are the social events which have featured from the early days. The first Society dinner was held on December 17, 1981. One member's report of the occasion noted:

. . . when the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even ..and the ice underneath made both walking and driving treacherous, 15 intrepid members of The Society journeyed to the Ordnance Hotel - a cheering sight was the beautifully illuminated Christmas tree in the forecourt, a charmingly decorated lounge with a huge log fire . . . the traditional meal of turkey with all the trimmings was excellent.

Other social events in those early days included a cheese and wine party, garden

FORTY YEARS AND COUNTING . . .

parties, a summer barbecue, a February feast and a 25th anniversary party in October 2003. We now have a well-established social at the Hut in the summer and a very popular annual Society Dinner.

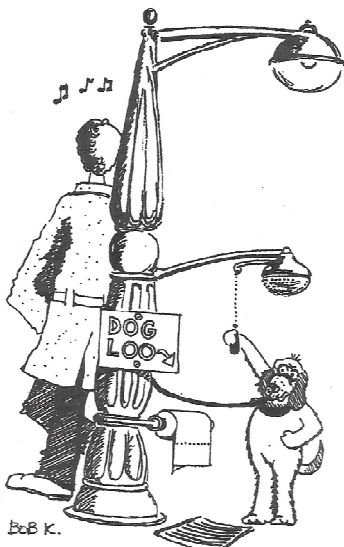
In the early days of The Society conservation matters were seen as a priority. Tree planting was enthusiastically encouraged and with some financial support from the Suffolk Preservation Society, our Society agreed to plant and maintain trees in areas such as Garrison Lane, Colneis Road, Peewit Hill and Gosford Way. Shrubs were also planted at the car park entrance to Landguard Common. A litter pick was also organised for October 28 1979. The Newsletter stated:

All those members concerned with the state of Felixstowe and in particular the state of the beach - and willing to demonstrate their concern and publicise condition - should turn up at the Townsend Thorensen kiosk by the pier at 10am.

Those Beach Cleans continue today.

It was noticeable that the subject of a number of articles in the Newsletters of the 1980s was the issue of irresponsible dog owners in the town - as it may well be today. There was talk of an experimental dog's toilet in Allenby Park but the Town Council said it would be too expensive.

In 1989 this cartoon appeared in the Newsletter drawn by Bob Kindred - way ahead of its time. However by the 1990s there did not seem to be such a concern about the issue.



The major conservation projects of which The Society can be very proud were the creation of Abbey Grove in conjunction with The Woodland Trust and the restoration of Gulpher Pond. I am sure we are appreciative of the efforts of Bob Stoner and Judith Hedges, volunteer wardens, for their efforts to lead work parties of Society members to care for this space. As Judith describes it:

You will enjoy wide grassy paths, hidden away secret paths, a wildflower meadow, butterflies, birds and so many of our native trees which look great at any time of year.

Back in 1982 it was reported that The Grove was threatened by the Eastward Ho! development and that, without warning, one large tree at the entrance to The Grove was felled and others likely to follow despite local protests from conservationist Michael Thomas and other interested residents.

Damage from the hurricane in 1987 was addressed by The Society through fundraising to ensure that 198 trees - oak, cherry ash, field maple etc. - were planted to regenerate the woodland. SCDC also contributed trees which enabled a total of 400 trees to be planted.

Around 1996 The Woodland Trust expressed their interest in working with the Felixstowe community to create a new woodland on land adjacent to The Grove.

On December 6, 1998 a steady stream of people turned up, on the site of the new wood, for the first tree planting day. Some 150 people turned up in the first half an hour



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and a further 70 from 2pm onwards so much so that the local woodland officer, Toby Bancroft, became quite hoarse constantly explaining to groups of people how to do the planting.

Some 1,200 trees were planted - Oak, Ash, Wild Cherry, and Sweet Chestnut - all grown specifically for The Woodland Trust. Various suggestions were made to The Woodland Trust to name the new wood, planted in celebration of the millennium. A decision was made that it should be called Abbey Grove.

Recognition of the work of the Volunteer Wardens and members of The Society came with The Woodland Trust 2009 National Overall Volunteer Group Award for their work in support of this Felixstowe woodland, now effectively managing the site on behalf of the Trust

This lovely space was enjoyed by the many people who attended the picnic and the dedication of a memorial seat to Barbara Reid on Sunday July 15.

Gulpher Pond is thought to be at least 200 years old and was originally a farm pond but had dried up in the 1980s and the ducks had disappeared. The pond did refill but much rubbish had been thrown in the pond, in places the banks had eroded and the stunning willow tree was thought to be in danger of collapse due to erosion of the bank

In 1986 The Society agreed to undertake a project to rehabilitate the pond and to find the money for any costs involved. A local farmer who owns the pond agreed to help out and the restoration took about two years. In June 1988 the pond was finally cleaned and the Felixstowe Fire Brigade agreed to refill the pond. A viewing area was completed with a substantial wooden guard rail. Alan Muchal must be credited with playing a major role in driving the original restoration project; maintenance of the pond is the continuing responsibility of The Society. Alan Muchal's article in the May edition of the Newsletter gives more detail.

I mentioned earlier the first plaque installed at the Town Station and no self-respecting Society would stop at one. I think we now

have 29 plaques and commemorative signs of various shapes and sizes. The plaque scheme was first mooted in a newsletter of 1999. By the end of 2010, one of our members, George Buckland, had embarked on a campaign to place commemorative plaques on local buildings associated with people of note.

The first four plaques were those of Sir Frank Whittle and T E Lawrence placed down at the dock, Sir John Mills' plaque in Gainsborough Road and Captain Darrell's at Landguard Fort. The town is so lucky to have been the home or the workplace of such distinguished people as Harry Fensom, an engineer who worked at Bletchley Park mending the Colossus machines, Keith Wood who worked at Bawdsey Manor helping to develop airborne radar and, of course, Phil Hadwen - Mr Felixstowe - a fine local historian who was the charismatic driving force of so many of The Society's activities.

Phil's leadership was much in evidence in planning the Heritage Weekends.

*In 1991 the Council of Europe and the European Commission set up **European Heritage Days** to raise appreciation for Europe's rich and diverse cultural assets and their need for care and protection. The central principle was as simple as it was compelling: to throw open the doors to historic monuments and buildings, in particular those normally closed to the public. It is now held annually in 50 signatory states to the European Cultural Convention - each country running it in its own way.*

1994 marked the year that this country started the Heritage Open Days - Felixstowe presented a comprehensive programme in 2012 spearheaded by Phil and members of The Society in conjunction with staff at the Town Hall. There is no doubt that the programme, now presented every two years, has an impact in the town and beyond, judging by the feedback from visitors. Successful programmes continued in 2014 and 2016.

This year's programme promises a major property which has never featured in previous Felixstowe Heritage Weekends and

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some of the town's favourites will also be open. We need volunteers to steward these properties so please see Jan if you can help. Initially The Society Speaker Meetings were held at The Town Hall, occasionally St John's Hall and from 1983 at St Andrew's Hall because of an increase in membership numbers. We moved to the Salvation Army premises sometime in 2012.

Attracting members to The Society was a continuing issue from the early days until now. From an initial membership of around 70, ten years later the numbers had risen to 300. The next 20 years did not see a significant rise, membership hovering around 360. However by 2015, the numbers had risen to 650 but are now 538. There were various initiatives which hoped to attract more members and to encourage members to contribute to The Society's activities - it's an issue which has been felt by so many voluntary organisations.

The subscription fees have only made a modest rise in 40 years, starting at single membership of £1 per year and a joint fee of £2 per year. Life Membership was offered to members in the mid 1980s but was abolished in 2010.

I have made a number of references to our first chairman Cynthia Park. On the tenth anniversary she summed up the achievements, or otherwise, of The Society:

In our early days we were rash and apt to go off half-cocked. With all the enthusiasm and conviction of youth we took on the powers that be with gusto and quickly earned ourselves the unfortunate epithet of 'left wing weirdos'. Thankfully our far from weird and decidedly middle of the road membership of about 100 people took this in their stride and we struggled on trying to identify and defend our aims and priorities. Our first major issue - the future of the station - turned out to be a real baptism by fire which kept The Society occupied for seven years. But in that time we discovered that we are not a single issue Society and have consistently been dealing with a huge variety of other matters. Now in our tenth year we have perhaps proved our worth. No-one calls us left wing weirdos any more and members of local government

appreciate that we are also concerned with the protection and improvement of the quality of life in Felixstowe.

After 11 years as Chairman, in 1989, Cynthia and Murray left Felixstowe for Bristol where Cynthia began a three year training course for the Methodist ministry. She qualified and was appointed to her own parish but has now retired.

Monica Smith took over as Acting Chairman whilst also editing the Newsletter. In 1990 a retired civil servant, Barbara Reid, assumed the chairmanship of The Society.

In 2016 I had the sad duty of writing Barbara's obituary for the Newsletter. I wish I had met her; I know a number of you here remember her well. Someone described her as the sort of person who really knew how to get things done - a force of nature - a hard worker who edited the Newsletter, took on the role of Secretary for a while as well as being Chairman. Her writing showed a breadth and depth of knowledge of the town's historical and architectural heritage. She always made sure The Society responded to any new plan or development in Felixstowe.

In 2004 Barbara decided to retire from The Society and the Vice-Chair Philip Johns agreed to take on the role. He continued the many activities already established in The Society although he wasn't able to have the support of a Vice Chair until a certain gentleman - Phil Hadwen - stepped into that post. Philip Johns decided to retire from the chairmanship in 2013. One committee member paid this tribute:

Philip's steady hand on the tiller has seen membership increase, the finances remain sound and he assembled a committee which worked tirelessly for The Society.

The new chairman, Roger Baker, initiated the website and enthusiastically supported Heritage Weekend, planning scrutiny and opportunities to raise the profile of The Society in Felixstowe. Vice Chairman Phil Hadwen's untimely death robbed The Society of a towering presence; Roger's calm and reassuring leadership steadied The Society at this devastating time.

FORTY YEARS AND COUNTING . . .

And now we have Jan - I am sure we all look forward to seeing how she steers us through the next few years.

The question I have been concerned with as I have been researching this talk, is - what impact has The Society had on Felixstowe in the last 40 years?

Some achievements I have already mentioned:

Helping to save the Town Station;

Planting and maintaining trees in a number of areas of the town;

Several publications, still used today, which detail heritage and countryside walks;

The Enhancement of the Environment Award which raises the profile of excellence in design in Felixstowe and Walton;

Creating, with The Woodland Trust, Abbey Grove and restoring Gulpher Pond – two spaces which anyone can enjoy.

We have also:

Recorded 42 footpaths around Felixstowe which have been used as the basis of a new definitive OS map of Felixstowe;

;

Raised the profile of local government planning and response to proposals such as the pedestrianisation of the town centre, the county structure plan - the first one back in the 1980s, the South Seafront Development, the Suffolk Local Transport Plan, the extension of the Conservation Areas and so many others

I have been reminded on a number of occasions by David Crawford, the Plans Committee Convenor, that we, with all our members, are only regarded as one voice by the powers that be. Are we able to mobilise all our resources to stop poor architectural design, the erosion of our countryside by thousands of new homes or the destruction of some of our Victorian and Edwardian heritage?

One of the reasons I joined The Society was that I wanted to learn more about the town in which I live and through so many opportunities provided by Society activities, I have come to love this town and to take a genuine pride in its heritage. I hope The Society will continue to be true to its aims and show passion and commitment to maintaining the town's heritage, supporting high quality new development but challenging poor planning which blights this town.

Happy Birthday and here's to the next 40 years.

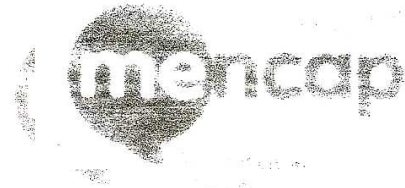
THANK YOU



On Monday 16 April, over 90 people enjoyed the Annual Felixstowe Society Dinner at The Brook Hotel.

The profit from this event was £312 which was donated to the Felixstowe and District Mencap and Gateway Club.

This letter of thanks was subsequently received from their Chairman.



65 Tomline Road
Felixstowe
IP11 7NX
01394 270492

owen.f.hooker@gmail.com

12 May 2018

Dear Keith

I am writing on behalf of Felixstowe and District Mencap and Gateway Club to thank you and the members of the Felixstowe Society for the generous donation of £312 to our cause. Our intention is to spend it on a summer trip to Colchester Zoo we are organising for our members.

Although I know that you are aware of what we do I thought some of your members might be interested to hear a little more about what this local voluntary group provides for people with learning disabilities in and around Felixstowe.

The range of services/facilities offered to members, in addition to the Gateway Club for ages 14 and upwards, which meets every week, includes Mencap Magic which meets fortnightly and provides slightly different youth club experiences for our members; a weekly Saturday morning drop-in facility to give parents/carers a little respite; and our Sports Opportunities group which meets fortnightly to give members a chance to try a wide variety of activities as diverse as football and fencing, rifle shooting and rounders, amongst many other sports and games. We run a minibus for use by these and other groups of people with disadvantages in our community. In addition, we have two welfare visitors who are available to give assistance and advice to parents and carers on a wide range of matters.

Mencap is committed to providing support for people with learning disabilities and their families and carers and we are currently spending around £8,000 a year. We are therefore extremely grateful for the help we are given by individuals and groups in the local community such as yourselves. Without it we would not be able to provide the services our members and their families and carers value so highly.

Please pass on our heartfelt thanks to all your members.

With very best wishes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Owen Hooker'.

Owen Hooker
Chairman

Mr K Horn,
75 Ferry Road
Felixstowe
IP11 9LU

Many thanks to all our contributors and especially to Susanne Barsby for proofreading this issue.

THE 2018 FELIXSTOWE SOCIETY FOUR DAY HOLIDAY TO THE SOUTHERN MIDLANDS

Our base was *The Hallmark Midland Hotel, Derby* and the Klarners coach company provided us with an excellent driver, Chris.

On the way to Derby on 17 May we stopped-off in Stamford to visit Burghley House. It was built for Elizabeth I's Lord Treasurer, William Cecil, in the 1550s. The state rooms are stunning and the Heaven Room and Hell Staircase contain superb examples of Antonio Verrio's 3D painting on ceilings and walls depicting ancient mythology.

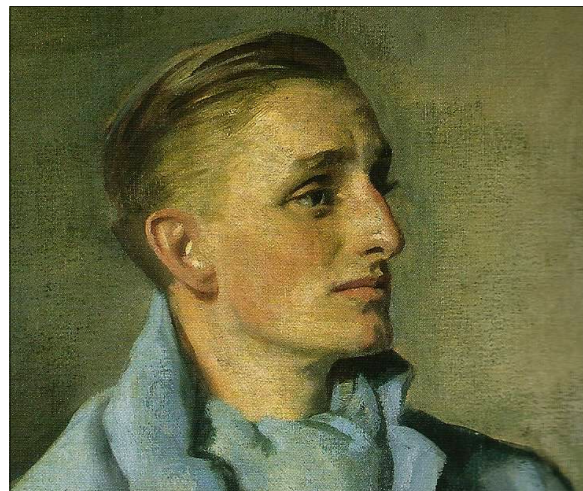
The large Huguenot wine cooler in the Heaven Room was made in 1710 and is reputedly the largest solid silver cooler in existence, weighing more than 230 pounds.



Probably the most famous Lord Burghley is David, of 'Chariots of Fire' fame who won gold in 400 metres at the 1928 Olympics.

Friday 18 May found us on a short 20 minute drive to the Royal Crown Derby pottery. We were taken through, in some cases, four firings in kilns a third the size of a ship's container. The firing takes a few hours instead of days as in days of old using brick, wood-fired kilns. The china is very labour intensive hence the very expensive end product.

After a very welcome lunch in the pottery we were driven to the Trent River in Nottingham for a two hour river cruise on 'The Princess'.



David, 6th Marquess of Exeter when Lord Burghley, painted in Cambridge blue by Sir Oswald Birley in 1926

The habitat along the river supports many birds and it was surprising to see how close the three big sports venues, Nottingham Forest, Notts County (football) and Trent Bridge (cricket) are to one another.

A relaxing afternoon.

Saturday 19 May. The National Trust's Kedleston Hall was the focus for the day and what a find the Hall and its grounds proved to be. Today the Curzon family live in the east wing and they can trace their Curzon name back to 1066. The present house's architect was Robert Adam and it was completed in 1765. Adam drew inspiration from monuments of Ancient Rome and he set out to rival Chatsworth for his employer, Sir Nathaniel Curzon. The marble entrance hall is impressive and the Drawing room and Music room have walls and furniture of a stunning blue and gold. The famous peacock dress worn by Lady Mary Curzon at the Delhi Dunbar ball in 1903 is displayed in the museum.

Her husband, Lord George Nathaniel Curzon, was Viceroy of India from 1899-1905.

We were welcomed back to our hotel with a cream tea!



Lady Curzon in the famous peacock dress she wore at the Delhi Dunbar in 1903



Lord Curzon in his robes as Chancellor of Oxford University, for which he advocated much-needed reforms.

Sunday 20 May dawned as another sunny, warm day. On the journey home we stopped at the Nene Valley Railway. Volunteers run everything including the workshops, but unfortunately our steam train was unable to pull us out of the station so we decanted from the train and made full use of the cafe and the bar at the front of the train. Another train was found to complete our trip before we finally set off for Felixstowe.

Thank you Keith and Elizabeth for a varied, sunny, well organised holiday. **Thank you.**

Alan and Pam Cooper.

An Addendum to the Felixstowe Society Holiday

During the visit to Kedleston Hall we learnt that Lord George Curzon became the youngest viceroy of India in 1899. Since the visit I've discovered that when he found the Taj Mahal in such disrepair, he initiated its renovation. The marble facing of the Taj tomb was renewed, the inlay decorations restored and the gardens laid out. Alan and I visited the Taj Mahal in January - a truly heart-stopping experience. Thank you Lord Curzon.

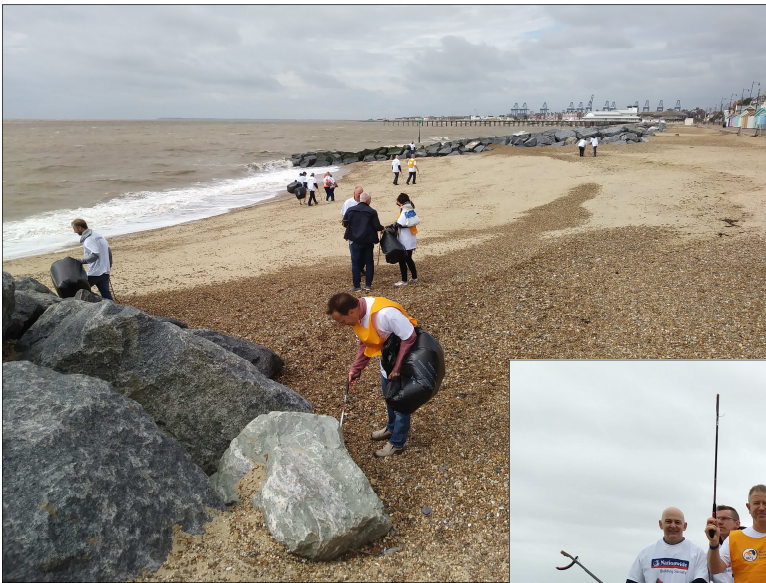
Pam Cooper.

Beach Clean 14 June 2018

Our June Beach Clean was a somewhat unusual event because, in addition to Felixstowe Society Members and Felixstowe Chalet and Beach Hut Owners, we were joined by teams from Damco Logistics from the Port of Felixstowe and a team from the Nationwide Building Society. As we do not know exact numbers of helpers until the day of the event we decided that it would be foolish to have everyone picking litter between Cobbold's Point to the Spa Pavilion. Instead we decided to 'spread our wings' and pick from Cobbold's Point down to Charlie Manning's. The Felixstowe Society members and the Felixstowe Chalet and Beach Hut Owners were picking from Cobbold's Point to the Spa Pavilion, team Nationwide from the Spa Pavilion and team Damco from the Pier Pavilion to Charlie Manning's. In total 43 people were involved and despite the lack of litter the event was enjoyed by all. In fact only approximately 15 Kg was picked up in total. In one respect it was disappointing for all concerned but in another respect it is very pleasing to find that our beach is a very clean place to visit and enjoy.

After the litter pick the Felixstowe Society and Chalet and Hut owners went for refreshments at The Kiosk near to the bottom of Bath Hill, whilst the Nationwide and Damco teams were welcomed at the Town Hall by our Mayor, Mr Graham Newman. Photographs were taken on the Town Hall steps and afterwards refreshments were available in the Mayor's reception Room. We were also joined by Felixstowe Society Chairman Jan Garfield and her husband Jon, Lynn Allen from Suffolk Coast and Heaths and councillor David Wood, the Chairman of Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.





Photos contributed by the
Suffolk Coast & Heaths
AONB.



Thank you all so much for making the occasion such a success . . . even if the amount of rubbish gathered was disappointing on one-hand, but equally it is fantastic that the beach at Felixstowe was so clean!

It was so lovely to meet you all, and it was very kind of the Felixstowe Mayor, Cllr. Graham Newman, to host us at the Town Hall afterwards, and for our Chairman, Cllr. David Wood to join us as well. Thank you both.

I would also like to thank Keith – and Elizabeth – for their hard work in making the occasion possible. They overcame numerous hurdles, but refused to be beaten. Their dedication and commitment to the work of the Suffolk Coast & Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty - along with The Felixstowe Society as a whole - is fantastic and we are so grateful for their long-term support and contribution to our work.

If any of you wish to come back for another beach clean – and 'hopefully' find more rubbish(?!), please do contact me and we can organise a Beachwatch event within the AONB, which can then feed into the national Marine Conservation Society programme, in the same way that The Felixstowe Society quarterly surveys contribute.

Lynn Allen
Suffolk Coast & Heaths AONB Countryside Projects Officer

t: 01394 445225 dd: 01394 445223
m: 07850 212486 w: suffolkcoastandheaths.org

Update on Bala Cottage/The Lookout at Felixstowe Ferry

You might remember that we included a special supplement in the May 2017 Felixstowe Society Newsletter which had been prepared in response to the widespread objections amongst our members to the granting of planning permission for this development and its construction in an area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. "*How on Earth did that ever get planning permission*" was the usual response on seeing it for the first time.



Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC) have continued throughout to maintain that proper procedures were followed and claimed that the building actually enhances the local environment! We were not happy with this response and, with the support of the Suffolk Preservation Society and those involved with the Deben Estuary Plan (DEP), we continued to raise objections which led to a second planning application being submitted by the developer in August last year to cover the additional work which had been done in contravention of the original approval.

After much internal discussion within SCDC, this second application was approved by the Planning Committee in January 2018; however, we were pleased that two important conditions were attached:-

The approval of the original application implied that, due to the risk of flooding, the ground floor must not be used for accommodation. This restriction was confirmed.

No further changes to the property will be allowed under Permitted Development regulations i.e. a full planning application will be required for any further changes (for due consideration).

We have now launched a formal complaint under 10 separate headings about the way SCDC carried out the whole process of approving this development from the very beginning. In support of these complaints we have listed 184 facts and references. The regulations state that, if SCDC do not produce a satisfactory reply to our complaint (Stage 1), we can ask for a full internal review (Stage 2) which we have now done as we have just received their reply and have judged it to be unsatisfactory. If we feel that the outcome of the review is also unsatisfactory, we are then permitted to put our case to the Local Government Ombudsman, which we are prepared to do.

A separate submission to the Ombudsman has already been made by a Society Member who is particularly concerned with the implications for the validity of the Deben Estuary Plan; this could well help us as the response of the Ombudsman to the DEP submission should give clues as to how our submission (assuming that we get to that stage) should be couched for maximum impact.

We will keep you informed about any significant future developments. If you wish to know more about any aspect of this campaign, please contact our Chairman, Jan Garfield (jongarf@ntlworld.com), who will either answer your questions or pass you on to someone who can explain in detail what is happening.

Roger Baker

Picnic at Abbey Grove



Photograph taken by Wilfred Ablard

Forsaking football and tennis finals, about twenty members of The Felixstowe Society, including many volunteers who regularly work on Abbey Grove, together with volunteers from The Woodland Trust, gathered in lovely sunshine to enjoy a picnic together in the beautiful surroundings and to dedicate a new bench to the memory of the late Barbara Reid. Barbara was instrumental in the original planting of Abbey Grove and was Chairman of The Society at the time. The celebration was to mark 20 years since work was started. The full story of how things have changed over the twenty years can be found in an article by Judith Hedges, Woodland Trust Volunteer, in the May 2018 edition of The Felixstowe Society Newsletter.

The beautiful bench was made locally by Genesis Garden Furniture in Ipswich who work with Mencap. At their fully-equipped workshop premises they provide training and work experience skills for people with learning disabilities aimed at breaking down barriers to gaining employment. Every stage of the construction process is carried out on site under the watchful eyes of their exceptionally skilled training staff. Their hardwood timber is sourced from reputable suppliers and sustainable forests.

http://www.orwellmencap.co.uk/garden_furniture.html

Chairman Jan Garfield made a short speech thanking all the volunteers for the hours of work they have put in over the years which contributed to making Abbey Grove such a special place. All their work and contributions are much appreciated by The Society and by the town.

Volunteers are always needed to continue this valuable work. Details of working parties are to be found on the panel on this page.

ABBEY GROVE WORK PARTIES

Everyone is welcome.

**09.30 - 12.00
on each
Tuesday from
October to
April.**

**Come for the
whole morning
or just part of
the time.**

**Help with
keeping paths
clear,
coppicing the
hazel, thinning
the trees and
maintaining
the hedgerows.**

**All tools are
provided.**

**Bring
gardening
gloves and
wear sturdy
shoes or boots.**

**Bring a drink
and snack for
elevenses.**

**Each week the
work area is
well signed
from the
entrance by
the surgery.**

**More details
from Bob
Stoner,
Volunteer
Warden,
01394 272959.**

**Minutes of Annual General Meeting
held on Tuesday 22 May 7.30 p m
at Salvation Army Hall, Felixstowe.**

The Chairman, Mrs J Garfield, welcomed all members present.

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Guy and Rosemary Pearse, Jan Apthorp, Bill Rollings, Gill Manning, Ron English, Norman Barsby, Alan and Barbara Lamberton, David Crawford, Gill Mason, Roger Baker

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 23 May 2017

These were published in the September Newsletter and were accepted unanimously.

3. Annual Report for 2017

A motion to accept the report was proposed by J Garnham, seconded by J Macpherson and accepted unanimously.

4. Annual Accounts

These had been published by the Treasurer, Hilary Eaton. A motion to accept was proposed by T Horrocks, seconded by H Carpenter and accepted unanimously.

5. Election of Officers and Executive Committee

All officers and committee members stood for re-election and were re-elected en bloc. This was accepted unanimously.

Mrs G Manning had agreed to stand as Secretary of The Society. Proposed by R Gray, seconded by P Gray and unanimously accepted.

6. Award for the Enhancement of the Environment

No nominations received.

7. Any Other Business

The Chairman reminded members of the Heritage Weekend on 8/9 September and appealed for volunteers to assist on those two days

The meeting closed at 7.45 pm

Planning Applications 11 July 2017 to 10 July 2018

SCDC has granted permission for the following:

Bath Road (Tennis Club)

Build four houses (under construction)

Dorincourt Guesthouse, 41 Undercliff Road West

Conversion to 5 self-contained flats with a courtyard style active and independent groundfloor restaurant . Through conversion and extension/alteration of the rear 1980's addition.

We Objected.

49 Beatrice Avenue

Demolition of small rear utility & construction of 2 storey rear extension.

The Society objects to this proposal. From the plans, it appears that the first floor extends up to the boundary of the site. We would prefer that it is set back to create a space between itself and the neighbouring property.

Felixstowe Lawn Tennis Club, Bath Road

Replace existing floodlights on two sets of three all-weather tennis courts.

We objected – insufficient information on hours of use and possible light pollution.

Linden Lodge, Bacton Road

2-storey extension to side of property.

The Felixstowe Society Objects to this Proposal for the reasons stated below:

- 1) The wide shallow windows set in the east elevation of the extension do not match 'the proportion and style' of windows in the host dwelling. (SPG 16 - para 4.8c).
- 2) The exterior finish of the extension does not match or harmonise with the host dwelling.

5 Kingsfleet Road

Garden Annex

59 Langley Avenue

Certificate of Lawful Use - proposed loft conversion, including hip to gable alteration, rear facing dormer and front facing roof lights.

We consider that the alteration to one half of the two semi-detached bungalows would adversely affect the street scene and be an over-development in this row of similar properties. (Permitted Development)

The Haven, Cavendish Road

Proposed change of use from care home, returning to original use being two non residential dwellings.

61 Hamilton Road

Illuminated Advertisement Consent. (Conservation Area [CA])

32 Maybush Lane

Proposed single storey rear and front extension with internal alterations. (CA)

26 Orwell Road

Conversion of disused office and showrooms to maisonette. (CA)

25 Orwell Road

Extension of balcony area to original size on first floor level. (CA)

Flat 2 Ranelagh Court, Ranelagh Road

Replace existing wooden frame windows to match adjacent flats. (CA)

7 Cranmer Cliff Gardens

Replace wooden french windows and doors on first floor apartment with exact copies in white uPVC. (CA)

14 Manning Road

Change use of dwelling to HMO (Multi Occupation). (CA)

5 Montague Road

Two storey rear extension. (CA)

30 Orwell Road

Change of use to bar/restaurant. (CA)

25 Orwell Road

Convert first and second floor to two flats. (CA)

Lindley House, 28 Leopold Road

Provide four residential flats within the conversion of an existing building. (CA)

61 Hamilton Road

Shopfront Refurbishment etc. (CA)

6 Riby Road

Alterations to roof with addition of gable ends, raised ridge and insertion of six roof windows (CA)

72 Hamilton Road

Illuminated advertisement consent. (CA)

29D Quilter Road

Replacement Dwelling. (CA)

2 Cardinals Court, Queens Road

Replace six windows and one door screen to ground. (CA)

Red Hall Court

Replace three windows to north elevation. (CA)

Flat 3, 6 Sea Road

Replacement balcony with canopy. (CA)

Applications awaiting a decision

1 Lansdowne Road

Proposed study, garage extension and internal alterations to two storey detached residence.

The Felixstowe Society notes that the Proposal title above appears to relate to works permitted in application DC/17/0650 and already completed on site. The drawings attached to the new application appear to propose a new addition to the existing kitchen.

Plots 1, 2, 9, 10 Land West of Ferry Rd Residential Centre

Creation of five x three and four bedroom detached houses plus associated driveways that take access from Ferry Road.

The Felixstowe Society objects to this proposal.

The proposal is contrary to the requirement and approved plan for a single entry off Ferry Road and adversely affects highway safety and approved highway design.

Top Flat, 20 Victoria Street

Replace existing aluminium framed window. Install white uPVC.

The Felixstowe Society believes this proposal will have little effect on the Conservation Area.

Cotman Lodge, Garfiel Road

New raised decking and balustrade to replace existing, introduction of French doors and replacement Juliet Balcony with 1.8m glass screens.

The Felixstowe Society believes this proposal will have little effect on the Conservation Area.

111 Undercliff Rd

Single storey rear extension.

The Felixstowe Society believes this proposal will have little effect on the Conservation Area.

Langer Ridge, South Hill

Proposed balcony.

The Felixstowe Society believes this proposal will have little effect on the Conservation Area.

Refused

Ridley House, Maybush Lane

Replacement of existing slate roof covering with clay roman tiles only applies to the main house. Amended scheme with reduced works.

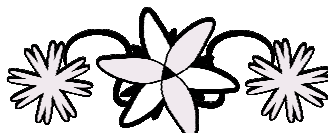
Refused 11September.

Land to the rear of 114 High Rd West

Outline application for one dwelling.

64 Hamilton Rd (Smiths)

Installation of Bank of Ireland ATM with Reflective Advertising Collar in left hand window.



IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you have not already done so, please would you URGENTLY let us have your written permission to retain information about you in accordance with the new General Data Protection Regulation. This information will not be available to any outside bodies, but will enable The Society to continue to let you know about activities and receive newsletters.

Keith Horn, 75 Ferry Road, Felixstowe IP11 9LU

New book on Felixstowe Ferry

A new book, 'Felixstowe Ferry Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow', was published by Elizabeth Setchim and Graham Henderson in August. It explores the ramshackle charm of the Ferry and peels back the layers of history behind many different aspects of village life.

The book is dedicated to the memory of Phil Hadwen and builds on an earlier publication from 1990, 'The Hamlet of Felixstowe Ferry' in the 'Views from the Past' series.

13 information-packed chapters bring together documented history with Internet research and personal memory: the book is supported by more than 20 face-to-face interviews with local residents. The text is illustrated by 100 images, contributed from personal collections of photographs, postcards and newspaper articles and from local archives. Most of the images used have not been published before.

Members of The Felixstowe Society can meet the authors and get a signed copy of the book at The Hub through Felixstowe Heritage Weekend on Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 September or at one of The Society's evening events through the Autumn. The book is also available from local booksellers in the usual way. It is a hardback book and costs £10.

Liz Setchim



Felixstowe Community Hospital

The hospital is commonly known as 'The General' or Cottage Hospital or older residents still 'The Croydon Hospital'

In The Society's Newsletter of 1 January 2010, well-known local historian and long serving Society member Leslie Ramsey wrote an excellent article about the hospital which is situated in Constable Road.

Leslie's article detailed the history of the hospital up to the outbreak of World War II in 1939.. I am following on from 1939 to the present day 2018.

During the war years the hospital remained open dealing with the local population. In 1949 the hospital was placed under the newly formed National Health Service and the management taken over by the Ipswich and East Suffolk Health Board based at Ipswich Hospital. In 1949 the hospital was redesignated a General Hospital and visited regularly by consultants from Ipswich and local GPs. In 1961 a new extension was built for an Out-Patients department and the number of beds reduced to 28.

In 1992 new clinic rooms opened thanks to funds being donated by the Port of Felixstowe. The League of Friends of Felixstowe Hospital donated Cryosurgery equipment in 1995 and in 1999 a new X-ray Unit was installed, funded by Howard House Surgery and the League of Friends.

In 2006/2007 the hospital was closed for refurbishment and it reopened in 2008 and renamed Felixstowe Community Hospital with now only 16 beds,

In 2008 a new garden at the rear of the hospital opened, generously donated by Mrs Croydon, the granddaughter of the founder.

Since 2008 to 2018 the management of the hospital has been under such organisations as Suffolk Primary Care Trust, the Suffolk Community Healthcare followed by SERCO, and now Ipswich Hospital but the Minor Injuries Unit is now under the management of the GP Federation .

Roy Gray





SEPTEMBER 8 and 9, 2018

Programmes will be available at Art on the Prom



The Heritage Information Hub

**Open: Saturday and Sunday
9am - 4pm**

Our central information point is The Hut on the prom. Here you will find information about what's on during the two days. We are also celebrating **The Felixstowe Society's 40th birthday** so come and visit our exhibition - a trip down memory lane.

We are joined by Brian and Charles from the **Felixstowe and Offshore Radio Group**.

Visitors will also be able to buy signed copies of a new book 'Felixstowe Ferry Past Present and Future' by Liz Setchim and Graham Henderson. Society members will also be able to purchase signed copies at the Autumn Speaker meetings.

Check www.visitfelixstowe.org.uk for availability of tours.



Saturday - Edwardian Felixstowe

A delightful town walk which encompasses some impressive early 20th century heritage buildings.

Meet outside the Town Station at 10.30am



**Bawdsey Manor
IP12 3BH**

***Booking essential**

**OPEN: Saturday
and Sunday
4 tours each day**

This is a rare opportunity to visit parts of this Grade II listed manor house built in 1886, situated at the mouth of the River Deben. Bawdsey Manor played a major part in the development of radar and from 1936-1986, it was a military establishment.

Visitors need to make their own travel arrangements either by Bawdsey Ferry or by road. Bawdsey Ferry operates from 10am - 6pm.

There is NO entry via the main Manor front gate. A minibus is available at the Bawdsey Ferry landing to take ticket holders to the Radar car park from where they can start the tour.



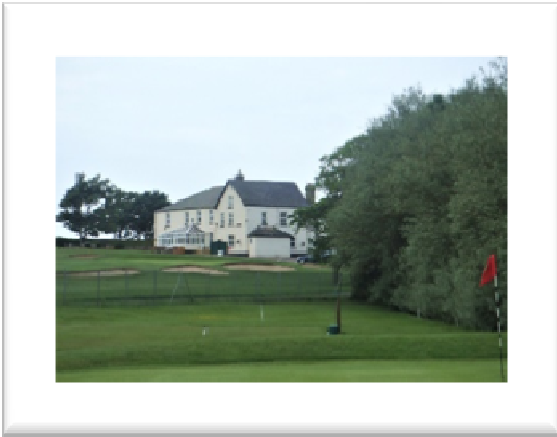
**The Bartlet
Undercliff Road West
IP11 7LS**

***Booking essential**

visitfelixstowe.org.uk

A Felixstowe landmark building incorporating part of Martello 'R' as foundations.

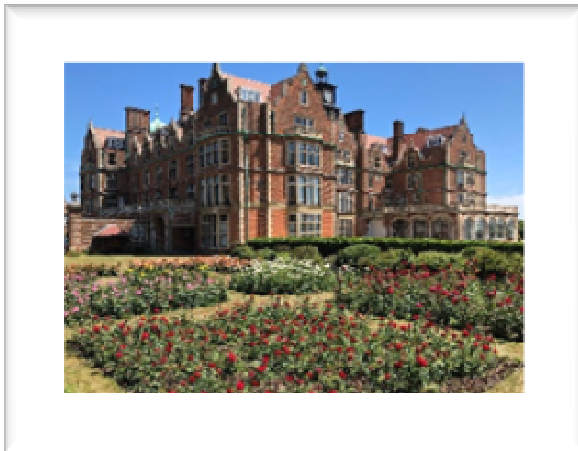
OPEN: Saturday - tours, of the exterior of the building only.



Felixstowe Ferry Golf Club, Ferry Road IP11 9RY

An exhibition of photos and documents charting one of England's oldest golf clubs.

OPEN: Saturday 10am - 4pm



Harvest House, Cobbold Road IP11 7SP

***Booking essential**

visitfelixstowe.org.uk

This Grade II listed building, opened in 1903, still displays many original Edwardian features.

OPEN: Saturday - tours every hour from 11am - 3pm.

There is NO parking in the grounds of Harvest House

Check www.visitfelixstowe.org for availability of tours.



Spa Pavilion - Undercliff Road West IP11 7HA

***Booking essential**

visitfelixstowe.org.uk

Backstage tours of the town's popular theatre.



Felixstowe Town Hall
95 Undercliff Road
West
IP11 2AG

A lovely Victorian civic building, c1892, with an exhibition of photos never displayed before.

OPEN:

Sunday 10am - 5pm

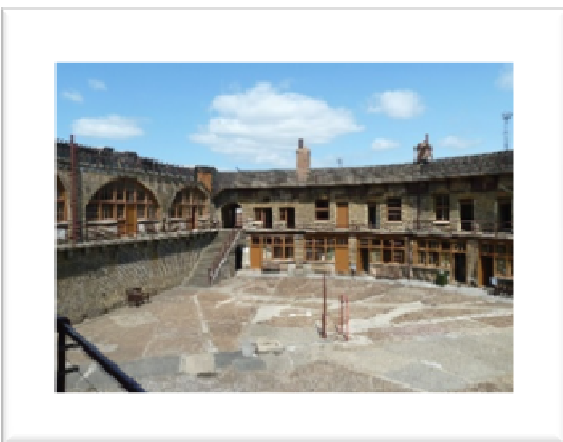


Martello P Martello Park
IP11 2GB

This fortification, from the Napoleonic wars, was part of a string of similar towers built along the east and south coast to defend Britain from the threat of a French invasion. There were 7 along Felixstowe's coastline and most remain, although some are hard to spot! There are 16 steps to the entrance.

This location is not DDA accessible.

OPEN: Sunday 10am - 4pm.
Tours every 30 minutes (except 1pm)



Landguard Fort
View Point Road IP11 3TW

A Grade I listed building with a fascinating history. Replacing an earlier 17th century fort on this site, the current fort is Georgian with later modifications in the 19th and 20th centuries.

DDA access to the ground floor only

OPEN: Sunday 10am - 5pm



**Felixstowe Museum
View Point Road IP11 3TW**

An award-winning museum houses a comprehensive collection of artefacts and photos related to Felixstowe's history.

OPEN: Sunday 12 - 5pm

**Martello P will also be open during the weekend of
September 15 and 16
with the 5th/60th Rifles Living History group in attendance
from 10am - 4pm.**

**Please check www.churchestogetherfelixstowe to find out
which churches are open to visit during the weekend.**

**Maidstone Road Baptist Church, Maidstone Road, IP11 9ED
Open on Saturday 10 - 4pm and Sunday 2 - 4pm.**

The church will have a Treasure Quiz, display including about their church history and refreshments and short music slots- Saturday at 10.30, 12.30 and 2.30. Sunday at 2.30.

St Mary's, High Street, Walton will be open for tours of a beautiful, ancient building. Ploughman's lunches and sales' tables available.

**FREE TO
EXPLORE**