

FELSTED Annual Report 2014

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1. FELSTED BUSINESS REPORTS:

General:

Felsted Surgery:

Two new examination beds were purchased from various charity groups including WI, Felsted United Charities and Felsted Book Sales.

Felsted Allotments:

Allotments of 60ft x 22ft, costing £27pa available for locals.

2. FELSTED CHARITY EVENTS:

Christian Aid & FELSTED Aide for Deprived Children Charity: 3 trips in 2014:

- 11th March: First trip to the Revival Centre in Ukraine,
- *July*: A consignment of donation was taken to the 'Revival' centre in Ukraine where there were 98 refugees.
- *Oct*: A regular trip with supplies as requested by Dr P to help with the growing numbers of refugees in Chernihiv; October there were over 2000 refugees. Felsted and Little Dunmow together raised £889.58 in Christian Aid Week.

Costa Foundation Charity:

- Children's dreams came true as they met Queen Elsa and her sister Anna from Disney's Frozen. The royal pair made a special appearance at Costa Coffee in Marks Farm Tesco on Saturday 22nd Nov from 12-2pm. The event was organised by Princess Appearances based in Felsted and Braintree for the Costa Foundation Charity to eradicate poverty in coffee-growing communities.

FELSTED Book Sales for Community and Charity: Organised by David Gregory, since 2009.

- *Sept*: Raised £350 for Felsted Aid for Ukraine and £50 towards the Church clock face fund.

FELSTED Holy Cross Charity of the Month: www.cpas.org.uk

- *Jan*: 'CPAS' (Church Pastoral Aid Society). Mission to enable churches to help every person hear and discover the good news of Jesus Christ.
- *Feb*: 'MFA' (Mission Aviation Fellowship). Planes ensuring urgent aid and Christian care reach those whose needs are greatest.
- *March*: 'Open Doors', supply bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services.
- *April*: 'CHESS', supports homeless people with emergency accommodation, food, clothing and advice.
- *May*: 'CMS' (Church Mission Society) an evangelistic mission working to see world transformed by the love of Jesus.
- *May*: Colin Taylor, Graham Kelly, Jon Tedwell, Michael Turner-Jones, Ed Kelly and James Mackin took part in the *London 2 Brighton Challenge* 100km within less than 30 hours. Funds contributed towards the Holy Cross church expansion. Raised: over £3,500.
- *June*: 'Tear Fund' believes that local church is a powerful force for transformation in communities living in every kind of poverty.

- *July/Aug:* 'Church Army' is a mission-focused community of people who are transforming lives and communities through the work of evangelists, staff and supporters.
- *Sept:* 'Samaritans Purse' (UK & Ireland) is often one of the first agencies to respond with mobilised Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) providing assistance, establishing disease prevention protocols and providing the basic of food, clean water, shelter and sanitation.
- *Oct:* 'Bible Society' encourages the 'wider circulation and use of the scriptures' since 1804.
- *Nov:* 'Daylight' is a Christian charity to support prisoners during their prison sentence providing practical post-release support to ex-offenders as they readjust to life on the outside in order to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.
- *Dec:* 'Send a Cow' work hand in hand with families in Africa.

FELSTED UNITED CHARITIES: Social Car Services

- As part of Uttlesford Care Network, Felsted social car services have been running for almost a year where volunteer drivers helped around 45 people to get to hospital or doctor's appointments on time. They have also helped deliver prescriptions.
- Raised funds for a Defibrillator held in Linsells shop for any emergency use.

LULLABY TRUST:

- *July:* Michelle Reeves ran at Felsted 10k race to raise money to support families affected by sudden infant death.

MacMILLAN CANCER SUPORT ChHARITY: Venue, Abbeyfield Residential Home

- Aug: Macmillan coffee mornings raised £320.
- 6th Sept from 2-5, held a 'Felsted Summer Tea Party'
- 24th Sept: Macmillan coffee mornings

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD (Samaritans Purse): OCC at URC

- 9th Oct: An annual packing day for OCC at URC Hall from 10-12:30, where

SEND A COW: Raffle, Bring and Buy and Greeting cards

- Coffee morning held on 12th June at Causeway End Road from 10:30-12 noon.

3. FELSTED COMMUNITY CLUBS:

FELSTED AMATEUR THEATRICAL GROUP: Memorial Hall Panto

- Each year in January for 3 days a pantomime is performed to raise funds for the Memorial Hall. 2014 'Grave Yard Smash'

FELSTED CAMPANOLOGY (BELL RINGERS): Felsted Holy Cross Church Tower

- *Every Monday from 7:30-9pm.* Tower Captain, David Learmonth. Ringers are involved in Sunday services, weddings, Quarter Peals & village events.
- January, Claude Wallis was elected as a member of the 'Essex Association of Change Ringers' at the Annual District Meeting. Lukas and Jonathan Wallis were also elected towards the end of 2014.
- 6th May, rang QP of Grandsire Triples for the visit of HM Queen Elizabeth II and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh
- 24th May rang 1,564 changes Felsted 450th because 1564 was the year that Felsted School was founded.
- 7th July, rang QP of St Clements College Bob for the 3rd stage of Tour de France
- 4th Aug, QP for the Centenary of the start of WWI

FELSTED CHORAL SOCIETY: Felsted School, rehearsals 7:30pm

- 23rd Jan: Held an opening rehearsal for Mendelssohn Elijah
- 8th June: End of season concert and buffet
- 25th June: 'Wimples to Wellingtons: a history of dress and fashion' by Claire Walsh 2pm at Great Saling Millennium village hall.
- 27th Aug: 'president's Event'
- 11th Sept: Rehearsal with Christopher Weston as accompanist.
- 30th Nov: *Performing Bach and Caldera in the Lord Riche Hall.*

FELSTED COFFEE MORNINGS:

- *Monthly:* Holy Cross Church, first Saturday of every month, 10-12.
- *Monthly:* Bings Hall 2nd Thursday of every month, 10:30-11:30.
- *Monthly:* Abbeyfield House: Last Wednesday of every month, 10:30-11:30.

FELSTED DECORATIVE & FINE ARTS SOCIETY: *Great Sailing Millennium Village Hall.*

- *29th Jan:* 'Sorolla – Painter of Sunlight' by Gail Turner, from 2pm at
- *26th Feb:* 'Art for an Afterlife; Tomb Scenes and Funerary Goods' by Lucia Gahlin.
- *26th March:* 'Harems, Hooklahs, Odalisques and Ottamans, a passion for the oriental in 18th and 19th century art' by Geri Parlby.'
- *30th April:* 'Thomas Gainsborough' by Mark Bills.
- *28th May:* 'Shadowy Figures' influences of Japan on British garden design by Jill Ragget, 2pm.
- *Sept:* Three Artists of the First WWI" by Juliet Heslewood 2pm.
- *29th Oct:* 'A, little revolution': Eric Gill Jacob Epstein and the revival of the Romanesque tradition of carving in stone' by Madeline Gould.

FELSTED FRIENDSHIP CLUB: *Monthly, 3rd Friday of each month 2:15-4:15pm, Memorial Hall*

- *17th Jan:* Meeting with updates about forthcoming events and a talk by Alice McLaren on cookery demonstration and tips.
- *21st Feb:* Veronica Chopping held club's meeting.
- *1st March:* Bottle Tombola stall at the Felsted Farmers Market to boost funds.
- *21st March:* Veronica Chopping welcomed new members in the clubs meeting. Kitty Drury organised a slide show 'Coffee production in Central America.'
- *April:* Meeting Veronica Chopping was voted as Chairperson followed by guest speaker Richard Sicott who talked about his trekking experiences from Vietnam to Venezuela to raise money for the charity SCOPE.
- *25th May:* Joined the village in celebrating 450 years of Felsted School by running a Golf Game and a Chocolate Tombola stall.
- *18th June:* Hal-day outing to the van Hage Garden Centre a Ware with cream tea.
- *18th July:* Jubilee Tea Party celebrating 60 years of the club.
- *14th Aug:* A day trip to Bury St Edmunds with lunch.
- *Oct:* Veronica Chopping reminded members about future events including Christmas Coffee Morning.
- *1st Nov:* Bring and Buy Sale £650 was raised towards the Christmas Lunch for club members.

FELSTED Garden Club: *Monthly meetings, URC Hall, 8pm.*

- *16th Jan:* First meeting followed by a talk from Jill Raggett on 'Brazilian Garden Design - Burle Marx Transformation.'
- *20th Feb:* Suffolk based garden designer, lecturer and writer Hilary Thomas gave a talk on 'Herbaceous Plants and Grasses for Seasonal Excitement and Colour.'
- *20th March:* Speaker and Chairman John Walker talked about 'The Answer Lies in the Soil.'
- *18th April:* Speakers Pauline and Gerald Greenway talked about 'Priorswood Clematis Nursery.'
- *24th May:* Spring plant sale. Speaking tour of 'Beeleigh Abbey Gardens' by Chris Cook, Head Gardener,
- *19th June:* Visit to 'Wickets' garden at Langley Upper Green from 7pm with hot teas and cake.
- *18th Sept:* Club fuchsias judged event.
- *16th Oct:* AGM, John Hunt discussed the clubs involvement with the School's 450th celebration.
- *20th Nov:* 'The Gardens of Gertrude Jekyll & Lutyens' by Sue Robinson.
- *27th Nov:* Autumn supper.

FELSTED HOLY CROSS CHURCH: *Coffee Chat Groups*

- **LITTLE DOVES Crèche:** Sundays at 10:45 for children aged 0-5. **JUNIOR CHURCH:** During the 11:00am Service for children aged 5-11, each week except the fourth Sunday of each month.
- Two groups meet up once a month for coffee and biscuits and catch up with any issues as well as have a Christian discussion:
 - **ROCK SOLID:** Weekly Club for 10:30 at the Vicarage, aimed for 11-14 years to discuss our world and life, sing and explore the bible as well as a breakfast and waffles to eat.
 - **YPC:** Club aimed for 14-18 years to discuss friendship, Christian Faith and exploring 'who we are' as well as refreshments.
- **FAMILY COFFEE MORNINGS:** For parents, grandparents & carers and their preschool children from 10am - -12pm on 1^{0th} and 24th January and 7th and 28th February

- **WIZZ KIDS IN WINTER:** *During school holidays www.felstedchurch.org.uk*
 - Run by Holy Cross Church for school age children in reception to year 6. Mondays from 1-4pm, at Felsted Primary School.
- **WIZZ KIDS IN SUMMER:** *During school holidays www.felstedchurch.org.uk*
 - Run by Holy Cross Church for school age children in reception to year 6. Mondays from 1-4pm, at Felsted Primary School.
 - 13th – 16th August 9:45 – 12:15pm and Sunday 18th August at 11am.
 - Holiday club for reception age to year 6 children ran by Felsted Church.

FELSTED LADIES AT THE CHEQUERS: 8pm

- 20th Jan: Quiz night hosted by Jenny Nichols.
- 17th March: Charlie Pitcher Felsted's very own Record Breaking Atlantic Oarsman talked about his adventure.
- 19th May: Talk about specialists treating children with autistic disorder as well as speech impediments.
- 21st July: Speaker Carol Mackril talked about 'Life in Botswana.'

FELSTED MEMORIAL HALL:

Regular Hirers:

Adult Dancing Classes. Heather Bury 01254 475574
Ninjutsu (self defence) classes. David Riches. 07712 758784
Felsted Friendship Club. Veronica Chopping 01371 820965
Women's Institute. Margaret Smith 01371 822092
Children's Dancing Classes. Margaret Cave. 01376 331647
Pantomime Group. Hazel Fox 01371 820108
Brownies. Jo Mackin 01245 361262
ZUMBA. Samantha Dyer 07772159808
Saturday's Farmers Market starting in March 2104
January annual Panto organised by FMH Committee

- Feb: Meeting discussion for jobs to do over the summer included good clean up to preparation for 450th anniversary of Felsted School.
- Feb 15th: Brownies return to Memorial Hall on Monday evenings. For girls aged between 7-10 re-grouped after nine years. Eighteen girls turned up and sung songs and collected a badge.
- 25th March: AGM meeting.
- April: Refurbishment of the War Memorial to mark 100th Anniversary of the start of WWI
- 7th July: 'Greatest Cycle Race on Earth – Tour de France'

FELSTED ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB:

- 9th Feb: Annual Poppy Appeal.
- 9th May: 58 men (12 teams of 4) took part in 6 rounds of pub games, including snooker, darts, dominoes and jenga as well as some obscure games. The games followed by ex-royal marine captain Tom Simpson talk about how his faith was brought into sharp focus while at Afghanistan.
- June: The start of the Poppy Appeal
- 25th Oct: Quiz night in aid of the poppy appeal
- 29th Oct: Poppy Whist Drive
- 22nd Nov: Poppy Dance

FELSTED ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION CLUB:

- 2nd June: Meeting followed by a talk on Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal' by Trish Conder
- 14th June: Graham and Matt World Cup disco 8:30pm followed by England v Italy game kick-off at 11pm
- Sept: Harvest supper and auction of produce
- Oct: AGM
- Nov: 'My rowing adventure' by Charlie Pitcher
- Dec: Christmas event.

FELSTED TODDLER GROUP: Children 0-8yrs, URC Hall.

- Felsted Toddler group opens Thursday & Friday, 9:30-11:00. The group also holds twice a year 'nearly new sale' at Foakes Hall, where money raised supports the running of the playgroup & to fund new toys & events for local families.
- 12th Oct: Foakes Hall, Great Dunmow 10:30-12pm.

FELSTED HEALTH WALKS: *Monday Mornings, 10:30-11:30.*

- Uttlesford DC re-started its free 'Health Walks' starting from Linsells car park.

FELSTED WEA: *10 weeks courses.*

- *13th Jan:* Political Philosophy by Ian Pirie from 13th January at 7:45pm at URC
- *16th Jan:* Documentary Film by Laurence Staig at British Legion from 10am.
- *22nd March:* 'Empire by Accident, the origins of the British Empire' by Roger Cooke.
- *12th April:* 'Winifred Nicholson, Painter and Colourist' by Paula Armstrong.
- *22nd Sept:* 'The Mediterranean Classical World' by Ed De Maunsell.
- *25th Sept:* 'Plant Hunters' by Andrew Sankey
- *9th Oct:* 'The hunt for Hermann & GI Brides' by Ian Maclachlan.

FELSTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CLUB: *2nd Wednesday of each month, Memorial Hall, 7:45pm*

- *8th Jan:* Meeting at Memorial Hall followed by a talk of 'Felsted Aid for Deprived Children' by Pauline Craven.
- *12th Feb:* Auction night.
- *12th March:* 'Travels with the Kitchen Sink' by Mr Terry Taber
- *9th April:* Annual meeting and Oil Painting Technique by Bob Ross
- *14th May:* 'Putting Shiva to Bed' by Kitty Drury
- *11th June:* 'History of Saffron Walden' by Linda Ketteridge
- *9th July:* 'Couture Millinery' by Mrs C. Wedlon
- *10th Sept:* Introduction to the Ukele by Robin Jennings.
- *13th Sept:* 'Photographic Day' – lesson how to use the camera other than auto.
- *8th Oct:* 'Coastal Wildlife' by Barry K Wright
- *12th Nov:* It's a Doc's Life – early General Practice by Richard Nunn.
- *10th Dec:* 'The Art of Magic' by Paul Clancy.

4. FELSTED CRIME REPORT:

FEBRUARY:

- Security Guard from Felsted School noticed the front door of the hall was wide open in the early hours and the police came to check. Nothing was taken or broken.

JUNE:

- Two attempted breakings and one actual breaking took place at Hollow Road. On 18th June an unoccupied bungalow was covered in obscene graffiti after youths had a party. Police were informed.

5. FELSTED OBITUARY:

APRIL:

- BARRY JOHN PACKER, of Felsted, formerly Braintree, passed away at Fairleigh Hospice on 9th April 2014, aged 65 years.
- VICTORIA ANNIE LOUISE HAMMOND, passed away on the 10th April aged 88 years.

JULY:

- BRIAN LAUDRUM, of Felsted, formerly Braintree, passed away on 10th July aged 73 years.
- RONALD ARTHUR WILLIAM HARVEY, of Felsted, passed away on 22nd July aged 89 years.

AUGUST:

- ALICE BUNN, passed away peacefully on 3rd August aged 87 years.

6. FELSTED OTHER REPORTING MATTERS:

February:

- 27th February: Above the **Observer** patch the Aurora Borealis, more commonly known as the Northern Lights, was snapped in Felsted shortly before 10pm. The photographer was village resident Wendy Clark. She said that in order to see the lights, people needed to be in a location with no streetlights and a clear horizon.



- *Dr Ian Frank Collard* took up the appointment of her '*Majesty's Ambassador to Panama.*' Ian lived with his parents at Rumbles, Braintree Road, for a number of years and was a pupil at King Edward VI Grammar School in Chelmsford before continuing his studies at Cambridge University. He joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 2002. When living in Felsted Ian and his brother Bob were members of the Pathfinders at Holy Cross Church.
- Two Defibrillator machines installed at Doctor's Surgery during opening hours and Linsells Shop during day.

May:

- John Drury published his latest book '*Bygone Felsted*'. A 99 page book of over 120 old postcards and photographs of Felsted covering a period of over 100 years
- 24th May: Felsted 450th – A Celebration of Felsted through the Ages from Church Bells to a historical pageant through the village from 12noon.

July:

- 7th July Tour de France, stage 3, in Felsted, between 07:30 – 16:00 route was closed for traffic. Parish Council agreed to provide a big screen in the village centre, parking spaces for 2000 visitors, 200 volunteers on the day to marshal car parks, act as guides and serve food and drink and stall events throughout the day,

October:

- GRACE RUSSELL (formerly Kemp of Felsted) celebrated her 100th on 20th October, living at Lake Worth, Florida.

November:

- 3rd Nov workmen started renovation on the Felsted Memorial Cross.
- 9th November people turned up to watch the act of remembrance and wreath laying at the War Memorial, with Felsted School's combined cadet force making up the Guard of honour, followed by a procession to the Holy Cross Church for the Service of Remembrance.

December:

- A child was rushed to hospital after he collapsed. Essex Air Ambulance flew near to the Memorial Hall on Sunday 21st at 3:15pm and taken to Broomfield Hospital.

7. FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL:

January: New Community Hall, Holy Cross Church

- Felsted Parish Council and District Councillors supported planning application and finances for the new community hall extended to the Holy Cross Church. A comprehensive survey of 900 households in Felsted received 83% of the responses strongly supported the need for a modern / well equipped community facility. In February a survey activity took place and building works commenced in April. After 8 years of planning and fund raising, the start of building works took place on 19th September.

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FEBRUARY:

- 2014 marked the 100th Anniversary of the start of WWI where FPC felt that it was an appropriate time to arrange for the War Memorial to be refurbished.

20th FEBRUARY: Publication of the Felsted Parish Plan

- The final Parish Plan document was produced and adopted by the Parish Council. The Plan reflects the views expressed by villagers in the survey, which was undertaken at the beginning of last year, and in the subsequent Exhibition. The Council intended to carry forward all the recommendations in the coming months of 2014.

FELSTED POLICE SURGERIES: *Monthly Beat Surgery held in Linsells Stores*

Following discussions between the Police and the Parish Council, it has been agreed that a monthly Beat Surgery will once more be held in Felsted. A local officer will be available in Linsell Stores (Station Road, Felsted CM6 3DG) on the following dates:

- Thursday 27th February, 10-11am
 - Monday 31st March, 6–7pm
 - Thursday 24th April, 10-11am
 - Thursday 22nd May, 6–7pm
 - Tuesday 24th June, 10-11am
 - Thursday 24th July, 6–7pm

13th MARCH: Neighbourhood Plan Meeting, 7:30pm, URC Hall

- Having produced the Parish Plan the next step was for the Neighbourhood Plan, being a formal document ready for consultation by the UDC to make decisions on planning matters and gives the opportunity for the views of residents to be taken into account

November:

- Parish Council and local residents have objected the application for a 24-hour licence entertainment licence to the concern in neighbouring villages for Great Leighs Estates Ltd which runs Chelmsford City Racecourse in Great Leighs

8. FELSTED SCHOOLS: FELSTED SCHOOL

EVENTS:

February:

- Two professional musicians from the grand Union Orchestra spent Sunday morning with young musicians from the Essex Youth Percussion School who meets once a month at Felsted School.
- 4th February:** 'Searching for the Real Richard III' free event for students and local residents by Dr John Ashdown-Hill, author and historian.
- 16th February:** Felsted School's 450th anniversary celebrations. Every Year 9 pupil contributed at least one piece to the collaborative art project, and the result of their very own mural. The mural is of the main façade of Felsted, School House



The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh took part of Felsted School's 450th anniversary celebrations. They unveiled two commemorative plaques – one for the 450th anniversary and the other to mark the rebuilding of the co-educational independent's Follyfield House, which was destroyed by fire in 2012. In the summer of 1964, the Queen Mother had visited the school when it celebrated its quadricentenary.

Her Majesty and Prince Philip arrived by car at around 12.35pm having attended a service at Chelmsford Cathedral as part of the centenary celebrations of Chelmsford Diocese. They were greeted by the school's headmaster, Dr Michael Walker, head of the preparatory school Jenny Burrett, chair of governors John Davies OBE, Uttlesford District Council chairman Cllr Eric Hicks, head boy Samuel Seacombe and head girl Lydia Carrington. The party then headed into the school for a four-course lunch, which included smoked salmon and asparagus terrine, pheasant smitane (though this surely could not be fresh pheasant as the season for shooting pheasant ended in February!) and spiced pears poached in red wine. Head girl Lydia sat next to the Duke during the meal and compared experiences of boarding school life and talked about the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. The Queen and Duke then made their way into Lord Riche Hall – which was opened by the Queen's daughter, Princess Anne, in 1989 – for a special assembly.

Mr Davies gave a welcome speech before Dr Walker addressed the hall, where students were also gathered. The commemorative plaques were then unveiled, followed by the formal presentation of gifts to the royal couple including a portable boot scraper made and designed by Mr Mick Pitts, Head of Technology and Design with his fellow students and presented by Head boy Samuel. The Queen's Mother in 1964 received a portable boot scraper, which was originally suggested by Graeme Hall (editor of *Everywoman* in 1962) who past away in April 12th 2013. The royal visitors left the school grounds in a helicopter amid cheers and waves from pupils, staff and the crowds who had gathered outside the hall.

May:

- 10th May:** Open morning day.
- 24th May** was Felsted 450th Pageant Day celebrating 450 years of shared history with the school and village. Around 2500 current pupils and staff, community, parents, former pupils and staff celebrated the school's 450th anniversary at St Pauls Cathedral in the morning. Later in the afternoon 'Felsted 450 – A Celebration of Felsted through the Ages' event opened to the public at Felsted School.

19-22nd **November:** Hunt Theatre. School presents 'Oh What a Lovely War.'

5th December: Grignon Hall

- BBC Radio 4 'Any Questions?' 400 Free tickets were offered to Felsted pupils & the public. Hosted by **Jonathan Dimbleby**, panel of speakers were **Rachel Reeves** (*British economist & labour Party politician*), **Mark Serwotka** (*Gen Sec of the Public & Commercial Services Union, the trade union for British civil servants*), **Eric Pickles** (*Conservative Party politician & Sec of State for Communities & Local Government*) & **Mark Littlewood** (*Director General of the Institute of Economic Affairs*)

GENERAL:

July:

- Another good year for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. The highlight was the incredible 41 points achieved by Freddie Bouttell, which exceeded his offer from Oxford and represents an A-Level equivalent of A*, A*, A, although achieved in six subjects rather than the traditional three. The overall average of students achieving the diploma was 33.33, with the latest data analysis suggesting that 33 is the equivalent of AAB. Callum Glover, Chris Kaindl and Max Limburg achieved 39 points and Anna Middendorf 38. Callum has achieved his offer to study Law at Nottingham and Chris to study Business and Management at Exeter.

SPORTS:

January:

- U13 girl's hockey team came home with a bronze medal at the hockey finals in Queenswood School in Herts at the Independent Assoc of Prep Schools (IAPS) national finals.

February:

- Felsted U14s and U16s boys Hockey team won triumphantly Essex champions. Olympic Bronze medallist Chloe Rogers linked with the blue Hornets Felsted Hockey Club showed young players her London 2012 bronze medal and provided some coaching.

April:

- European Le Mans Series debutant 23-year-old Michael Lyons made an impressive impact during the opening round of the season at Silverstone. He challenged for GTE Class podium glory along with AF Corse teammates Marco Cioci and Piergiuseppe Perazzini and delivered an outstanding first stint in the four-hour endurance race. He hoisted his Ferrari 458 Italia into the lead of the GTE Class and to the cusp of the overall top 10 but the trio had to ultimately settle for sixth in class when a lengthy Safety Car period did not play to their favour. Scything his way through the order during the first few laps, the racer made an immediate impression and by the fourth tour he had worked his way into the lead of GTE and also the overall top 12. Consolidating his lead, despite the performance of his Michelin tyres dropping away towards the end of his stint, Lyons then pitted for the first of the driver changes at the one-hour mark.

July: Ferrari's Lyon Roars

- Michael Lyons made a welcome return to the LMGTE points at the Red Bull Ring in Austria with a top five finish in round three of the European Le Mans Series, partnering AF Corse team-mates Marco Cioci and Piergiuseppe Perazzini.
- Nancy Hebron, age 14, was selected for the England Women's Cricket U15 Development Programme to train with the U15 Winter Training Squad.

November:

- Hockey player Alex Went was selected for the National Age Group Academy Squad in U16s. Female 14-year-old Weeley Heath is the only yr10 and one of 7 U15s in the country to be selected in U16s Squad representing Essex.
- Braintree Table Tennis League Handicap Cup, Division 3, Felsted RBL Team overcame a team from a division above. They came from 4-3 down to win 5-4.

December:

- Braintree Table Tennis League Handicap Cup, Felsted's RBL B team came second-place over Rayne with an 8-2 win. Felsted's C team did not follow suit and went down 8-2 to Notley F. In division 3, leades Rayne G had little difficulty with Felsted C team.
- James Perkins was selected to represent England in the Malta Open Karate International Championship in March 2015. He is a member of Braintree Shotokan Karate Club and was a 2013 European Championship quarter-finalist.

9. FELSTED SCHOOLS: FELSTED PREPARATORY SCHOOL

EVENTS:

February:

- Four male pupils earned a place at the National Inter-School Quiz Championships finals. They won the heat with flying colours, having taken the lead immediately.

May:

- Blue Hornets Felsted Hockey Club teams qualified for the regional stage tournament. Both U10 & U12s girls' teams' retained Essex County Championship title and the U10 & U12 boys came runners up.

- Doctor Faustus performance from 2-3rd May at The Ross Hall, Felsted Prep School.

June:

5th June 2014

- A parade and pageant was held to mark 450th anniversary of Richard Lord Riche setting up the Almshouses and founding Felsted School, both still thriving today. Youngsters dressed up to represent a decade from 1564–2014, and marched through Felsted displaying the significant events that happened during those years. Alongside informative and fun history lessons, visitors to the pageant – organised by Felsted villagers and supported by Felsted School – also enjoyed a vintage cricket match, historical games, traditional races, dancing, pantomime, entertainment by jesters, jugglers and lots of merriment. The building of a Tudor House was another highlight. The community day was rounded off with a solo acoustic concert by resident, music legend Nik Kershaw.

Summer Holiday Camp:

- School played hosted for a week a drama camp led by Mr Mark Alder, year 3 teacher where actors rehearsed and performed the world premiere of 'Minecraft the Musical'.

10. FELSTED SCHOOLS: FELSTED PRIMARY

EVENTS:

- *February:* Pupils took part with 19 other primary schools a talented musician workshop in Saffron Walden. At the end of the session the children performed 3 orchestral pieces they had learned – variations on a theme of Purcell, Pirates of the Caribbean and the James Bond theme – in a concert for their families.

SPORTS:

- *December:* Rugby tag team were victorious at the Dunmow Family competition where they played 7 games in a pool of 8 primary schools, winning all their games.
- The winning teams in the years seven and eight race in the boys' and girls' categories at Cut Hedge School's Cross-Country competition were Felsted Primary.

11. FELSTED SPORTING NEWS:

6th February: Flooding

- Emergency plans overnight rain has caused flooding in local areas including Great Dunmow and Felsted. Social media users have been tweeting about areas affected. Gareth Joice warned road users: "There is flooding on top of Pound Hill, Little Dunmow. Felsted & Flitch Green drivers are aware."

May: Running

- Grange farm runner, Alistair Brown, broke the 3-hour barrier in the Halstead and Essex 26.2 mile marathon. He finished 12th in 2hours 59minutes and 55 seconds. More than 500 runners took part.

July: Running: Granger Farm and Dunmow Runners (GFDR)

- 246 competitors (includes members from GEDR runners) turned up for the 10km race event in Newmarket. Fastest for GEDR in 24th position was men's captain Dan Reynolds in 41mins 10secs. Natalie Herbert (48mins 14secs) the fastest GEDR's woman.
- *14th July:* 450 GEDR runners held its main summer event Essex Championship 10km triathlon that started with swimming at FELSTED Primary School followed by selected distances ranging from 100 yards to one mile along Flitch Way covering 5-10km between Felsted and Rayne. For the cycling there was a choice of 12-24 miles along Felsted lanes.

December: Darts and Dominoes Chequer A & B teams

- The Felsted darters just loved the home throw – Steve O'Neil and Peter Webb, who did a 12-dart leg in the first pairs, each fired a 180; and Barry Miles shot out from 150 in his defeat by Bull ace Peter Wiffen. Chequers A remain third place.

RESULTS:

Bird in Hand v St Anne's Castle, no result
Black Bull 6, Chequers B 9 (singles/pairs 2-5, mixed 0-1, women 0-1, dominoes 4-2)
Chequers A 9, Cricketers 6 (6-1, 0-1, 1-0, 2-4);
Compasses 5, Lt Waltham SC 10 (3-4, 0-1, 0-1, 2-4)
Globe 13, CCFC 2 (5-2, 1-0, 1-0, 6-0).