

## Felixstowe Family History Society

Felixstowe Family History Society will hold a Social evening and Quiz on Wednesday 13 March 2024, with Quizmaster Paul Voller in charge of questions and the audience will hopefully provide the answers!

Come along to Broadway House, Orwell Road, Felixstowe IP11 7DD. There is a large and free (after 1800) car park adjacent to Broadway House, the entrance is in Highfield Road, Felixstowe IP11 7BZ. Please arrive for a 1930 start; allowing time to sign in, buy some raffle tickets, find your seat and have a chat with friends before the evening starts. There is no charge for members of the Felixstowe Family History Society and Felixstowe History and Museum Society; visitors are welcome £3.00 cash at the door. Membership details on the website.

Future dates for your calendar –

- 10 April, Roy Tricker will present his talk entitled Getting a Gong.
- 8 May, Chris Broom will share Humour in Genealogy.
- 12 June, David Hedges will talk about The Western Front World War I.

In addition to our Wednesday evening meetings, the Society offers monthly drop-in sessions, to support members/non-members with ancestry enquiries. These are held on Friday 22 March, 26 April, 31 May and 28 June at Broadway House from 10.15 am until 12pm. For further information, please contact the Committee via the website [www.felixstoweffhs.onesuffolk.net/](http://www.felixstoweffhs.onesuffolk.net/) or Facebook page.

## Felixstowe Master Mariners



The Felixstowe Master Mariners Club meet on the third Tuesday of each month at Felixstowe Ferry Sailing Club, for a lunch provided by local caterer DG Catering - [info@dgcaterers.co.uk](mailto:info@dgcaterers.co.uk) followed by a talk by an invited speaker. The Christmas Lunch attended by 70 Members and invited guests was the usual joyous affair, with entertainment provided by the superb Felixstoways Singers who kept everyone in fine voice, singing Sea Shanties and Carols. Father Christmas (aka Member Mike Meadows) was also in attendance handling over the Raffle Prizes. Member Murray Gibson officiated at an Auction, which further boosted funds for "The Mariners" Charitable efforts, enabling each of the following organisations to be recipients of modest monetary assistance:

- Felixstowe National Coastwatch
- The Shipwrecked Mariners Society
- 1st Felixstowe Sea Scouts
- East Coast Sailing Trust
- The Maritime Society and Sea Cadets
- Felixstowe Seafarers Centre
- The Seafarer's Charity
- Ocean Youth Trust South
- Felixstowe TS Landguard Unit 478 Sea Cadet Corps
- RNLI Harwich
- Care Offshore

The January Lunch was also very well attended and Members were given a very informative talk from Sally and Robbie Thompson, about the formation of The International Red Cross. The Red Cross as most know, is based in Geneva, but what many did not know was to was founded by Swiss businessman Mr. Henry Dunant in 1863 after he saw the suffering of thousands of individuals, left to die after The Battle of Solferino. Members were told of the seven principals of the Red Cross: Humanity, Impartiality, Neutrality, Independence, Voluntary, Unity and Universality. What made this talk so interesting and personal was the role that our Member Robbie had with The Red Cross, serving with them all over the world from Rwanda to Kosovo and often accompanied by his wife Sally. Picture shows Sally and Robbie giving their Red Cross Presentation to the attentive "Mariner" Members. The variety of talks given each month continue to keep all Members entertained and informed and continues to foster professional comradeship among Master Mariners and those with Nautical interests. Once again the excess funds were able to support local maritime related charities and the Club continues to grow, giving current Members, any new Members and Guests the experience of a friendly atmosphere, whilst maintaining the established high traditions of the Club. New Members are always welcome and Membership details and further information can be obtained from the FMMC web page [www.mastermariners.uk](http://www.mastermariners.uk) Article provided by Malcolm Stafford - Felixstowe Master Mariners Club

## Felixstowe Offshore Radio

Ten years ago, with the encouragement of the late Phil Hadwen, we (Charles Wright & Brian Nichols) set up

[www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio](http://www.facebook.com/felixstoweandoffshoreradio)

In order to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the launch of Radio Caroline, which first moored off Felixstowe in 1964.

We placed articles in local magazines asking if anyone had memories, photos or memorabilia and were overwhelmed at the response!

Ten years on, with the 60th anniversary of Radio Caroline on 28th March, our Facebook page now has over two thousand followers from across the world. We will soon have presented over 30 audio visual presentations to various clubs, groups and societies.

We have taken part in Heritage Open Days (look out for us this year!) in addition to holding exhibitions at the Fish Dish Restaurant (2014), Trinity Methodist Church Hall (2017) & Martello P Tower (2022), while Felixstowe Museum have hosted a display since 2015.

In 2017, we worked with the Felixstowe Society, who arranged for a commemorative stone to be laid at the lookout in Wolsey Gardens, unveiled by legendary DJ's Emperor Rosko & Tony Prince.

If you are interested in having us come to speak to your group, or have any items of interest that we could see, please get in touch via Facebook, or on 07714 596655, or email [nichols199@btinternet.com](mailto:nichols199@btinternet.com)



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