

# FELSTED Annual Report 2015

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## 1. FELSTED BUSINESS REPORTS:

### General:

#### Felsted Allotments:

Allotments of 60ft x 22ft, costing £27pa available for locals (no increase from last year).

#### January: New Editor for Interface

Kitty Drury, a member of the WI, volunteered as new editor for Interface monthly Parish magazine. Robert Stone stepped down to become a minister of the Church.

## 2. FELSTED CHARITY EVENTS:

### FELSTED Aide for Deprived Children Charity:

Three planned trips from 17<sup>th</sup> March provided in total 22 tons of humanitarian aid to the Centre for Rehabilitation of Disabled Children 'Revival' in Ukraine.

**FELSTED Book Sales for Community and Charity:** Previously *organised by David Gregory*, since 2009. This year it was organised by Liz Reed.

- 5<sup>th</sup> Sep: Raised £200.00. Bank account closed due to lack of interest and storage at Riverside Books and Pyes Farm were no longer available.

○

### FELSTED Holy Cross Charity of the Month:

- *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.
- *Mar:* 'Open Doors', *supply bibles, leadership training, literacy programmes, livelihood support and advocacy services.*
- *Apr:* '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.
- *Jun:* 'Tear Fund' believes that local church is a powerful force for transformation in communities living in every kind of poverty.
- *Jul/Aug:* 'Church Army' is a mission-focused community of people who are transforming lives and communities through the work of evangelists, staff and supporters.
- *Sep:* '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.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec: MelodyWise Holy Cross Church Choir raised money in aid of the RNI and Essex Air Ambulance on 11<sup>th</sup> December from 7:30pm.

**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.

**Macmillan CANCER SUPPORT CHARITY: Venue, Abbeyfield Residential Home**

- Sep: Macmillan coffee mornings raised £550.00.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Nov: Macmillan coffee mornings raised

**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.

- Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>: 'Grave Yard Smash' humorous horror panto at Memorial Hall.

**FELSTED CAFÉ CHURCH: URC, 11-12**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Mar: Discussion on 'Journey through life'
- 13<sup>th</sup> Mar: *Spring Social: games of HOY together with a raffle. 7pm.*

**FELSTED CAMPANOLOGY (BELL RINGERS): Felsted Holy Cross Church Tower.** In 2015 rang 57 Quarter Peals, the highest in North Essex. (7 Jan, 4 Feb, 7 Mar, 4 Apr, 5 May, 3 Jun, 3 Jul, 6 Aug, 3 Sep, 6 Oct, 5 Nov & 4 Dec 2015)

- Every Monday from 7:30-9pm. Tower Captain, David Learmonth. Ringers are involved in Sunday services, weddings, Quarter Peals & village events.
- Jan: 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. They also rang their first QPs.
- 6<sup>th</sup> May: Rang QP of Grandsire Triples for the visit of HM Queen Elizabeth II and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh
- 24<sup>th</sup> May: Rang 1,564 changes Felsted 450<sup>th</sup> because 1564 was the year that Felsted School was founded.
- 7<sup>th</sup> July: Rang QP of St Clements College Bob for the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of Tour de France
- 4<sup>th</sup> Aug: QP for the Centenary of the start of WWI

**FELSTED CHORAL SOCIETY & ORCHESTRA: Felsted School, rehearsals 7:30pm**

- 19<sup>th</sup> Apr: Early English Works in the school's Chapel at 7:30pm.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Jun: Rehearsals at the Holy Cross Church. End of term concert.
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov: *Event* - Dyson Agincourt, Puccini Messa di Gloria at Lord Riche Hall.

**FELSTED COFFEE MORNINGS:**

- *Monthly:* Holy Cross Church, first Sat. of every month, 10-12, starting 3<sup>rd</sup> January.
- *Monthly:* Holy Cross Church, Family Coffee mornings first and second Friday of every month, 10-12, starting 2nd January.
- *Monthly:* Bings Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month, 10:30-11:30, starting 8<sup>th</sup> January.
- *Monthly:* Abbeyfield House: Last Wednesday of every month, 10:30-11:30, from 28<sup>th</sup> January. Also a Macmillan coffee morning on 30<sup>th</sup> Sept from 10:30-11:30am.

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

- 28<sup>th</sup> Jan: Talk by Barbara Askew on 'Windsor: A Castle Restored: the fire of 1992 and the restoration.'
- 25<sup>th</sup> Feb: AGM meeting at 2:30 followed by a talk from Eric Ravilious on 'Designer: Wood Engravings, Ceramics & Lithography'
- 25<sup>th</sup> Mar: Talk on 'Gypsies, Tramps & Thieves - the representation of the working classes in art.'
- 29<sup>th</sup> Apr: 'Secret art & the passport' how to use it to fox the forger talk by Martin Lloyd.
- 24<sup>th</sup> Jun: 'In paynted pots is hidden the deadliest poison'- English delftware drug jars by Briony Hudson.
- 26<sup>th</sup> Aug: 'Fashion, Form and Function' a history of English Silver.
- Sep: Talk by Lucy Lewis about army life.
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nov: Bring and Buy Slae

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

- 16<sup>th</sup> Jan: Two new members from Abbeyfield joined the group. Hazel Fox, Chairman of Memorial Hall, gave a talk about 'Her Life as a Magistrate'
- 19<sup>th</sup> Feb: Talk by Brian Carline on 'Tripe and Trotters - growing up in the 40s & 50s.'
- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar: Members were invited to Riche Hall at Felsted School for afternoon tea & entertainment.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Mar: AGM Meeting
- 17<sup>th</sup> Apr: Ploughman's lunch & paid their respects to their Chairwomen Veronica Chopping, who passed away followed by a talk from Dicky Howett 'Out of the Box' about collecting radio and TV memorabilia.
- Early May: Members enjoyed an outing to Coton Orchard Garden Centre in Cambridge
- 21<sup>st</sup> May: Harry Brickwood gave a talk on 'Beautiful Gardens to Visit.'
- Jul: Outing to Papermill Lock in Great Baddow
- Early Aug: Tea at the Swann in Felsted.
- Oct: Rosemary Wheeler shared her 8 music pieces to take on her desert island, chose for her luxury item collection of hats and her book was 'Henry Cooper's Book on Boxing.'
- 14<sup>th</sup> Nov: Annual coffee morning from 10:30-12:30

**FELSTED GARDEN CLUB:** *Monthly meetings, URC Hall, 8pm.*

- 19<sup>th</sup> Mar: Speaker Tim Carter of Long House Plants talked about 'Plants of Seasonal Interests'
- 16<sup>th</sup> Apr: Speaker Thady Barrett talked about 'Vegetables for Small Gardens.'
- 24<sup>th</sup> May: Spring plant sale.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Jun: Visit to a Philippa Burrough's private Essex garden at Utling Wick Garden, Crouchman's Farm Rd.
- 17<sup>th</sup> Sep: Talk by Michael Warren on 'Scents of the garden.' Committee advertised for new committee members.
- 15<sup>th</sup> Oct: AGM, as no new members came forward the club announced that the club would cease by the end of November.
- 19<sup>th</sup> Nov: Talk by Margo Bishop on 'Gardens of Ireland.'
- 26<sup>th</sup> Nov: Autumn Supper evening

**FELSTED HOLY CROSS CHURCH:** *Coffee Chat Groups*

**Throughout the year a new community hall development took place.** Concrete had reached slab or ground level and restarted in February once final agreement for design was agreed. In April nine courses of bricks was up forming the plinth of the new building followed and enough height for the roof trusses. In May they decided to call the Hall 'Smylie Hall' in memory of Robin Smylie who raised funds and died last year. In June the doorway from the Church into the hall and the construction of the roof were added. By early September the installation of the moveable partitions and the fitting of the doors were completed after the roof and windows were tiled. Mid September second fix for the

electricians and plumbers, floors laid and decoration began inside and landscape works were on its way. The Smylie Hall opened on 11<sup>th</sup> October after 9 years of planning, fund raising and implementation.

- **SMYLIE HALL:**  
28<sup>th</sup> Nov: Pop Up Art sale, 10am-4:30.
- **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<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> January and 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February
- **WIZZ KIDS IN WINTER:** *During school holidays [www.felstedchurch.org.uk](http://www.felstedchurch.org.uk)*
  - Run by Holy Cross Church for school age children in reception to year 6. Starting from 19<sup>th</sup> February from 1-4pm, at Holy Cross Church.
- **WIZZ KIDS IN SUMMER:** *During school holidays [www.felstedchurch.org.uk](http://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.
  - 13<sup>th</sup> –16<sup>th</sup> August 9:45 – 12:15pm and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August at 11am.
  - Holiday club for reception age to year 6 children ran by Felsted Church.

**FELSTED HOLY CROSS CHOIR: Melodywise**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Apr: The choir from various ages and voice ranges presented 'The Cross of Christ' led by Bryony Rees
- 11<sup>th</sup> Dec: An evening of music to raise

**FELSTED LADIES AT THE CHEQUERS: 8pm**

- 16<sup>th</sup> Feb: First meeting held for 2015 followed by the speaker Jane Wyatt on 'Jane set up the Baobab School in Nairobi'
- 20<sup>th</sup> Apr: Speakers Richard and Judy Cecil.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Sep: Speaker Sue Morgan Essex local co-ordinator for 'Help for Heroes' event.

**FELSTED MEMORIAL HALL:**

**Regular Hirers:**

Adult Dancing Classes. Heather Bury 01254 475574  
Ninjutsu (self defence) classes. David Riches. 07712 758784  
Felsted Friendship Club. Alison Moore 01371 820734  
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

- 24<sup>th</sup> Mar: AGM Meeting.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr: Panto cast watched the DVD of the performance in the hall.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sep: New male caretaker – Chris, joined.

**FELSTED ROYAL BRITISH LEGION CLUB:**

- 9<sup>th</sup> Feb: Annual Poppy Appeal.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Mar: Quiz night and ploughman's supper, 7:30pm.
- June: The start of the Poppy Appeal
- 4<sup>th</sup> Oct: Poppy awards presentation at 2:30pm
- 25<sup>th</sup> Oct: Quiz night in aid of the poppy appeal
- 29<sup>th</sup> Oct: Poppy Whist Drive
- 8<sup>th</sup> Nov: 10:30am Wreath laying ceremony at Felsted War Memorial and followed by a remembrance service at the Holy Cross Church at 10:50am.
- 11<sup>th</sup> Nov: Traditional 2 minutes silence in the village at 11:00am
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov: Poppy Dance

**FELSTED ROYAL BRITISH LEGION WOMEN'S SECTION CLUB:**

- Feb: Talk by Robert Carsberg on 'Holiday in Canada' with slides. Members were asked to bring in an unusual item starting with the letter 'P' which was won by Shirley Harrington for bringing in a small Puppet.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar: Theme night 'Cornish Foods' talk by David and Pat Gilbey.
- 13<sup>th</sup> Apr: Theme night 'Decorated Eggs.'
- 11<sup>th</sup> May: The club's 69th Birthday Party with a 1940s style dinner. Also a comical talk 'From rags to riches' by Tracey Mackness of Giggly Pig Co.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Jun: High Street Shops in the 40s and 50s talk by Anita Marie Sackett.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Jul: A Garden Party in a member's garden Violet and Graham Kemp
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug: No meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> Sep: The Harvest Supper followed by an 'Auction of Produce'
- 5<sup>th</sup> Oct: AGM meeting.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov: Talk by Linda Scoles 'God Rest Ye Merry'
- 7<sup>th</sup> Dec: A Christmas event with a Ukulele Band.

**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.
- 28<sup>th</sup> Mar: Nearly New Sale at Foakes Hall, Great Dunmow 10:30-12pm.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Nov: Nearly New Sale at 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 UNITED REFORM CHURCH:**

- **Church Anniversary:** 14<sup>th</sup> June from 11am followed by lunch
- **Church Meetings:** 19<sup>th</sup> August at 2pm
- **Plants:** Watered the plants and cared for the trough near front door.
  - Jun: 7<sup>th</sup>: Vera Butcher, 14<sup>th</sup>: Brenda Hutton, 21<sup>st</sup>: June Mansfield & 28<sup>th</sup>: Diane Denny.
  - Jul: 5<sup>th</sup>: Carole Smith, 12<sup>th</sup>: Yvonne Jordan, 19<sup>th</sup>: Peg Swallow & 26<sup>th</sup>: Violet Kemp
- **Tea and Chat:** No meetings took place in the summer and resumed in autumn.
- **Women's Guild: from 2:30.**
  - May: 'VE Day Tea Party' ladies were entertained by Graham Kemp who played many tunes as a special tribute to those who lost their lives and fought in WWII.
  - Jun: 1, 8, 15 & 22<sup>nd</sup> Meetings

**FELSTED WEA:** 10 weeks courses.

- 5<sup>th</sup> Jan: Talk by Ian Pirie on 'Political Philosophy: The French Revolution to the Present.'
- 8<sup>th</sup> Jan: Talk by Laurence Staig on 'Introduction to film studies.'
- 18<sup>th</sup> Apr: One off talk - 'Disease in History: Plaque, pox, power and pestilence' talk by Roger Cook and assisted by Dr. David Walmsley.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Sep: '10 week course on 'British History since 1945' by Grace Halden

**FELSTED WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CLUB:** *2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at Memorial Hall from 7:30.*

- *Jan:* Meetings at 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays each month to exercise their voice and lungs at URC from 7:30 pm.
- *14<sup>th</sup> Jan:* Talking by Tim Sheppard on '*The Work the R.N.L.I. in Saving Lives at Sea.*'
- *Feb:* WI. members presented to the Felsted Aid Charity with a photographic collage of the parish of Felsted. A duplicate was displayed at URC Hall. Dr Jill Raggett spoke on '*The Gardens of Japan.*'
- *3<sup>rd</sup> Mar to 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov:* New workshops to make a new kneeler for the Communion Rail in The Riche, Holy Cross Church in the Smylie Hall.
- *11<sup>th</sup> Mar:* Speaker Tracey Mackness gave a talk on 'Turning my life around.'
- *8<sup>th</sup> April:* Annual meeting and members' stories.
- *13<sup>th</sup> Apr:* A talk on '*Decorative Eggs*' by Pat and David Gilbey, followed by a competition for unusual objects beginning with the letter 'Q'
- *May:* 'Paper in art: the versatility and beauty of nature' by Maggie Harling who gave her personal views on creating sculptures and pots with paper.
- *8<sup>th</sup> Jul:* Presentation by Charles Pitcher ' Across the Ocean in a rowing boat.'
- *July:* 'All-in-one' beekeeping presentation by Penny Learmonth
- *9<sup>th</sup> Sep:* Talk by Karen Adams, a contemporary artists, on 'Inspirations'
- *15<sup>th</sup> Sep:* Over 20 members attended a Fritch Group Celebration at the Foakes Hall in Great Dunmow, which had a theme of '50 Shade's of Blue.
- *3<sup>rd</sup> Oct:* Presentation of the new kneeler for the Communion Rail in The Riche, Holy Cross Church and a talk by Andy Bennett about views from space.
- *11<sup>th</sup> Nov:* Talk by Harry Brickwood 'Beautiful Gardens to Visit.
- *9<sup>th</sup> Dec:* Christmas party celebration.

#### **4. FELSTED CRIME & POLICE BEAT SURGERY DATES:**

##### **CRIME:**

##### **JANUARY:**

- A vandalised green Subaru Forester was removed from Leez Lane, Felsted and scraped.
- A shotgun was seized and two teenage boys from Dunmow were arrested when Essex Police executed 11 search warrants at a travellers' site in Felsted as a result of "community intelligence". In all, the simultaneous raids resulted in four males, two men and two teenagers, being arrested and a shotgun and air weapons seized.

##### **JUNE:**

- *11<sup>th</sup> Jun:* A Police investigated a suspicious fire at Sparlings Farm, in which 13,000 chickens died, appealed to the public for information about three men who had called at the farm a few days before the blaze. The barn, burned down in the early hours and all the birds and egg production equipment were destroyed.

##### **SEPTEMBER:**

- *24<sup>th</sup> Sep:* Homes had been the target of daytime burglars in Station Road where thieves got into a property through an insecure window, which they accessed from a slanting roof around 11am-12:30pm. They carried out a messy search and took items.

##### **POLICE BEAT SURGERY DATES: *Monthly Beat Surgery held in Linsells Stores***

A local new PSCO Kirsty Smith was available in Linsell Stores (Station Road, Felsted CM6 3DG) on the following dates:

- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 10-11am
- Tuesday 3rd February, 10-11am
- Tuesday 24th February, 10-11am
  - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 10-11am
  - Thursday 24th April, 10-11am
  - Thursday 22nd May, 6-7pm
  - Tuesday 24th June, 10-11am
  - Thursday 24th July, 6-7pm
- Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 10-11am
- Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, 10-11am

## **5 FELSTED OTHER REPORTING MATTERS:**

### **JANUARY:**

- *10<sup>th</sup> Jan:* Uttlesford District Council provided skips & refuse vehicles to enable residents to recycle their real Christmas trees & green waste. At Bannister Green 9-3pm.
- M11 slip road at Stortford was shut due to accidents on A120 as snow brought traffic problems to Herts and Essex. Felsted School tweeted that roads in the village were passable and traffic was moving well.
- Chris Riggall and Alan Hale both received their 'Community Achievement Award' from Uttlesford District Council.
- Clean up for Dog Pooh. Clean up announcement demand on dog owners

### **FEBRUARY:**

- Two Defibrillator machines installed at Doctor's Surgery during opening hours and Linsells Shop during day.
- Uttlesford Sir Alan Haselhurst, paid a visit to the Felstar Brewery at Crix Green, near Felsted as part of his campaign to retain his Parliamentary seat on Thursday, May 7. Felstar Brewery was originally a vineyard, but under its current owner, Franco Davanzo, it is as much a microbrewery as a wine producer, situated on a quiet country road on the very edge of Uttlesford. "It is definitely worth finding," said Sir Alan. "The Felstar Brewery is another example of the very many small enterprises which flourish in Uttlesford. Franco is an enthusiastic and knowledgeable host."

### **MARCH:**

- *1<sup>st</sup>:* The new opening of the Takeley and Little Canfield Cycling club known as TLC was launched with 12 cyclists in two groups went on either a 11mile circuit around the local countryside or a 34 mile ride out towards Felsted and back. Membership is free for the first year.
- Fallen soap star Danniella Westbrook a former Felsted resident and where her daughter Jodi attending Felsted Primary School, turned a Twitter gaffe into a stroke of good luck. The 41-year-old actress, best known for playing Sam Mitchell in EastEnders, who has had a well-documented battle with drug addiction, so when she followed Woodford's Lexus garage on the micro-blogging site, the company's response seemed like a dig about her former cocaine habit. The clumsily worded message said: "@westbrookdanni Thanks for the follow! Do you know a good dealer?" The mother of two retweeted and responded: "Excuse me ???" Once the firm realised its mistake, an apology was backed up with the use of a £21,000 Lexus for free for an entire year.

### **APRIL:**

- Local author 'Lawrence Dunn' from Chelmsford Road, Felsted published by Austin Macauley Publishers Ltd his new book entitled 'Images of the Great War,' A contribution of the Great War 1914-18 for £49.99.

### **MAY:**

- *9<sup>th</sup> May:* At URC Felsted Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group invited local residents to have their say over the development in the village for the next 20 years.
- Felstedian Lukas Wallis, student at Forest Hall School acted with other year 9 students as test pilots for Stansted Airport's new £500,000 Aerozone. The youngsters fastened their seatbelts and put the new interactive classroom and aviation education centre through its paces, ahead of its official opening in June. The project is the brainchild of Stansted's parent company, MAG (Manchester Airports Group), and has been designed to encourage children to consider a career in the aviation industry when they leave full-time education. The 59 Forest Hall Year 9 pupils tested a variety of activities while finding out how London's third-busiest airport works and exploring what airport life is all about. A particular focus of the centre will be to boost talent and to increase interest in STEM – science, technology, engineering and maths – subjects. Joanne Davies, Stansted Airport's education co-ordinator and a former librarian at Forest Hall, has prepared the centre for take-off.



- Three residents at Abbeyfield Residential Home, Norah Easton and May Bryant both 95 and Margaret Sibson 87, have helped knit a woollen blanket for the new Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana. Peter Thrift and Geoff Davis held the wool and between them they made 22 squares, which were sent off to Abbeyfield H.O. to be put together with other squares knitted by other Abbeyfield homes in the UK.
- 27<sup>th</sup> May: Felsted Church Tower clock frame fell to pieces during removal and was returned to its completely original condition on the 8<sup>th</sup> July after repairs to the tower crack and removal of the jackdaw's nest. Jonathan Wallis also replaced the bell cupola door. George Bellingham-Smith in charge of the tower clock maintenance and arranged funds, awareness and organised repairs. 15<sup>th</sup> July the clock was revealed over 40 people attended the start up of the Felsted Church Tower clock by David Dempsey, fellow tower keeper.

#### **JUNE:**

- Burst pipe repair works took longer than expected and Affinity was forced to deliver some 10,000 litres of bottled water to Memorial Hall in Felsted, for affected customers. The problem pipe was eventually fixed at 10.30pm, but supply issues lingered into Tuesday for Felsted residents.

#### **JULY:**

- Swarms of flying ants were reported in various villages included Felsted via social media.

#### **AUGUST:**

- **Glendale residential home care organised** 'Afternoon tea party,' BBQ and entertainment with Ray to raise money for residents activities. They raised £170.60.

#### **SEPTEMBER:**

- Author Martin Read, aged 59, from Felsted takes his readers on a journey of horror and humour in his debut book 'Flights of Fancy' published by Austin Macauley; a collection of short stories. Retiring from his career in the motor industry has given Martin more time to explore his artistic side, through building, design, sculpture and now writing.

#### **NOVEMBER:**

- 19<sup>th</sup> Nov: The Square, Harlow. an independent live music venue A Felstedian Lukas Wallis aged 14 represented his school band for Forest Hall School in Stansted in the Battle of the Bands competition. The singer won best singer.

#### **DECEMBER:**

- Bloor homes project plans to develop new 96-building property development between Felsted and Little Dunmow has been accepted to begin the process for January 2016.

## **6. FELSTED PARISH COUNCIL:**

### **JANUARY:**

- 9<sup>th</sup>: Right Honourable Sir Alan Haselhurst MP Surgeries, Gt Dunmow 6:30-7:15pm for all Felsted residents.
- The Parish council offered local residents to participate in the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for 25 local areas.
- Essex Police offered local community to set up an email / mobile phone messaging service for individuals.
- Affordable Housing within the village and Taylor Wimpey obtained planning permission for 25 houses at Watch House Green. 10 houses were offered as rental in perpetuity by a Housing Association for locals.

### **FEBRUARY:**

#### **20<sup>th</sup> Feb: Publication of the Felsted Parish Plan**

- The final Parish Plan document was produced.

### **MARCH:**

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Right Honourable Sir Alan Haselhurst MP Surgeries, Gt Dunmow 6:30-7:15pm for all Felsted residents.
- 13<sup>th</sup>: **Neighbourhood Plan Meeting, 7:30pm, URC Hall**
- Parish council adopted a new Neighbourhood Plan (NP) steering group for Felsted including 13 'Greens.' Roy Ramm was accepted as chairman. The views of residents will be considered within the next 18 months for a new Felsted look within the next 20 years.
- 20<sup>th</sup>: Felsted man Fergus Shanahan is one of four senior Sun journalists acquitted in a landmark trial over payments to public officials. John Kay, 71, the chief reporter, was cleared at the Old Bailey in London of plotting with a Ministry of Defence official, Bettina Jordan-Barber, over payments of £100,000 by the Sun for almost a decade of tips and assistance on army stories. After deliberating for 10 days, the 11 jurors cleared his co-defendants – the deputy editor Geoff Webster, 55, and the executive editor, Mr Shanahan, 60 – of the same charge. Webster was cleared of a second charge of paying an unknown serving soldier. The fourth journalist, royal editor Duncan Larcombe, was cleared of a separate charge of aiding and abetting John Hardy, a Sandhurst instructor and Gulf war veteran who was paid more than £23,000 for leaks about Prince Harry, Prince William and others who attended the military academy. Mr Shanahan's case was one of series to end in failure for the Crown Prosecution Services, but 10 other Sun journalists remain on trial or face court for similar charges. Mr Shanahan said some of the journalists would have been on bail for four years before they knew their fate.

### **APRIL:**

- 3 hours each month from April to set up 'Community Speedwatch' by volunteers in the village.

### **MAY:**

- 16/17<sup>th</sup>: Village Litter days. Volunteers helped to clean up and improve the village for the 2015 Best Kept Village Competition where judges visited in late May-June.

### **JUNE:**

- More flower tubs were supplied at Bannister Green and Oxney Villas as requested in the Parish Plan meeting.
- Notice was reported for drivers parking vehicles on the pavements particularly around Watch House green and Stebbing Road.

### **JULY:**

- 8<sup>th</sup>: Felsted won the RCCE Essex Village of the year. The trophy, certificate and a cheque for £500 were presented at the Rural Community Council of Essex AGM.

**7. FELSTED PARISH REGISTER: Funerals, Thanksgivings, Baptisms & Weddings**

**JANUARY:**

**26<sup>th</sup>: Funeral** - Elizabeth Hill

**FEBRUARY:**

**15<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Elsa Mary Knighley and Hugo James Charles Knighley

**15<sup>th</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Emmie Peart

**23<sup>rd</sup>: Funeral** - Esmé Marion McGee, a member of Felsted W.I.

**MARCH:**

**4<sup>th</sup>: Funeral** – John Owen

**27<sup>th</sup>: Funeral** – Edward William Sidney Coles

**APRIL:**

**14<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Elizabeth Jane Pryor

**29<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Veronica Frances Chopping, a member of the Friendship Club

**26<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Evan Corin Grant

**MAY:**

**1<sup>st</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Catherine Maud Hutt

**10<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Arbella Palmer

**17<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Samuel Oliver Edwards

**JUNE:**

**9<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Hilda Sharp

**9<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – David George Palmer

**13<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Riley Jack Parish

**14<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Frank James Webb

**20<sup>th</sup>: Weddings & Blessings** – Kristopher Robert Bickmore & Kimberley Jane Clarke

**28<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Buddy William Rotheron

**JULY:**

**18<sup>th</sup>: Weddings & Blessings** – Patrick William Ashby & Rohinin Rajendram

**19<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Poppy Louise Pikett

**19<sup>h</sup>: Thanksgiving & Baptism** – Lucy Howard Pikett

**SEPTEMBER:**

**12<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – John Allen

**25<sup>h</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Margaret Sibson

**26<sup>th</sup>: Weddings & Blessings** – Emily Jane Card & Benjamin Sinclair

**26<sup>th</sup>: Weddings & Blessings** – Lara Jayne Kennedy & Joe Alexander Smith

**28<sup>h</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Ronal Arthur Willis

**SEPTEMBER:**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Douglas Moore

**12<sup>th</sup>: Funeral &/or Burials** – Anthony Lacey

**NOVEMBER:**

**19<sup>th</sup>: Obit - Alastair Grierson Rickford** an English Master at Felsted School from 1980-2007 and School Historian who 2014 published his book in 2014 "Garde Ta Foy; the Riche Heritage of Felsted School, 1564-2014" died from a heart sudden and unexpected heart attack. A memorial service was held in Felsted School Chapel on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 11am.

## **8. FELSTED KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL (FKS)**

The school closed in July 2015. (1957-2015)

Miss Lipman's mother, Ida Lipman, founded FKS. It opened with 19 pupils in 1957 and at one time was known as Mrs Lipman's School. Originally it was in Felsted's Memorial Hall. It became known as Felsted Kindergarten School and later FKS (Schools) Ltd. There were two houses with playgrounds Miss Lipman took over the school, which currently has 90 pupils, in 1999 the year after her mother died in 1998. Miss Lipman wrote: "This has not been an easy decision for me but it is time for me to retire. For a good number of years, I have looked at various options to enable the school to continue but the economic challenges over recent years have meant that the options are not available." Just days before the end of the holiday, parents received a letter from Miss Lipman saying the school would close at the end of term.

News of the closure broke over the Easter holidays. On hearing the decision, a group of parents held an emergency meeting before the start of the new term to discuss a possible rescue plan but at the end of the session, a spokesman said they had nothing to report. The school had an enthusiastic Parents' Association, which over the years had provided funds for books and equipment.

Head teacher Lynda Stanwyck added: "We are all totally shocked at the news that our lovely school with its family atmosphere is closing. My thoughts are with the fortunes of the children, the despair of the parents and of course the welfare of my excellent staff. Local education is losing a valuable asset that will remain in the memories of many families."

12th June at Ford End Village Hall 6pm, a meeting was held to discuss the 'Proposal to keep FKS open'. Valerie Lipman discussed with Lilac Sky's as a potential buyer and to run the school for September 2015 onwards. Unfortunately, this fell through.

## **9. FELSTED SCHOOL**

### **EVENTS:**

#### **JANUARY:**

- 27<sup>th</sup>: @ 7:30pm, Cromwell Lecture by Andrew Robertshaw, opened to the public and free of charge. Andrew is a military historian, author and broadcaster Andrew Robertshaw, best known for his work with TV's *Time Team* and *Who Do You Think You Are?* Andrew was a military consultant for Steven Spielberg's movie adaptation of Michael Morpurgo's WWI novel *War Horse* and has worked as curator of the Royal Logistics Corps Museum. Andrew and his archaeology team have carried out more than 20 battlefield digs and established the identity of four soldiers whose remains they have recovered. He has a fascination with the reality of the Great War and is the owner of a replica trench in Surrey, which is used for experimental archaeology and public education. His talk of "The Battle of the Somme 1916: From Defeat to Victory?" covered an analysis of the strategy, tactics and experience of the campaign.
- Felsted School recorded as having percentages of zero students sitting IGCSEs, which no longer count in performance tables and A'Level results ranked second in the league tables.

#### **FEBRUARY:**

- Two students at Felsted School have secured offers of places at the University of Oxford. Aidan Quinlan, 18, received his to read classics at Somerville College while Sam Mitchell, 17, could be studying philosophy and theology at Jesus College.

### MARCH:

- Military historian and TV's Time Team presenter Andrew Robertshaw gave a talk at Cromwell Lecture 'Tactics employed at the Battle of the Somme.' He addressed the commonly held belief that the 1916 battle was ill planned and a case of "lions led by donkeys", offering up the alternative view that the Somme can be viewed as a turning point in the WWI. He said that ultimately the Battle of the Somme forced the German army to retreat to the Hindenburg line.
- 11-13<sup>th</sup>: Musical performance 'Oliver' was held at Felsted Preparatory School.
- 30-31<sup>st</sup>: Cheer leading course for 6-8 years.

### APRIL

- 1-2<sup>nd</sup>: Cheer leading course for 9+ years.
- The new girls' boarding house 'Follyfields' officially opened by former house parents Alastair and Moira Grierson Rickford for 62 girls. In 2012 the old building was destroyed after a fire
- 27<sup>th</sup>: 'Crouch, Touch, Pause, Engage' 7:30pm, a play about the life and rugby career of Gareth Thomas, Ex-Wales Rugby Captain and first openly gay rugby international.

### MAY:

- 8<sup>th</sup>: The music department presented the 'Summer Celebration' in the Barbara Karan Auditorium performed by students studying different forms of music and musical instruments.

### JULY:

- IB results. One third took the IB exam and achieved top scores of more than 40 points out of 45. Head boy Alex Marka gained 43 points, with Thomas Brabrook, Sophie-Dorothe Lieke and Sam Mitchell all scoring 40, and Sophie Twesten achieving 39 points.
- A'Level results: Of the 87 students who took A-level results at Felsted School this year, more than a quarter (27%) achieved the top A\* or A grades, it was revealed today. Well over half (58%) the passes were A\* to B grades and 79% at A\* to C. The pass rate at the fee-paying co-educational day and boarding school was 100%. History, Latin, further maths and theatre studies achieved 100% at A\*- B, while psychology, design & technology and German achieved over 80% at the same grades and French 78%, geography 76% and religious studies 76%.
- Felsted's top achiever was **Oliver Williams**, from High Roding, who gained three A\*s in maths, further maths and economics and an A in Latin, exceeding his offer to read maths and philosophy at Durham University. Oliver has made the most of his time at Felsted, enjoying rugby, Model United Nations and a life-changing trip to the Magic Bus charity in Mumbai last year.
- Max Malins of Henham, achieved A's in business Studies and R.E. and a B in Geography. He has also has achieved great things academically and on the rugby pitch this year. He captained and scored 16 points as fly half for England U18s including recently 33-8 win over South Africa. He has secured a two-year contract to play for Aviva Premiership club Saracens and as well as a full-time degree in finance and management at the University of Hertfordshire. TWINS Thomas and Jemma Brabrook.
- TWINS Thomas and Jemma Brabrook are off to uni to read geography, Tom at Durham by gaining 40 points in the IB Diploma. Jemma gained As in geography and art and a B in maths, just falling short of her offer to do the same course at the same uni; otherwise she will be off to read geography at Exeter.
- Other top achievers were **Emilia Blyth** and **Dominic Latham** (1 A\*, 2 As), **Harry Gooch**, **Edmund Lucas** and **Eron Taylor** (3 As), **Jasmine Moore** (2 A\*s, 1 B), **Sebastian Anderson**, **Thomas Latham**, **Sarah Lewis** and **Isabelle Moore** (1A\*, 1A, 1B) and **Connor Joyce**, **Joseph King** and **Anna Lane** (2 As, 1B), Eleven other students achieved A-B grades.

- Two students achieved places at Oxford: **Aidan Quinlan**, from Crawley in Sussex, secured one A\* and two As to read classics at Somerville College while **Sam Mitchell**, from Felsted, achieved 40 points in the International Baccalaureate (IB) to read philosophy and theology at Jesus College.

#### **AUGUST:**

- British Kyokushinikai Karate summer camp

#### **SEPTEMBER:**

- 26<sup>th</sup>: An evening of opera with Isabella Gage and Benjamin Lewis arias and scenes by Mozart, Donizetti and Verdi at the Barbara Karan Auditorium at 7:30pm
- Chris Townsend, deputy head since 2010, was appointed as the school's new head. He is a classics graduate from Brasenose College, Oxford, where he was an Exhibitioner – an award made by the college's governing body in recognition of academic excellence – and won three Cricket Blues. He began his teaching career at Dean Close in Cheltenham, where he was at school himself, and following a three year post as housemaster, he moved to Stowe in Buckinghamshire, where he was a housemaster and head of boarding.

#### **OCTOBER:**

- 16<sup>th</sup>: A tribute to Swing musician Ivy Benson was held at the Barbara Karan Auditorium at 8pm. Crissy Lee, one of Europe's finest female drummers and a much-loved music teacher at Felsted School, worked with Ivy Benson through the 60's along with many established bands, including the Beatles. From a very early age Crissy was recognised as a tremendous talent behind the kit.

#### **SPORTS:**

##### **FEBRUARY:**

- U15 rugby team defeated to RGS Newcastle in their NatWest Vase quarterfinal. Felsted were denied passage to the semi-finals following a try with the last play of the game to hand Newcastle a 17-14 win. In a tense match, RGS started the better but wasted their opportunities to put pressure on the visitors and score. And it was Felsted's chance to punish Newcastle and gain the upper hand. For the final 20 minutes of the first half, the visitors managed to play most of the game in the opposition's territory. Pressure resulted in two penalties converted by Tom Walker, but Felsted were unable to penetrate through great defence by RGS as they prevented any further scores. Felsted went into the break with a 6-0 lead. RGS started the second half on fire, forcing a well worked try in the corner. However, Felsted responded immediately and a kickable penalty was turned down and instead quick hands allowed Cameron Cowie to score in the corner. Soon after, Walker converted another penalty and Felsted led 14-5 and seemed in control. However, RGS brought on a very quick winger and their fortunes changed. A missed tackle near the Felsted line led to a converted score. With just minutes to go, Felsted were now hanging on. However, a mistake near their line when in possession led to RGS prop Alistair Blackett retrieving the ball through an interception and centre Ben Scott scored the winning try. There was only time for the kick off as the referee blew his whistle to bring a sad end to a great season for Felsted.
- The U16 hockey team won all five matches and scored 34 goals, conceding none. Bancrofts (5-0), Coopers' Coburn (7-0), Chigwell (4-0), Alec Hunter (11-0) and Forest (7-0) were left in their wake. The U14 boys' hockey team matched the efforts of their counterparts by starting off their season as champions. That became the school's sixth Essex title of the season, after four successes from the girls. Particularly strong performances came against Coopers' Coburn (7-0) and Forest School (5-0), with a final 3-0 win against Bancrofts.

**MARCH:**

- MAX Malins marked a stunning England U18 debut with his first international try. The 18-year-old from Bishop's Stortford helped England beat France in a significant 21-5 victory in wet conditions at Castle Park in Doncaster. Malins started on the bench, but when he came on he got the perfect opportunity to score when he jumped on to a loose French pass to run in and finish unopposed. Malins has also been offered a contract for Saracens' academy following his successful captaincy of their elite academy U18s squad. This included the recent win at the Academy League Finals, 23-19 over the titleholders Northampton Saints.

**APRIL:**

- U11 boys Hockey team came 3rd in the country in the IAPS national finals, held at Wellington College. Eliminated by the eventual winners Chafyn Grove in the semi-final (2-1), the team won on penalties in the 3rd/4th play-off against Beeston Hall. The U13 boys' team finished 9th in the IAPS national finals at Millfield School, securing the Plate Trophy in the process. They won the quarterfinal against Chafyn Grove (3-0) and then triumphed in the semi-final against Walhampton (2-1). They then went on to beat St. Faith's in the Plate final 2-1, after scoring the golden goal in extra-time. The U14 boys' hockey team reached the national finals after qualifying through the regional tournament at London's Olympic Park on April 21.

**MAY:**

- Rebecca Earl, 15, came 12th place in the 36-hole scratch medal for The Gold Challenge Cup at Roehampton and is open to professionals and top amateurs. Rebecca's rounds of 83 and 78 resulted in her finishing ahead of some of the professionals.

**JUNE:**

- The Riding teams qualified for the final at the National Schools Equestrian Association qualifier at Norton Heath. The senior team of Hannah Barham, 14, Ollie Stonham, 14, and Sam Wisbey, 15, convincingly won the one-metre class to qualify to the national finals at Addington this October. Hannah and Sam also qualified through as individuals.

**JULY:**

- Felsted Hockey U14s Girls Team won their competition at the East Region County Finals. The Boys U14 Essex Team came second. U13 Boys and U15s Girls teams finished runners-up.
- Bishop's Stortford golfer Rebecca Earl has continued her stunning progress with a double win by winning the WPGA One Day Series event at the South Herts Golf Club, which included several professional players. Rebecca's round began slowly and she was two over par after eight holes, before a blistering sequence of five consecutive birdies from the ninth. She parred the 14th before another birdie on the 15th, and then parred steadily home for 70.
- Rebecca Earl had beaten the professionals for the second time in the space of one week. She scored her second win on the WPGA One Day Series in the event at Three Rivers in Essex. Despite bad weather she shot level par 74, in a round, which included three birdies, and she beat professional Sian Evans by a shot.

**OCTOBER:**

- 16<sup>th</sup> Oct: Rugby, ex-student Max Hugo Malins (2002-15) former Bishop's Stortford player and currently England U18s skipper played for Bishop Stortford v Old Albians and lost 22-14. Max stepped up to slot over three points after losing to a penalty.
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## **10. FELSTED PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

### **EVENTS:**

#### **JANUARY:**

- Year 7 and 8 pupils won their General Knowledge Semi-Final and year 5 and 6 reached the Science National Quiz Semi-Final competitions at the National Quiz Club Competition event. Both teams were entered for the National Finals in spring at Lochinver House School where they came 5<sup>th</sup>. More than 400,00 children took part.
- The school received the prestigious Sainsbury's School Games Golg Kitemark Award for its PE provisions. It was one of 5 primary schools in Uttlesford to achieve such an award.

#### **MARCH:**

- AT Harrow School, a team of Year 7 and 8 students finished ninth in a national general knowledge quiz. The final consisted of multiple-choice questions covering history, geography, maths, science, art, music, and literacy, spelling and current affairs.

#### **JUNE:**

- Under the expert guidance of Daniella Robson, Essex Wildlife Trust, students were learning hands-on about local wildlife in the school garden by creating from materials donated by the local community. Outdoor Classroom officer, a stag beetle pyramid and a large bug hotel were constructed followed by a pond and new flowerbeds.

#### **JULY/AUGUST:**

- **Summer Holiday Camp:** School played hosted

#### **DECEMBER:**

- Primary schools across Uttlesford captured delightful photographs of their Nativity productions for the Herts and Essex Observer

### **SPORTS:**

#### **JUNE:**

- The Riding Teams continued their fine recent form as they qualified for the final at the National Schools Equestrian Association qualifier at Norton Heath. They also qualified for the national finals after placing first in the 70/75cm class, and third and fourth in the 80/85cm. Phoebe Prideaux, 12, Tilly Worsick, 13, Georgina O'Connor, 13, and Freddie Beecroft, 12, finished in first place. While the team of Poppy Buckenham, 11, Harry Prideaux, 11, Eloise Barber, 11, and Natasha Worsick, 12, finished third and fourth in the 80/85cm class.



## **11. FELSTED PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **EVENTS:**

#### **APRIL:**

- Balloon modelling, hula hooping and magic tricks were just three of the fun activities children tried during a visit by author Tamsyn Murray. Tamsyn talked to more than 100 Year 5 and 6 pupils about her new book, '*Completely Cassidy*', and led a workshop of activities. Her latest book features Cassidy Bond and her search for her particular talent, something that will make her stand out from everyone else. She also signed copies of her book.

#### **JUNE:**

- **Community involvement** – Felsted Primary School was classed as a 'community school' based on mutual care, respect and consideration for others. The school works very close with the village, links with the churches, events including sporting and music events and linked with three large charities GOSH, Battersea Cats and Dogs Home and Alzheimer's Society, as well as, other local charities.
- Reception class have been learning about weddings as part of their curriculum. They got all dressed up and acted out a ceremony so they could learn about the roles played by different people on the big day. Parents went into school to share in the celebration and enjoy party food made by the children
- The myth of the Green Man was explored by more able readers selected from Year Three classes at Felsted and Great Easton primary schools as part of a joint literacy project. First, they read Linda Newbery's book *Lob*, which tells the story of a mythical green man who works with a child and her grandfather to develop her gardening skills. Then the group looked at how the motif – often a drawing or sculpture of a face surrounded by leaves – has been represented through the ages and in different cultures. They also did some gardening and planted some seeds. Grandparents went back to school at Felsted Primary. It was part of the annual open day in which they were able to see what activities their grandchildren get up to on a typical day. During the visit they spent time in lessons, enjoyed a school lunch and learned about curriculum changes.

#### **JULY:**

- Class of 2015 project invited all primary schools, including the Bishop's Stortford, Sawbridgeworth, Stansted, Saffron Walden and Great Dunmow areas, to take part which involved pictures of Year 6 classes at their schools. Only 30 schools accepted the invitation.

#### **OCTOBER:**

- Cressida Cowell's popular story *How to Train Your Dragon*, visited Key Stage Two pupils where she spoke to the children about her childhood growing up on a Scottish island and how this influenced her to become an author and the pupils had their books signed.

#### **DECEMBER:**

- 10<sup>th</sup>: Government data released ranks primaries based on results for Year 6 SAT tests in reading, writing and maths. Felsted primary School came 11<sup>th</sup> with an average point score of 30.6. Manuden finished at the top of the league table.

#### **SPORTS: JANUARY:**

- Pupils received the prestigious Sainsbury's School Games Gold Kitemark for its PE provision. It is one of only five primary schools in Uttlesford to achieve the award. The others are Clavering, Dunmow St Mary's, Henham and Ugley and St Thomas More in Saffron Walden.

**JULY:**

- Former Sawbridgeworth cricketer Ben Waring has been nominated for Cricket World's Performance of the Week. The 17-year-old Felsted School pupil broke his school's bowling record this season, taking 68 wickets at an average of 7.78. Old Felstedian and England cricketer, Derek Pringle, once held the record. Ben not only plays for Felsted's first XI, but also for Saffron Walden Cricket Club in the East Anglia Premier League, Essex U17s, and has played several times already for the Hertfordshire senior team in the Minor Counties competition.

**12. FELSTED SPORTING NEWS:**

**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 24<sup>th</sup> position was men's captain Dan Reynolds in 41mins 10secs. Natalie Herbert (48mins 14secs) the fastest GEDR's woman.
- 14<sup>th</sup>: 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 Fritch Way covering 5-10km between Felsted and Rayne. For the cycling there was a choice of 12-24 miles along Felsted lanes.