

# FELIXSTOWE WESEL ASSOCIATION

[www.felixwesel.onesuffolk.net](http://www.felixwesel.onesuffolk.net)

## NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023

*Best wishes for Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all our members and hope to see you "home and away" during our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary year.*

*(picture opposite is the front of Wesel Burgermeisterin Ulrike Westkamp's Christmas Card)*



### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This Newsletter is your formal notice that our A.G.M. will take place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (7pm for 7.30pm start) in Broadway House, Orwell Road, F/x IP11 7DD.

AGENDA will follow our usual format and include Chairman's and Treasurer's Reports, election of Officers \* and Committee\* and Any Other business - members' time to ask questions or suggest ideas.

\*Nomination form attached - which needs to be in the hands of our Secretary - Sophie Cotterell by Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (by email to [sophiejennings@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiejennings@hotmail.com) or to 17, Lansdowne Road F/x IP11 9HG)

There will be more news about the activities planned for our celebration 19<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> April and a budget for your approval.

### Hansefest Wesel 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> Oct. 2023

Our October Newsletter was written just before this visit took place - so if you are wondering how it went - read on

20 of us went by coach Felixstowe to Harwich, then Stena overnight with cabins to the Hook of Holland. Other years we have been taken by the Wesel Fire Service mini-buses from there to Wesel but this year



Stadt Wesel organised and paid for a commercial coach company to look after us.

It was great that so many members came and that we had Mayor Seamus Bennett and Town Clerk Ash Tadjrishi with us.

Ulrike was there with others to welcome us when we arrived at Kaiserhof hotel and within an hour or so, Seamus was on stage in the front of the Berliner Tor addressing a large crowd of onlookers - in the pouring rain.

Hansefest was its usual mix of historic costumes, amazing stalls selling a variety of products, music, entertainers and plenty of street food and drink.

Fortunately the weather improved for Saturday and Sunday, so it didn't spoil the weekend.

The programme also included a guided tour inside the Berliner Tor, a wonderful evening in the "Weseler Wirtshaus" restaurant, time to meet old friends, explore the city and shops.

The Felixstowe civic group had a look at the new swimming pool complex under construction and Seamus startled our hosts by taking a dip in the Wesel Auesee (the large lake by the Rhine).

*P.S. A month later, with lots of help and advice from fellow member Alan Bourne, in December Jenny and I went Felixstowe / Wesel by train (and Stena) for Carnival Proclamation! An amazing event. Watch highlights on YouTube under -Prinzenproklamation Heinz II. und Diana I. Wesel 2023*

✂.....

**Annul Subscription 2024 - £10 per person**

NAME(S).....

Tel. no.....email.....

Please pay either -

- At the A.G.M.
- Cheque payable to Felixstowe Wesel Assn. posted to Jonathan Fison, "Freshfields", Falkenham IP10 0QY with this tear-off slip
- Bank Transfer to TSB Felixstowe **Sort Code 30 - 93 - 22 Account number 00496226** (in the name of Felixstowe Wesel Association) quoting your name as the reference.

**Our Plans for the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebrations in Felixstowe**

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April - mid/late morning Reception at Harvest House**

Broadly to replicate the 1974 ceremony - Speeches, renewal of the Bond of Friendship, exchange of gifts, National Anthems and the presentation (publication) of the Chronical

Background music (Solid Gold provisionally booked) as appropriate, view exhibition, light buffet.

**Guests by invitation**

- All members of the Felixstowe Assn.
- The "Class of '74" - survivors of the Felixstowe people who were in Wesel and Wesel people in Felixstowe in 1974
- Felixstowe Association Presidents (i.e. Mayors) and Felixstowe Town Clerks
- Representatives of all Clubs and organisations known to have some involvement with the twinning since 1974
- Current Felixstowe Town Councillors
- From Wesel - Association members, Fire-fighters, StatdWesel (Council) Rifle Club, Carnival Association, VHSchule etc. (Yacht club will come in July)
- And we hope some UK "VIP's" e.g. Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk (or Deputy), S.C.C. and ESC Chairs, Chair of the Essex and Suffolk Congress, British German Association, Felixstowe Bid.

Total attendance could be in the region of 200

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April Daytime (for Felixstowe residents and visitors to the town.)**

Exhibition on the Town Centre triangle with appropriate background music for all the public to find out about the twinning partnership between Felixstowe and Wesel

**Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April Evening - Orwell Hotel**

Celebration evening with music and buffet (and cash bar)

By ticket only - probably in the region of £25 (i.e. to cover the cost of a seven item buffet)

Times - arrive 7pm for 7.30pm - background music

8pm - buffet

Followed by "dance music" to 11pm Solid Gold provisionally booked

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April**

Mostly "free time" - hopefully with "Open House" options i.e. visitors will be made welcome if they go to places and organisations associated with the twinning partnership.

*Richard Holland (Vice - Chairman)*

**President** - The Mayor of Felixstowe Cllr Seamus Bennett, **Chairman** Francis Cotterell, **Vice-Chairman** Richard Holland, **Treasurer** Jonathan Fison, **Secretary** Sophie Cotterell, and (alphabetically) - Nick Barber, Helga Franks, Gill Haseman, Trevor Hearn, Jenny Holland, John Humphries and Ann Layton **Council** Mike Deacon and Amanda Foley

**NOMINATION FORM for Officers and Committee members  
for the year 2024**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Nomination</b>	<b>Nominees consent (signature)</b>
<b>Chairman</b>		
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>		
<b>Treasurer</b>		
<b>Secretary</b>		
<b>Committee (1)</b>		
<b>Committee (2)</b>		
<b>Committee (3)</b>		
<b>Committee (4)</b>		
<b>Committee (5)</b>		
<b>Committee (6)</b>		
<b>Committee (7)</b>		
<b>Committee (8)</b>		

**Nomination submitted by .....** **Date.....**