

FELSTED

DECEMBER 20 / JANUARY 21

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# FOCUS

COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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ISSUE No: 9

## Magazine Funding

Your *Felsted Focus* magazine is an entirely voluntary project. We started just this year and the *Focus* has quickly become an important asset to our community. You have lots to say! For some, particularly the elderly or housebound, the *Focus* is one of their few sources of really local news. It's a lifeline. But we can only continue if (and it's a big IF!) we can find a way to continue to meet the running costs. The Parish Council helps and we sell some advertising space, but we need more if we are to maintain quality and to continue to deliver to every home in the parish.

The *Focus* costs just 80p per household, per month, to produce and deliver. With more than 1100 homes in the Parish, this soon adds up! Each edition costs around £900. Hitting our fundraising target would mean that all households in Felsted parish will continue to receive the magazine free, for a full year.

We have created this campaign to enable us to continue to print and publish the magazine every month for a long time to come. We are asking for your support and suggesting a donation of £10. That covers one household for one year, but If you can give a little more you will help us cover the cost for parishioners who are not able to donate.

We know that Christmas can be an expensive time and 2020 hasn't been easy for anyone, but please give as generously as you can to this very local and Focused cause. Help us continue to build a sense of togetherness and support and to strengthen our community.

Donate what you can, today!

In any way you choose to donate, the whole team behind the *Felsted Focus* would like to say a huge...

*Thank You!*

*(In the event that we fail to reach our target and we have to reduce or cease publication residual funds will be donated to the Felsted Community Trust).*

## Note from the Editor

Hello and season's greetings!

Well, what a year it's been. When I volunteered to be the editor of the new magazine, I couldn't have imagined that we would produce March's issue and then find everything was cancelled and had to start again.

It has not all been dark for me, as I've had many Zoom calls with friends, both here and abroad, whom I wouldn't normally have seen so often. Even my 86-year-old mum has been video calling with her friends. Keeping in touch is really important and that's why I'm so proud of what the Focus has achieved this year.

A big thanks to the team and to all of you who have contributed articles, ideas, photos and recipes. You can find more wonderful examples of these in this issue. To name just a couple, the WI's Cranberry Sauce recipe (in Janet's Recipes section) is delicious, and we've got some beautiful bird photographs taken by John Norton's son.

It is difficult to write my piece for the December/January issue, as I can't predict the future, but it seems there is a light at the end of the tunnel! We will carry on next year with your continuing help and support.

Although different for many, the team and I would like to wish you a good Christmas, and a new year when we can look forward positively.



### Editorial Team:

Janice Ratcliffe  
felstededitor@gmail.com  
Margaret Attwood  
Sarah Gale  
Janet Johnston  
Hope Alexander  
Richard Freeman  
Roy Ramm

### Graphic design and layout:

David Hardy  
Astragraphic Design  
info@astragraphic.co.uk  
www.astragraphic.co.uk

### Print:

Paul Clark Printing

### Parish Council:

01371 823071  
www.felsted-pc.gov.uk

## MAGAZINE FUNDING.

You can give in 1 of 3 ways...

- **ONLINE:** Through this JustGiving page! Simply follow the easy steps to donate what you can!  
[www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/felstedfocus](http://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/felstedfocus)
- **BY BANK TRANSFER:** Just make your payment direct to Felsted Parish Council. Acc 00393274 Sort 20-97-40 Reference Felsted Focus.
- **BY CHEQUE:** Please make these payable to Felsted Parish Council and send them to them to: URC Hall, Stebbing Rd, Essex, Felsted CM6 3JD. Alternatively post in the Parish Council letter box outside the URC.

## Felsted WI

---

While meeting in person is still on hold, we were delighted to be able to hold a monthly meeting via Zoom on 11th November and it was wonderful to see our members again, albeit on screen. Christine Middleton had organised a great photographic quiz based on UK landmarks, and ideas were also shared for gift-wrapping presents, including creative use of recyclable materials and greenery from the garden.

We were proud to take part in the Remembrance Day event on Saturday 7th November, and the photo shows committee member Alison Moore laying a wreath on our behalf.

For more information on Felsted WI, please contact Penny Lewis 07825 312829 [penny717@btinternet.com](mailto:penny717@btinternet.com) or Margaret Smith 01371 822092.



## Wool and Waffle

---

I would like to thank all of you who have been knitting away for the various charities during the past difficult year.

We have supported, to name but a few, Braintree baby bank, premature babies, Felsted WI, UK Aid, and Broomfield hospital. Items still needed - pairs of 2" hearts, blankets 12 x 18", traffic light hats (red, yellow or green) in very small sizes.

Please contact Kitty 01371 820444 for any help needed. I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

# Felsted Friendship Club

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Felsted Friendship Club meetings planned for October and November were reluctantly cancelled due to the increase in Covid-19 virus cases in the area, then lockdown. Our annual Christmas party will not take place this year but the committee is planning to distribute parcels of Christmas goodies and greetings cards to members in early December. We hope that the club might be able to meet again at the Memorial Hall on Friday 15th January, subject to the prevailing Covid restrictions, and we ask that anyone wishing to join our meetings in the spring should please ring Alison Moore nearer the time to confirm attendance so that we can control the number of attendees.

Friendship Club details available from Alison Moore 01371 821632 or Sue King 01371 821411



**Felsted Branch Spring 2021**  
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**Tutor: Andy Beharrell Fee: £64 10 sessions**

**MONDAY EVENINGS from 11/1/21; 19.30 - 21.30**

**To Enrol: 0300 303 3464 quoting course numbers above**

**For Enquiries: [felsted.branch@wea.ac.uk](mailto:felsted.branch@wea.ac.uk)**

**The WEA is a charity registered in England & Wales; number 1112775**

# Felsted Memorial Hall

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Hello everyone,  
Work still hasn't finished; there are several snagging issues that Peter assures us will be put right by 20th November. That shouldn't be a problem, as we are in lockdown and the hall is not being used.

On 7th November, our Remembrance wreath-laying and service took place outside the hall on a much smaller scale than usual due to social restrictions. It was filmed and shown via Zoom in the church on Sunday 8th November. As always, it was very emotional. I would like to thank Reg and Wendy Bentall, on behalf of the committee, for securing the wreaths on a frame so that they look presentable and don't blow away. They kindly do this every year.

Dicky Howett took the accompanying photo after the event.

We won't be writing until the New Year, so on behalf of the Memorial Hall committee I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Stay safe!

*Hazel Fox*



# Felsted Holy Cross Church



## United Reform Church

Unfortunately, we were unable to open in November because of the latest COVID-19 restrictions, but hopefully we can meet one Sunday in December to celebrate the birth of our lord. During lockdown and closure we have made some necessary improvements to suit all hall users. Our carpet flooring has been replaced with a hard floor to comply with the sanitising regime required and we are in the process of sourcing a safety rail for the stage.

We at the URC are keeping in weekly contact with each other and the Rev Ray continues to send us weekly service and prayer sheets to help us over this difficult time. We hope that all in the local community are keeping safe and well and we pray for all those in need, the lonely, the sick and those who are worried about the future.

We would like to wish all readers a very happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful new year.

Diane 01376 583994

# Felsted Parish Council

## Chairman's Chat



Our most important news is that Diane Smith our Parish Clerk is retiring this month.

Diane joined us in 2011 as Assistant Clerk and progressed to the role of Clerk in 2013. Diane's work has always been of the highest of standards; she has always been on hand to offer help and support to both the Parish Council and the residents of the parish. Her organisational skills have always kept the council up to date on all aspects relating to the running of a parish the size of Felsted. My thanks and those of the parish councillors go to Diane for all that she has achieved in the past nine years and we wish her well as she moves on to the next chapter of her life. However, I am sure she will miss my phone calls, some a little later in the evening or a little earlier in the morning than she might have expected! If all goes well, we'll try to make a suitably 'socially distanced' presentation of champagne flutes and a bottle of champagne at the Parish Council's December meeting; our fingers are crossed that all will go to plan. A number of parishioners have also indicated they would like to mark Diane's retirement. It is difficult under the present circumstances, but those who would like to show their appreciation to Diane can send cards to the usual Parish Council address at the URC Hall in Stebbing Road; emails can be sent to Heather Read, [asstclerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk](mailto:asstclerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk). Heather will put these messages into a card that will be passed on to Diane at a later date.

We are also very pleased to formally welcome and congratulate Heather on taking the post as Parish Clerk and to say 'Hello' to our new Assistant Clerk, Clare Schorah, who joins us officially in January, but who has already shown a keen interest in the role. We are also very pleased to welcome Margaret Attwood to the Parish Council. In what has been a difficult year, I take this opportunity to wish all of our readers a Happy Christmas and new year. However, I know for some Christmas can be a lonely time, so should you find you are in need of a chat then please do give me a call on 07515 910411.

Together, let's look forward to 2021 with optimism and the hope of returning to some type of normality. In the meantime, stay safe.

*Graham*

Graham Harvey - Chairman, Felsted Parish Council



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# Felsted Parish Council

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## **PC welcomes new Councillor and new Assistant Clerk**

At their November Parish Council (PC) meeting, members agreed to co-opt Margaret Attwood onto the council. Margaret has played a significant part in the production of both the Felsted Parish Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan in recent years and she is currently part of the editorial team for Felsted Focus. We hope that she will enjoy her new role as a Parish Councillor. The council also welcomed Clare Schorah in the position of Assistant Clerk.

## **Additional play equipment at Willows Green play area**

Following a successful application to Essex County Council for grant funding, the council agreed to accept a quote from Creative Play to install additional play equipment for the children of Willows Green. The new equipment will include a seesaw, two springers, a timber adventure trail and a roundabout. Half the cost of the project will be met by a Community Infrastructure Fund grant and the remainder will be funded by the PC.

## **Expert advice on preparing work specifications**

The PC is increasingly commissioning construction works around the parish which require precise specifications. If there are any professionally qualified residents who would be willing to provide advice on the preparation of these specifications, on an ad hoc basis, could they please contact the Clerk with details of their area of expertise.

## **Public toilets at the playing field**

The public toilets have been closed since the end of March 2020, initially because of the first Covid-19 lockdown and subsequently because of an inability to find a local person to lock and unlock them on a daily basis. The council has accordingly agreed to install a timed locking system on both toilets going forwards. We are currently experiencing a second Covid-19 lockdown but it is hoped that the toilets will be able to re-open shortly, subject of course to any ongoing restrictions.

The Council would like to thank Ron Chapman for looking after the toilets since they were built eight years ago. His care and attention have kept them looking pristine throughout this time and all his efforts have been very much appreciated.

Diane Smith Clerk to Felsted Parish Council

01371 823071 [clerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk) [www.felsted-pc.gov.uk](http://www.felsted-pc.gov.uk)

Keep up to date with all the council news – Visit the PC website and enter your email address to receive automatic notification by e-mail of all news articles as they are posted on the website.

## Gingerbread Men

### INGREDIENTS

350g/12oz plain flour, plus extra for rolling out  
1 tsp bicarbonate of soda  
2 tsp ground ginger  
1 tsp ground cinnamon  
125g/4½oz butter  
175g/6oz light soft brown sugar  
1 egg  
4 tbsp golden syrup

### TO DECORATE

Writing icing (optional)  
Chocolate chips/raisins (optional)

### METHOD

1. Sift together the flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger and cinnamon and pour into a bowl. Add the butter and rub in until the mix looks like breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar.
2. Lightly beat the egg and golden syrup together, add to breadcrumb mixture until it clumps together. Tip the dough out, knead briefly until smooth, wrap in cling film and leave to chill in the fridge for 15 minutes.
3. Preheat the oven to 350°F/160°C Fan/Gas 4. Line two baking trays with greaseproof paper.
4. Roll the dough out to a 0.5cm/¼" thickness on a lightly floured surface. Using cutters, cut out the gingerbread men shapes and place on the baking tray, leaving a gap between them. Add chocolate chip/raisin eyes and buttons, if using.
5. Bake for 12–15 minutes, or until lightly golden brown. Leave on the tray for 10 minutes and then move to a wire rack to finish cooling. When cooled decorate with writing icing and add further cake decorations.



# Janet's Recipes

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## Christmas Congress tarts (makes 12)

### INGREDIENTS

#### Pastry

125g/5oz plain flour  
25g/1oz icing sugar  
1 tsp cinnamon  
75g/3oz butter  
25g/1oz ground almonds

Preheat oven to:

190°C/375°F/Gas 5

#### Orange Sponge Filling

50g/2oz butter or margarine  
50g/2oz caster sugar  
75g/3oz self-raising flour  
1 egg  
Finely grated rind of 1 orange

#### Orange Icing

50g/2oz icing sugar  
1 dessert spoon orange juice

### METHOD

1. Rub together flour, icing sugar, cinnamon and butter until it resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add ground almonds and just enough water for the pastry to bind together. Chill for 30 minutes.
2. Roll out pastry on a lightly floured surface, cut out 12 fluted rounds and line greased patty tins with pastry. Put a teaspoon of mincemeat in each pastry case. \*
3. Whisk all the ingredients for the sponge filling together and put a teaspoonful in each case on top of the mincemeat.
4. Bake for 20-30 minutes or until golden brown and springy to touch.
5. Mix the icing sugar with the orange juice and pipe or drizzle a zigzag pattern over the tarts. Alternatively dust with icing sugar before serving.

\*For a more decadent tart buy mincemeat with added alcohol or add a couple of teaspoons of rum or brandy to mincemeat before use. Add a sprinkle of chopped nuts before adding the sponge mixture.



## Janet's Recipes

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### Quick and easy cranberry sauce

#### INGREDIENTS

100g light muscovado sugar  
100ml orange juice fresh or from a carton  
250g pack of fresh or frozen cranberries

#### METHOD

1. Tip sugar and orange juice into a pan, then bring to the boil.
2. Stir in cranberries, and simmer until tender but still holding their shape.
3. This will take about 5 mins if using frozen cranberries or 8-10 mins if using fresh.
4. The sauce will thicken as it cools. It will keep in the fridge for one week.
5. Bring to room temperature before serving.

#### To use up any leftovers...

Fold cranberry sauce through Greek yogurt and use it on Boxing Day with cold ham, turkey etc.





# London Daily News

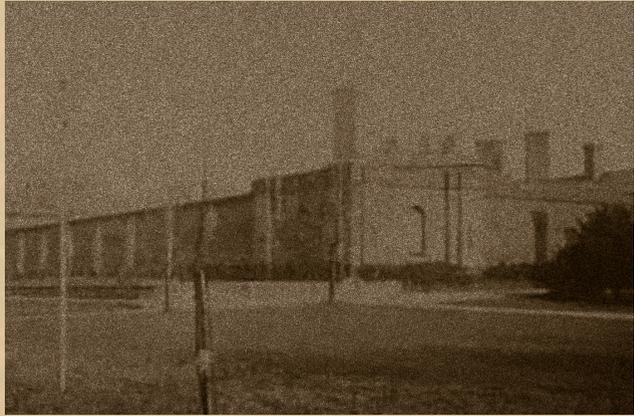


Wednesday 16 December 1846

## LIFE IN A WORKHOUSE

An inmate of the Dunmow & Felsted Union, named J. Hatfield, belonging to the parish of Felsted, was recently committed to Chelmsford gaol under the following novel circumstances:

Deeming the allowance of food in the Felsted workhouse insufficient, he wetted a piece of clay, and caused it to adhere to the under part of the weight scale in which the paupers' food was weighed; it was some time before it was found out, and when the discovery was made, a calculation was gone into by the union authorities, who made it appear that the rate-payers had been deprived of 4 1/4 lbs. of cheese and 8 1/4 loaves of bread: Moreover the skilly \*\* had been made better



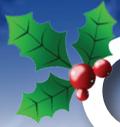
than usual, and the pea-soup more savoury by the unauthorised extra infusion of pepper. This, says the Essex Herald, was an enormity not to be tolerated, but there was difficulty in discovering the offending party. At length the difficulty was got over by the suggestions of an old pensioner employed in the establishment. This cunning Isaac recommended that the whole of the inmates should be put on short com-

mons by the way of food until they would tell who did it.

This ruse had the desired effect, and greatly did the old warrior chuckle at the success of his scheme, and poor Hatfield was soon under the escort of the police on his way to Chelmsford, to expiate his offence on the treadmill.

*\*\* Editor's note: A 'skilly' is a thin broth, typically made from oatmeal and water and flavoured with meat.*





# CHRISTMAS

Perhaps the first bird that this title brings to mind is the turkey! I heard recently that some turkeys are being fed a special diet so that they do not become bigger than a dinner for six people! Happy Christmas!

All of the photos here were taken in my garden over past years so watch out for any of these birds in Felsted at this time of the year.

The Robin, Blue Tit and Blackbird are easily and frequently seen at any time. However, although the Wren is usually around, it is not often seen as it is quite a secretive bird. I sometimes see it as it pops out of the shrubbery to inspect the flower pots on the patio, but it quickly disappears again.

The Fieldfare and Redwing are winter visitors. The Fieldfare is a noisy bird and is usually seen in flocks often around apple trees or in orchards, looking for windfalls.

The Redwing is normally in smaller numbers and sometimes joins up with the Fieldfares.

John Norton



Blackbird



Wren

# AS BIRDS



Fieldfare



Redwing



Blue Tit



Robin

# Felsted Charities

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## FELSTED UNITED CHARITIES

Felsted United Charities was set up many years ago. Its charitable objectives are for 'the benefit of persons resident in the parish of Felsted and who are over sixty years of age, OR who are suffering from any illness, disability or disablement or otherwise in special need'.

Should you wish to apply for a grant, forms will be available at Felsted Post Office from Tuesday 1st December.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS GIVING IN 2020

This year, celebrating Christmas with friends and family will probably be very different from previous times. Giving presents in person could be difficult.

One way around this problem is to use charity gift catalogues, many of which include presents that are sometimes called 'Virtual Gifts'.

You select an item(s) from the catalogue such as 'trees', 'tools' or 'training', 'care for children', 'care for animals' etc. and then send the necessary money to the charity who will send you a card describing the gift. This card can be given or posted to your friend or relative knowing that your gift will make a big difference to the life of someone in need.

Many charities have their catalogues online or will give a contact number for obtaining a paper copy.

Giving this way will help your chosen charity and might make gift giving a little easier this year.

Christine Middleton



# Village Sign

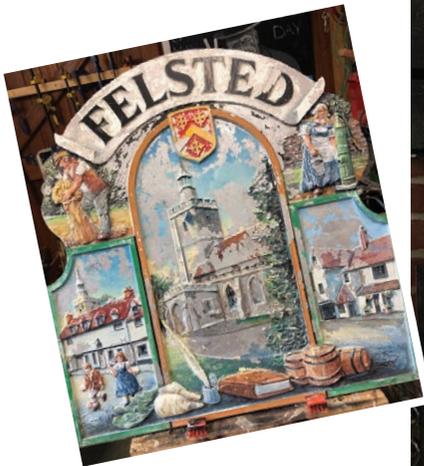
Hopefully, around the time this issue of *FOCUS* reaches you the Felsted Parish sign will be back in place, looking resplendent on a new oak stand. The sign had been in place for almost 20 years, the sun had taken its toll on the west facing side and, without the protection of Factor 40, the paint was badly peeling.

The east facing side was a little better but had badly faded. Over several weeks, I cleaned the sign and removed the flaking paint. I found some images of how the sign looked when first erected. It had a vibrancy and depth of colour that had long since been lost, so I set about bringing it back to life. It took a while! Both sides had to match.

It's only when you get the sign down and see the detail up close, you realise the effort that was put into encapsulating the parish's heritage; every image has a meaning. Sugar beets, the Domesday Book and iconic images of our listed buildings, all faithfully cast in metal.

I resisted the temptation to be mischievous, perhaps by giving the frolicking village children mobile phones or making the church clock digital. Instead I've just tried to be faithful to the original. I hope people like it.

Roy



Before and after



# Felsted Primary School



The classes at Felsted Primary School have been working hard since they came back in September. After half term, our Meet the Teacher meetings have gone ahead through video conferencing with parents. The parents were presented with information about the end of year expectations and had an opportunity to ask questions.

The children in Year 2 had the opportunity to take part in Learn to Ride in November. They spent all day out on their bikes and are now all riding with confidence, as you can see in the photos. They had a fantastic day and were very proud of themselves.



Planning has been going ahead for some Christmas events for the children to make it as special as we can. Under the new regimes this has presented some challenges! Staff have come up with some very creative ideas to work around this and make it possible for some nice events to take place. The Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 class are recording separate parts to put together and create a nativity performance that can be shared with parents. Children will still get their special moment of dressing up as a sheep or angel!

# Felsted Primary School



Our lovely PTFA have got a large Christmas tree which is placed on the playground with lights. Singing in the church as part of our usual carol concert is not possible this year but we are planning smaller groups to sing carols around the tree. This can be filmed and shared with parents. Father Christmas is unable to visit in person this year but he will be making some personalised video messages for each class and dropping off some gifts before we break up!

We are very proud of the can-do attitude of children and staff and have been so well supported by our parents.



Bryony Collins  
Co-Headteacher

## Felsted Nature Area

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As most of you will know by now the Nature Area is situated on Station Road and is owned by Felsted Parish Council. It is a very long-term project which is being overseen by a Working Group including both members of the Parish Council and local resident volunteers.

This Autumn it was time for the Working Group to get 'hands on!'. Several years ago the developers who previously owned the land planted hundreds of small trees/shrubs along the boundary of the Nature Area. The trees were supported by wooden stakes/plastic tree guards.

The point had arrived where, instead of helping the trees, these were now constraining their growth. The Working Group decided that they had to be removed. So one wet and windy Saturday a group of volunteers consisting of Parish Councillors/local volunteers met armed with an assortment of gardening tools.

We split into socially distanced groups and spread out around the Nature Area.



# Felsted Nature Area

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Several hours later literally hundreds of stakes/guards had been removed from grateful trees and shrubs. We were amazed at just how much we had managed to achieve. That was the good news! The bad news was that we then had to find a way to dispose of the stakes/guards. The wood was not a problem but we are an environmentally friendly bunch and we were most concerned by all the plastic tree guards. Skips and landfill were just not options for us. Over the next few days we made contact with a recycling company and obtained special recycling bags. We then all met up again for several more hours, to collect and pack up the plastic tree guards. Our numbers had grown as we were joined by more volunteers from Station Road. We were particularly thrilled to be joined by some youngsters; it was so lovely to have such a great community effort and we would like to thank everyone involved.

Another working party will be scheduled for the Spring. If you are interested in joining us please do let me know.

Heather Read - Assistant Clerk to Felsted Parish Council  
[asstclerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk](mailto:asstclerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk)



# DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' CORNER:

## DECEMBER 2020

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The new Local Plan is in its early stages. Why do we do we need one? Well, the Government says that UDC, as all District Councils, has to have one. It will help develop our district up until 2040. The new web page is [www.uttlesford.gov.uk/new-local-plan](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/new-local-plan) where news, documents and details of consultations will be hosted.

What is felt essential is that you - residents, businesses, landowners - are consulted effectively and early on in the process. This has started with the new Community Stakeholder Forum and Consultation. Members of the forum come from 20 sectors and interest groups ranging from education to ecology and climate change, youth and faith, to name but some. This forum along with the consultation that goes with it is there to open up the plan to comments from you, our residents, from the beginning.

[www.uttlesford.gov.uk/consultation-and-the-community-stakeholder-forum](http://www.uttlesford.gov.uk/consultation-and-the-community-stakeholder-forum)

There are nine mini consultations between now and the end of March which we sincerely hope many of you will take part in. The three before the end of the year are:

1. Where you live
2. Character & heritage
3. Climate change & biodiversity

<https://uttlesford.objective.co.uk/kse/event/35810>

We would be very happy to hear from you should there be anything we can be of help with. We wish you all a safe and healthy winter and hope that it might be possible for us all to celebrate Christmas in our homes in the company of family and friends.



**John Evans**



**Sandi Merifield**

[cllmerifield@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:cllmerifield@uttlesford.gov.uk) and [cllrevans@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:cllrevans@uttlesford.gov.uk)

Our very best wishes *Sandi Merifield and John Evans*

# THE TURKEY - A CHRISTMAS POEM

The turkey shot out of the oven  
and rocketed into the air,  
it knocked every plate off the table  
and partly demolished a chair.

It ricocheted into a corner  
and burst with a deafening boom,  
then splattered all over the kitchen,  
completely obscuring the room.

It stuck to the walls and the windows,  
it totally coated the floor,  
there was turkey attached to the ceiling,  
where there'd never been turkey before.

It blanketed every appliance,  
It smeared every saucer and bowl,  
there wasn't a way I could stop it,  
that turkey was out of control.

I scraped and scrubbed with displeasure,  
and thought with chagrin as I mopped,  
that I'd never again stuff a turkey  
with popcorn that hadn't been popped.

- D. JACK PRELUTSKY

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# Advertising in the



Felsted Focus is delivered to approximately 1100 properties in the parish of Felsted and available on the parish council's website.

It is published by Felsted Parish Council every month and they are pleased to support local businesses by offering advertising space in this magazine.

Advertising rates, apart from the trade directory, are on a monthly or discounted yearly basis and are all in full colour.

**TRADE DIRECTORY**

£60 per year for a simple black and white text entry. Space is on a first come first served basis.

**COLOUR ADVERTS**

Per month

¼ page £25, ½ page £50,

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Per year – 12 issues

¼ page £250, ½ page £500,

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We understand that times have been difficult for many businesses in the last few months and we will happily speak with you about payment schedules. Please contact us at [felstededitor@gmail.com](mailto:felstededitor@gmail.com).

# PUZZLE PAGE

## Word Search - Christmas

R	H	A	E	E	S	C	C	E	H	D	A	L	C
C	I	E	C	B	D	T	Y	L	L	O	H	U	O
L	R	A	E	A	R	U	L	A	D	U	B	U	S
T	R	G	U	U	A	O	E	K	E	S	E	F	P
T	P	M	M	B	C	T	N	E	C	T	T	I	S
I	R	S	A	L	R	A	S	A	O	F	A	R	L
T	E	T	S	E	S	T	E	S	R	I	R	E	O
L	O	H	T	S	A	H	I	F	A	G	B	W	R
Y	T	G	U	S	E	G	P	F	T	E	E	O	A
I	U	I	O	A	R	I	E	N	I	I	L	R	C
E	R	L	R	N	S	N	C	D	O	I	E	K	E
E	K	E	P	T	N	D	N	T	N	O	C	S	O
I	E	T	S	A	K	I	I	L	S	D	D	E	A

SANTA  
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LIGHTS  
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# DESIGN SOLUTIONS TO SUIT YOU...

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## Where is it?

---

Each month there will be a close-up photograph of somewhere in Felsted. See if you can find it before the next edition, where we will publish the answer!



Last issue – Answer: Bury Farm, Felsted.

# Gardening Tips



## ...FOR DECEMBER

1. Be prepared for sudden swings in temperature and protect tender plants with horticultural fleece, news paper or old blankets.
2. Dig over bare soils and then pile on well rotted manure. Then let the winter frosts and earth worms break up the clods.
3. Leave faded heads on the hydrangeas until spring as they will protect the swelling buds from frost.
4. Poinsettias are always very popular at Christmas but can be quite tricky to look after, so keep them away from draughts and allow them to dry out slightly between watering to make them last for the entire Christmas period and into January.

*'Twas the night before Christmas  
And all through the yard  
The branches were bare  
And the ground frozen hard.*

*The perennials were nestled  
All snug in their beds  
While visions of fertilizer  
Danced in their heads.*

Judy Mackay



# LOCAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

## BUSES

133 Network Colchester: 01206 877620  
16 Stephenson: 01376 503050  
other transport enquiries:  
Traveline: 0871 200 22 33 or  
[www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.travelinesoutheast.org.uk)

## CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

Braintree: 01376 324129  
Great Dunmow: 01799 618840

## COUNCILS

**Essex County Councillor:**  
Simon Walsh: 01371 810451  
**Uttlesford District Council:** 01799 510510  
**District Councillors:** - Sandi Merifield  
[cllmerifield@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:cllmerifield@uttlesford.gov.uk)  
John Evans: [cllrevans@uttlesford.gov.uk](mailto:cllrevans@uttlesford.gov.uk)

## Felsted Parish Council

Chairman: Graham Harvey  
Clerk: Diane Smith  
**Parish Office:** United Reformed Church Hall,  
Stebbing Road, CM6 3JD  
Office Tel: 01371 823071  
Office hours: Mondays: 10:00 - 12:30  
and Wednesdays: 16:00 - 18:30  
email: [clerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@felsted-pc.gov.uk)  
[www.felsted-pc.gov.uk](http://www.felsted-pc.gov.uk)

## DOCTORS

Drs Pitt, Tee & Stevens  
The Surgery, Braintree Rd.  
Tel: 01371 820410  
Out of hours: 01371 872121

## ELECTRICITY

and network emergencies:  
Tel: 0800 7838838, 0800 0280247  
and 08701 963090 (daytime)

## GAS

National Grid & Emergencies  
Tel: 0800 111999

## HOSPITALS

Broomfield including Casualty  
Tel: 01245 362000

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Kemi Badenoch  
[kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:kemi.badenoch.mp@parliament.uk)

## MEMORIAL HALL

Lettings - Sheila Kill  
Tel: 07926 377343  
[felstedmemhall@gmail.com](mailto:felstedmemhall@gmail.com)

**POLICE** for our parishes  
Essex Police Main Telephone Numbers:  
**Emergencies: 999**  
Non-Emergency Tel: 101

## POST OFFICE

Felsted  
Tel: 01371 820251  
[www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder)

## SCHOOLS

Felsted School:  
Tel: 01371 822600  
Felsted Preparatory School:  
Tel: 01371 822610  
Felsted Primary School:  
Tel: 01371 820215  
Flitch Green Academy:  
Tel: 01371 822330  
Ford End C of E Primary School:  
Tel: 01245 237209  
Email: [admin@fordend.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@fordend.essex.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.fordendschool.com](http://www.fordendschool.com)  
Helena Romanes School:  
Tel: 01371 872560  
Whipper-snappers Daycare Nursery  
and Kids Club  
Tel: 01371 821131

## SEWERAGE

Anglian Water - sewerage  
(not water, see below) Tel: 03457 145 145

## WATER

Affinity sewerage  
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# TRADE DIRECTORY

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Email: [stephsellers2000@gmail.com](mailto:stephsellers2000@gmail.com)  
Website [www.stephsellershomeopathy.co.uk](http://www.stephsellershomeopathy.co.uk)

## KARATE AND KICKBOXING CLASSES,

Felsted Memorial Hall,  
Thursdays from 5.30 pm.  
Please see [www.themartialartscentre.com](http://www.themartialartscentre.com)

## LAWN MOWER & GARDEN MACHINERY SALES, SERVICE & PARTS

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# TRADE DIRECTORY

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The closing date  
for content for  
February  
magazine is the  
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