

THE Grapevine

October 16

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



FHCA & FHRA
? **QUIZ** ?
15th OCTOBER

STARTS 7:30 PM
AT THE
COMMUNITY CENTRE

ARRIVAL FROM 7:00 PM

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£10 Per Person
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Janet Smith on 01628 520 451

Flackwell Heath Village Bonfire Association

Firework Display and Bonfire

Saturday 5th November
Gates open at 6pm
At the end of Chapel Road

"Best Guy" Competition, Licensed Bar,
Tea tent, Hot Dog BBQ, Glow sticks

Advance Tickets from
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WEDNESDAY EVENINGS (term time only), 7.30-9.30 pm

Contact PEGGY WOOLHOUSE

01628 523464

SOPRANOS AND ALTOS WELCOME

On The Buses...

The 35 bus route includes a loop round Fennels Farm Road and Oakland Way. The bus company Carousel runs it during the day, with Arriva taking over during the evening. On 5 September Carousel introduced a new timetable with a route change so that buses stopped going this way. This was the outcome of a complicated misunderstanding between Carousel and the County Council. Unfortunately advance publicity suffered from the same problem. Various protests were made by residents or their relatives. When the problem was appreciated, service on the old route could not resume immediately owing to administrative

delays but, happily, resumed on Monday 19 September. Carousel Buses have apologised for the confusion and say that this reinstatement of the service is 'permanent for the foreseeable future'.

Vehicles parked at the junction of Fennels Farm Road and Swains Lane have restricted access for the buses in the past, and both Carousel and the County Council will be working on this problem.

There have been small number of improvements to the timetable for most Flackwell buses, so please check your revised bus timetable.

Sue Arnautov

Ladies and Gentlemen Badminton Players

Would you like to join a friendly club to play social badminton in the village?

Heathlands Badminton Club meets every Monday night at the Community Centre from 8 till 10. We are all competent players (no absolute beginners), but in need of a few extra players to boost our numbers, preferably ladies to help keep the games mixed doubles.

If interested, please email matthewfenn@yahoo.com and then come along to try us out!



NEWS FROM FLACKWELL HEATH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

This year's Fête and Picnic was a great success, it was wonderful to see so many of you there, and of course the weather was a triumph. You have told us how much you enjoyed the day and how nice it was to get all the people in the village together for a fun and entertaining day. We do it for exactly that, The Community, **Not** for profit.

We have some dates for your diary:

Saturday October 15: The Flackwell Heath (FH) Village Quiz, held jointly with the FH Community Association - see page 1 for details.

Saturday November 26: The next community undertaking when we light up the village for Christmas with a children's party, Father Christmas, Christmas Carols in the Jubilee Garden with mulled wine and mince pies in the Community Centre.

Sunday July 16 2017 - provisional date for the Fête and Picnic.

Please put these dates in your diary and keep a look out on the village website and Facebook for more details.

From what you tell us, these events are important to the village, so will you help boost this community spirit and join the Residents' Association, either as a member (at a cost of ONLY £5 per year or even better £20 for 5 years!) or as a Committee Member.

We are a Committee of only 8 at present, several of whom will be stepping down at the AGM in March next year after many years of volunteering for the village. We really need your help so FHRA can continue delivering a great service. Speak to us at any of our events or contact us on email via the

village website.

Janet Smith - Chairman 01628 520451

Planning and Environment

Firstly we would like to thank everyone who came to our Litter pick and gardening morning at the beginning of September.

As you know the draft version of the New Local Plan was launched in June; we read this thoroughly and made comments on the areas we thought were important and also on matters pertaining to Flackwell Heath. Since then we have gone through the draft Residential Design Brief and we'll be submitting our comments by the deadline.

We have been notified that the Gomm Valley/Ashwells Design Brief will be launched on Monday 19 September. This will be available on the WDC website and is important as it will be visible on the other side of the valley from us here in Flackwell Heath.

A number of you were very concerned and contacted us regarding the outline planning application for the Green Belt/AONB land behind 22-24 Chapel Road. The outline application was refused and the decision notice giving the reasons for this is available on the WDC website as is the Officer Report.

*Carolyn Leonard
Chair of Planning and Environment
Group
01628526512*

*fhra-planning-environment@
flackwellheath.net*



Flackwell Heath Community Library

Halloween Competition

Once again we shall be running our Halloween Competition for the local schoolchildren. This is a great opportunity for the young ones to engage in some fantastic creativity and produce an entry which really captures all things spooky, ghoulish and scary associated with Halloween. In order to give as much scope as possible, children can produce either a picture or a scary story or even both. There will be prizes for different age groups as well as an overall prize for the best entry. Closing date for entries is Saturday 22 October. There will be a prize giving in the library at 11.00am on Saturday 29 October. Full details will be available in the library by 1 October.

Summer Reading Challenge Success

Congratulations to all the children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge organised by the Reading Agency. The challenge was to read six books during the school summer holidays. We are delighted that 55 children took part, and we give a special 'well done' to all the children who read six books and were awarded a medal and certificate in addition to the Roald Dahl feature cards that everyone received for each book read. The successful children were presented with their certificates and additional prizes at a prize-giving in the library on Saturday 10 September.

Gazebo for Hire

We recently purchased our own gazebo for use at the Flackwell Heath Village Picnic in July, and this is now available for local hire. It is a good size, 3m x 4m, and can be erected very easily and quickly with the aid of four people positioned one at each corner. Please contact the library if you are interested in hiring the gazebo.

Flackwell Heath Community Library,
Chapel Road, Flackwell Heath,
HP10 9AA

Tel: 0845 230232

email: fhcl@flackwellheath.net

web: www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries

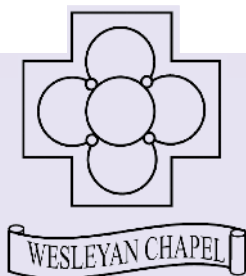
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FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

HARVEST

On Saturday 1 October we will be holding a **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING** in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support from 10–12 noon. This will be followed by a **'MESSY CHURCH' HARVEST CELEBRATION** from 3.30pm celebrating God's gifts to us, including hands-on activities and a meal together; please let Vicky Everitt know if you would like to join us for this (07979 541874). Everyone of any age is welcome to come and explore different ways to 'do church': please come and join us!

This year's **HARVEST CELEBRATION SERVICE** will be at 11am on Sunday 2 October, which will be followed by a church family lunch – all are welcome, but please put your name on the list in our vestibule so we have an idea of numbers. In the evening at 6.30 there will be a Holy Communion Service led by Rev Singa Vunipola.

On Saturday 8 October, we will be holding our annual **DAY OF PRAYER**. The church will be open during the day from 10am to 5pm, and there will be various activities to help us pray for the needs of our village, our world and for those people known to us who need our prayers. Please just drop in at any time even if you can only spare a few minutes.

Sunday 9 October – **SUNDAY LIVE!** at 11am with food from 10.15am. A service for young families and the young-at-heart.

Tuesday 11 October – **TIME OUT FOR BUSY MUMS:** 9.15 – 11.45am.

This group for Mums meets on the second Tuesday of every month during term-times, and gives them breathing time while their children are cared for in the crèche. It has been great to see the group grow in recent months, and the Mums have enjoyed coffee, chat and support while enjoying such activities as adult colouring, pancakes and a recipe swap. To book a place in the crèche, please contact Vicky on 07979 541874.

Saturday 15 October – **WHO LET THE DADS OUT???** 10am – 12 noon.



'Worship for Everyone' is the name for our all-age services on first Sundays at 10.30am. It is what it says... worship for everyone... for all ages and all-stages! Why not give it a try and discover your Parish Church and the difference that faith makes.

'Taste the Goodness' – You are warmly invited to celebrate **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 2 October: at 9.00am (traditional Harvest Holy Communion), 10.30am (Worship for Everyone - with the 'No Strings Attached' puppeteers) and 6.30pm (Harvest Evening Service). Harvest gifts – fresh produce, tins & packets – will be received and given to 'One Can Trust', the High Wycombe Emergency Food Bank, and Flackwell Heath Age Concern Day Centre.

From September 25 to October 10, as part of our Harvest Thanksgiving, Christ Church will host the **'One Can Trust Wheelie Bin'**. Gifts of food can be brought to make up parcels for this essential food bank ministry. A shopping list of suitable items is available from the Church Office.

A **'First Tuesday Lunch Club'** meets at the Church Centre every first Tuesday of the month. Bring your packed lunch and enjoy good company and conversation while you eat. Tea and biscuits provided. The next occasion is Tuesday 4 October.



Monday 31 October is **Pirate Night at Christ Church** - for all 5-11 year olds and their families. You are invited sip cool mocktails, fill your boots with booty and enjoy a hearty hot dog as you watch our main feature 'The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything'. Come in pirate

costume and win prizes! Doors open at 5.45pm; the main feature is at 6pm. Cost is £2 to cover the cost of refreshments. Book early as this will be popular!

Thinking about having your child christened or baptism for yourself? As a first step why not come along to our next **'Exploring Baptism'** event at the Christ Church Centre. Please enquire with the Church Office.

Planning a **Wedding** for 2017/2018? Have you considered getting married in Church? Christ Church would be delighted to assist you in your thinking. There is information and other helpful advice on getting married in Church on our website.

Coffee Stop is open every weekday morning from 9am to 11.30am, it is located at the Church Centre and serves fantastic fairly-traded tea and coffee with daily newspapers. It provides a comfortable and friendly place for everyone to meet old friends and make new ones.

Christ Church regularly hosts a Traidcraft Stall, every second Sunday, selling fairly-traded goods, from tea, coffee and chocolate, to dried fruits, cereals and gifts. Make your fairly-traded purchases here and make a difference! Our next stall is 11 October.

More details of the above are available from the website www.ccfh.org.uk and the Church Office in Chapel Road: 01628 533004 9.00am – 1.00pm Monday to Friday

For Dads, Granddads, Uncles and any male carers to spend time with their under-fives to give Mum a break and share snack-time together. Bacon butties available!

Sunday 23 October – **CELEBRATE!** at 6.30 pm. A lively music-based service led by Ruth Richey.

All weekday groups meet at their usual times, with Sunday services at

11am. and 6.30pm. Other activities and information can be found on our website www.fhmc.org.uk; or please contact our senior steward Suzanne Soper on 01494 673403, or our minister Rev Nick Thompson on 01628 483985

www.fhmc.org.uk www.facebook.com/FlackwellHeathMC prayer.requests@fhmc.org.uk

Neighbourhood Watch News

October '16

Summer's Gone – Autumn is here!

Now Autumn is with us, the evenings are drawing in and we need to be thinking of our security as the hours of darkness increase. Here are some basic tips:

- Make your house look occupied when you are out in the evening, by having a light on a timer, either in a room whose (empty) interior is not visible from the road, or upstairs.
- Make sure you secure all ground floor windows and doors when you leave the house, and remember to close any other accessible windows.
- Keep your keys securely out of sight – it is not a good idea to have them all hanging, neatly labelled, on a board in the hall.
- Keep any tools secure in your garden shed or garage. Consider installing a shed alarm or a padlock alarm. Anything which disturbs a potential intruder is valuable.
- Remember – the majority of burglaries are 'opportunistic', so anything we can do to reduce opportunities for crime will help us all.

Cold Callers

Some parts of the Wycombe area have been troubled in recent months by a spate of 'cold callers'.

Nottingham Knockers: Generally, these are young men selling cleaning materials and small household goods from a bag they carry from door to door. They have sympathy stories, such as 'the goods are made by charities' or that 'they have been in prison and they are doing this doorstep selling as a rehabilitation programme'. There is no such programme. The goods tend to be of inferior quality but with superior prices. They could



be checking out your house for a subsequent burglary or they could step inside your house to steal something while you go to get some money. Do not buy from them.

Property maintenance: This could include roofing, guttering, cladding, drive resurfacing, tree lopping etc. They tend to charge excessive prices, but for inferior work or do work that isn't really needed at all. They always want paying in cash so that they cannot be traced afterwards and they never provide any estimates, invoices etc. They may ask for a deposit and then not turn up to do the work. Really considerable sums of money can be involved. Do not do business with them.

The key point is that, if you encounter anyone at the door in either of these two categories, feel absolutely confident to report their presence to the police on 101, even if nothing has gone wrong. The police will want to check them out and to encourage them to leave the area.

For further information about any of these topics or about Neighbourhood Watch, contact:

David Gresswell –
Area Co-ordinator, Flackwell Heath

(Tel: 525019
e-mail: flackwell-nhwatch@talktalk.net)

Police General & Non-emergency
number: 101

Public Safety Team
(Anti-social behaviour): 01494 421087

Crimestoppers (Anonymous):
0800 555 111 – watch out for a 'spoof'
Crimestopper site

Trading Standards (Consumer Direct):
0345 4 04 05 06 (NEW dialling code)

ACTION FRAUD: 0300 123 2040
www.actionfraud.police.uk

The Information Commissioner's Office:
0303 123 1113

NHS: 111

Youth Group

Could you give some time either weekly or perhaps every fortnight to help with the Flackwell Heath Youth Group? We have a lovely group of around 20 young people aged 10 - 15 and we need more people to help our team of volunteers. We do a range of activities and so are always looking for people who have skills to offer - this could be on a 'one off' basis, or more regularly.

The Group meets at the Methodist Church in the village on Monday nights during term time from 7-9pm.

If you can help please contact us by email at flackwell-youthgroup@yahoo.com or by phone to Chris on 07540 375256.

Playground update

Councillor Jem Bailey says that he now expects the installation of new swings, see-saw and bars to begin during the first week in November.

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FLACKWELL LOCAL AREA HISTORY GROUP

Don't forget our next event at Flackwell Heath Library:

Wycombe Man, Carving a Niche in the World

Date: Monday 17 October from 7:30pm

Internationally renowned master woodcarver Colin Mantripp gives a highly entertaining talk about his work and experiences. The work produced at Colin's Lillyfee Studio graces some of the finest households and palaces in the world. Colin has also carried out some repair work on the Red Lion statue in Wycombe High Street. Colin's talk will be illustrated with samples of his work and the tools used. He may even do some carving in front of the audience!

This is a ticketed event. **Tickets are available at the library and are £5 (£3 to friends of FHCL).**

'What's on our shelves?'

The Flackwell Local Area History Group has a wealth of local information on our shelves in the Flackwell Heath Library, some for reference in the library and now

some items that can be borrowed. These include written reports covering various local subjects e.g. Cherry Picking, a Nurse's diary on a hospital train in 1944, local farms and many more. Also DVD and CD copies of local residents' reminiscences.

Do you want to see what happened in Flackwell Heath in the 90's? All issues of The Grapevine from 1994 to date and copies of its predecessor the Adviser dating back to 1972 are on our shelves.

We receive the "Who Do You Think You Are" magazine each month and all back copies are available, along with a variety of books to help with tracing your family tree.

Photographs, research into the men named on the local war memorials and books about the wider local area are all there for you to access.

Research into all areas of local life is continuing. Any information, however small, is always of interest, so please contact the group with your memories and local knowledge.

Family History Sessions (using the internet)

If you are interested in learning how to research you family history why not try a session of Family History (using the internet) with Jan Fanning at Flackwell Heath Library? This term's sessions are on Thursdays 13 October, 10 November, 8 December and Tuesdays by special arrangement. Please book your session at the library. The cost is £2.00 for 50 minutes plus the cost of any photocopying.

Dates for your diary:

The next Fact Finding Forum is on Monday 14 November at the Flackwell Heath Library, from 7.15 – 9.00pm

Monday 21 November from 7.30pm: History of Wooburn and St Paul's Church by Tony Mealing



Like us on
facebook/Flackwell

Heath, Loudwater & Wooburn
Local History Group
www.localhistorygroup.org.uk

Dates For Your Diary

October

Saturday 15	Quiz Night at the Community Centre, see page 1
Monday 17	Local History talk 'Wycombe Man, carving a Niche in the World' by Colin Mantripp, see page 5

November

Saturday 5	Bonfire Night at Carrington Field up Lawrence Way, see page 1
Tuesday 8	Christmas Market at Methodist Church, 9.30am – 2pm
Wednesday 9	Flackwell Forum, 12 – 2pm
Monday 14	Local History Fact Finding Forum
Saturday 19	Charity Fayre at Christ Church, 10am – 1pm.
Monday 21	Local History talk
Saturday 26	FHRA Christmas Lighting-Up



See page 7

Flackwell Amblers

If you would like to join us on Sunday 23 October, The Flackwell Amblers will be going for a walk at Rickmansworth Aquadrome WD3 1NB. Meet at the ex-Budgen's car park at 10am. This walk will last approximately 2 hours and is undertaken at your own risk. Please wear walking boots or strong shoes. NB This walk may be subject to change at short notice due to prevailing weather conditions. The next walk is Sunday 20 November.

C. Barker

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Mitzi's is 10!

'Mitzi's', the hairdresser at the top of Northern Woods, reached their tenth anniversary recently. Quite an achievement for a small business! They celebrated with balloons and cake. The owner of the business is Maria De Bono ('Mitzi' is an Anglicisation of her maiden name). She trained at Amersham & Wycombe College in Flackwell Heath and served her apprenticeship in Gerrards Cross. She now lives in Bourne End and has a 2-year old son, Oliver. She says that she always wanted to be her own boss and would never go back to being an employee, despite the regulations and paperwork involved.

Some clients have been with them from the start, including Carolyn Leonard who says "They are always really pleasant in there and cut my hair well, changing the style for me every so often". There are now four stylists, two full-time and two part-time, and business is good. They offer a full range of techniques, including cuts & finish styling, perming, and specialist colouring (they also cut men's hair). Currently they offer 25% off colour on Thursdays.



From left, Maria De Bono and Oliver, Jenna Wright, Vicky Plested and Carla Bacchus

**Methodist Church
Flackwell**

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Tuesday 8 November
9.30am – 2pm

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Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

MORNING WI

We were all encouraged to look for 'Food For Free' in hedgerows, fields, even our own gardens by Becca Flintham (daughter of one of our members). She talks to school groups at various locations in Berkshire on the natural environment generally. She gave a digital screening of edible plants and fungi, together with pictures of similar but toxic or unpleasant ones to avoid. Those with ground elder in their gardens may be pleased to learn that they can eat the young leaves (rather like spinach). Becca brought along a selection of books and recipes for us to look at and a taster of elderflower cordial.

Next month will be our Annual Meeting when the next Committee will be formed.

Evening WI

Our August Open Meeting is usually an outing or perhaps a barbecue. This

year we went to Bekonscot and then had tea in a member's garden. It was a beautiful day, Bekonscot had several new displays, and there were garden games such as croquet and boules. Members contributed to a scrumptious tea and one who'd recently been on a 'Baking Weekender' course at the WI College, Denman, brought along some goodies she'd made there.

In September we heard about wills – the legal sort. Kareen Stuart had several old examples to show us, and was kind enough to answer many questions.

October is our Annual Meeting, with reports of the past year and elections to Committee. The business will be followed by a light-hearted bingo session. The County's autumn programme of events, trips and courses looks very varied: from Underwear at the V&A to a stained glass workshop.

Brenda Aldridge and Sue Arnavtov

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Crawly.....but not Creepy!

Ginny Cheeseman loves mini-beasts – sometimes called creepy-crawlies. As a child she turned over stones to see who was underneath and the interest has continued all her life. She keeps four corn snakes (totally harmless) as pets, in tanks in her kitchen. But in her special bug room, she keeps and breeds a variety of other creatures – insects like hissing cockroaches, praying mantis and stick insects, spiders, scorpions, giant millipedes and giant snails. All are tropical, and require particular conditions of temperature and humidity: if they ever escaped, they would not survive outdoors for long. None are very poisonous, although some of the beetles can nip. Each has its own food needs – some like brambles, some privet leaves, for example. When Ginny's away, her daughter looks after them all.

Ginny is largely self-taught. When she left school, she went to work in the City, but soon met Michael, married and had a baby. A little later, the Butterfly House opened at Syon Park in Brentford, and she got her dream job as a stand-in manager; she learned on the job. It ended when the Butterfly House closed down, but Ginny started making and selling butterfly cages to schools (no internet in those days). As her son grew older, she started taking her mini-beasts into schools. She appeared several times on TV's 'Big Breakfast' programme. She also started breeding insects and other invertebrates and selling them through the post and at shows. These creatures are very lightweight and travel well if carefully packed and sent by Special Delivery. More recently, through her website, she sells to some places in Europe – insects are popular pets in Scandinavia, especially Finland. Not long ago, she sent a large consignment to a tropical fish shop in Iceland who are expanding their business to include invertebrates.

Now she's adding a new venture: 'Ginny's Jungle' – for that party with a difference! Ginny will take to a child's party a selection of creatures to look at, handle and goggle over. For the right child, it could be a smash hit! She would also take them to schools or other venues, maybe nursing homes.

Her contact details are: Tel 01628 522632, Mob 07971 838724, email ginny@ginnysjungle.co.uk, Facebook: [ginnysjungle](https://www.facebook.com/ginnysjungle).

Sue Arnautov



Ginny with her nieces and a friend!



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Three Horseshoes Charity Golf Day and Music Night on 29 July

It all started out to see if I could encourage a few locals in the Three Horseshoes to play a round of golf, the objective being that if the day was a success and enjoyed by all, perhaps they would go on to support the setting up of a Three Horseshoes Golf Society.

During this time Mandy Budd, the Landlady of the Three Horseshoes, was diagnosed with a brain tumor. At the same time I was aware that other Flackwell people, Paul Gunn, a talented musician/artist, and Richard Mannering, an active sportsman and golfer, were also undergoing treatment for the same condition.

With their blessing and the support of the locals we decided that the Golf Day would be a charity event to be played at Flackwell Heath Golf Club. The day was to be followed by a presentation meal for the golfers back at the pub. If we could reach a target of 30 players, we could possibly raise around £500 for a brain cancer charity.

Well, everybody rallied round and the support was overwhelming with 49 signed up to play. The increased number now presented Adam and Mandy with the task of how to cater for so many people

at the presentation meal. Adam decided that, weather permitting, a BBQ was the best option.

During the planning, Adam and I also toyed with the idea of extending the day into the evening to include a music night. This would allow the players' partners and non-golfing locals the opportunity to meet up in the evening. At short notice we contacted two bands who freely volunteered their time to play.

Everything came together and despite a short shower the sun came out and everyone enjoyed the golf. The evening

was incredible with over 250 villagers and friends supporting the music event that together with the golf raised a staggering £2,850. This goes to The Brain Tumor Charity and The Brain Tumor research fund at the John Radcliffe, Oxford.

I know Mandy, Richard and Paul would join me in thanking everyone who attended and for their generous donations of Raffle/Auction prizes and cash.

Also a big thank you to the two bands, 'Lyrical Jukebox' and 'Hyperdeemic Nerdles' for freely giving up their time to play for us. *Bob Oakley*



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Flackwell Heath Community Association

Chairman:	Chris Cramer 01628 526129
Secretary	Chris Thomas 01628 520361
Treasurer	Alison Harvey 01628 530186

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