

THE Grapevine

June 17

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



No Change is Good News!

The Flackwell Heath Community Association (FHCA), who run the Community Centre, is proud to say that once again they have held the rent of the halls at the Centre at the rates in force since.....2004! This applies to all regular users – clubs, societies, businesses and affiliates. The only changes have been for weekend parties, where increases have been made to cover security costs. FHCA think that this is the best way to encourage all those activities that help make Flackwell a good place to live.



A Flackwell man remembered – see page 8

Fly Tipping

As many residents will be aware, recently, there have been several cases of fly tipping near the bottlebanks by the Community Centre. These have been reported to the enforcement officers at Bucks County Council and the latest one resulted in the identification of the individual thought to be responsible. Subsequently, that person was interviewed under caution at Maidenhead Police Station. Hopefully, this makes clear that fly tipping is completely unacceptable and an anti-social activity that can result in legal action being taken against culprits.

Cllr David Johncock

Heath Singers Summer Concert

'This is My Song'

Thursday 6 July

8pm at Christ Church

Tickets (£10 donation to include interval refreshment) available from Peggy Woolhouse on 01628 523464

Juniper Hill School

Summer Family Fun Day

Saturday 24 June

3 - 6pm

Open to All

£1 per person on the door

Join us at Juniper Hill School for an afternoon of fun suitable for all the family! There will be arts & crafts, a bug hunt, games, face painting, tasty refreshments and much more.

Raffle with a star prize of a family tent worth at least £400 thanks to Fox's Outdoors of Amersham.

(Raising funds for Juniper Hill)





Flackwell Heath Community Library

NEW: Online legal information available to all library users

L&R Lawandrights.co.uk is a new on-line resource, available free to all library card holders, which provides an easy-to-understand summary of legislation, legal news and updates on legal decisions. Law&Rights is a complete legal resource for anyone with a question about the rights and responsibilities associated with living, working or engaging in life in Britain. It covers all areas of the law under the following headings: Employment News; Housing News; Immigration News; Social Security News; Family Law News. In addition there are sections dealing with Consumer Rights; Cars & Driving; Animals; Tax; Education; Individual Rights and many other categories. In fact just about everything.

Published by Public Services Publishing Ltd, it is a very useful and valuable source of information because it takes complex legal information and delivers it to the end user in a simple and meaningful way. You can find this at <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/libraries/online-reference-resources/a-z-list-of-online-resources/> then scroll down to Law & Rights. You will need your library card number in order to access the site.

SEE OUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES BELOW:

Yoga sessions – Sundays 10am – 11.15am. Meditation & Yoga Nidra – last Thursday of the month 8.30pm – 9.30pm. Contact Alexandra Alves 07786 332695

Coffee & Craft Group – Every Friday between 10.00 and 12.00. To find out more contact Alison Moyes (mobile 0753 248 5594) or Julia Baldwin (mobile 0797 345 8977).

Bounce & Rhyme for under 5s – Every Thursday during term time from 10.30 to 11am. No need to book, just turn up.

Sewing Bee – Held on the 4th Wednesday of every month, between 7 and 9pm. To find out more please call Alison on 0780 3044 298.



Flackwell Heath Residents' Association

NEWS FROM FLACKWELL HEATH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

FHRA Fete & Picnic – Sunday 16 July 2017

Arrangements are well in hand, so please make sure you've got the date in your diary and watch out for more news soon. Old favourites (such as the Punch & Judy show and the Bouncy Castles) will return, and we are planning to bring some new features too. If you're involved in a village group that hasn't been part of the Fete & Picnic before, it might not be too late to join in this year. Email us at info@flackwellresidents.news

Planters & Gardening around the village

Janet Smith may have stepped down as FHRA's Chairman, but she's kindly agreed to continue to look after the planter on the corner of Spring Lane and Heath End Road. Now that the wall of the planter outside La Bodega has been fixed, Liliane Pinder will be bringing some summer colour there, Charles Colton is taking care of the Chapman Lane planter and Liz Johncock promises some new plants for the planter she takes care of in Chapel Road. Do you fancy 'adopting' a corner of Flackwell Heath near you to help brighten up the village? Email us at

info@flackwellresidents.news. The Brownies and Rainbows are hoping to do just this, and we had plans afoot for them to help us at Jubilee Gardens, but rain stopped play on the day concerned – perhaps you'll see we've been able to reschedule by the time you read this!

Your FHRA Team

Last month, we promised to let you have details of the full FHRA Team:

Chloë Andrews-Jones	Chairman
Lenny White	Treasurer
Barbara Hunt	Secretary
Chris Marriott	Membership Secretary
Liz Johncock	Decorations
Carolyn Leonard	Planning & Environment
Pam Mannering	Events
Graham Smith	Members' Representative

Graham has kindly agreed to help FHRA with our social media, so look out for further tweaks in the website www.flackwellresidents.news and increased use of [Facebook](#) Flackwell Residents News and [Twitter](#) @FHRANews

Family History Research using the internet, with Jan Fanning –

Individual 50 minute sessions. Cost £2 plus any photocopying charges. Please contact Jan to arrange a session at the library, 01628 527506, or by email janfanning@gmail.com.

Please call into the library to see updated details of all these activities, Flackwell Local Area History Group events and any new events that may be arranged from time to time.



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

Tel: 0845 230232
email: fhcl@flackwellheath.net
web: www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries

LADY PAINTER & DECORATOR



Painting & Wallpapering
NO JOB TOO SMALL

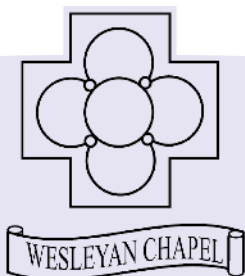
0771 4420772 / 01494 716441

Fancy Helping the Village? - we need a new Graphic Designer/artworker to take over The Grapevine – You get to read all the news first!! - contact the Editor....

Thank you, Jill!!

After many years – more than 10 certainly – Jill Wells is standing down from The Grapevine team. Jill is a professional graphic designer who runs a very active business with her husband Mark. Her contribution to Flackwell in laying out The Grapevine each month, voluntarily i.e. unpaid, has been enormous. She has turned the raw contents into a newsletter that is pleasing to look at and easy to read. Jill, we shall miss you, especially me – please accept our grateful thanks.

Sue Arnautov



FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesday 13 June, 9.15 to 11.45am – **TIME OUT FOR BUSY MUMS.** 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. Come and enjoy coffee, chat and support with adult activities. To book a place in the crèche, please contact Vicky on 07979 541874.

Tuesday 13 June, 12.30 to 2.30pm – **CRAFTERNOON.** New!!! An opportunity for crafters of all ages and abilities to come together to chat while working on your own projects or learning a new skill.

Saturday 17 June, 10am to 12noon – **WHO LET THE DADS OUT???** 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 18 June, 11am to 12 noon – **SUNDAY LIVE!** with food from 10.15. A service for young families and the young-at heart, led by Rev. Nick Thompson.

Sunday 25 June, 6.30 to 7.30pm – **CELEBRATE!** A lively music-based service for all the family led by Carolyn Luscombe.

FAMILY BARBECUE – advance notice

On 2 July we will be having a family barbecue after our Sunday morning service (which includes our usual Sunday Club for young people), followed by games, at the scout hut in Flackwell Heath. It promises to be a really fun afternoon. Please put the date in your diary now and do join us! There's a sign-up sheet in the church so we have some idea of numbers for catering.

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



Christ Church has **three services every Sunday:** a 9am traditional Holy Communion service; a 10.30am more contemporary service with children's and youth groups, and a 6.30pm quieter evening service to end the day. There is something for everyone!

First Sundays at 10.30am are **'Worship for Everyone'**. It is what it says... worship for everyone... for all ages and all-stages! On Sunday 4 June there will an all-age look at the story of the Prophet Elijah.

Christ Church is collecting for **One Can Trust**, the High Wycombe based food bank, from 11 to 24 June. One Can Trust provides food parcels to local people in need. You can help by donating gifts of non-perishable food and goods via Christ Church any morning during that fortnight. A 'shopping list' is available from the One Can Trust website.

Thursday 15 June is **'Cup Cake Day'** in Coffee Stop and is as delicious as it sounds, all in support of the Alzheimer's Society.

Friday 16 June is **'Friday Night Fun Night'** for all children aged 5 to 11 years. Christ Church is hosting an evening of children's fun and games on the Carrington School Field, with space hoppers, field games, and parachute games... plus a hot-dog and drink.

Come along and have great fun, from 6pm to 7.30pm. The cost is £1 but you need to book in at the Church Office. Book early to avoid disappointment!

Father's Day is Sunday 18 June and Bacon Butties will be served between services by Fellowship, the Men's Group at Christ Church... at around 10am.

'Prayer for Healing' is offered regularly every 3rd Sunday morning as part of our 9am service of Holy Communion. The next date is Sunday 18 June. Healing Prayer is also offered every Sunday after the 10.30am service.

Rev Margot Suter will be ordained Priest on 24 June at St Mary's Aylesbury and will preside at her first Holy Communion service on Sunday 25 June at 10.30am.

Coffee Stop is open for everyone in Flackwell Heath, and serves fantastic fairly-traded tea and coffee with daily newspapers, providing a warm and friendly place to meet old friends and make new ones. It runs every weekday morning during term-time from 9 to 11.30am and on Wednesdays only during school holidays.

Please contact the Church Office for further information on any of the above (Phone 01628 533004: 9.00am – 1.00pm Monday to Friday or email admin@ccfh.org.uk) or visit www.ccfh.org.uk

Flackwell Amblers

If you would like to join us on Sunday 25 June, The Flackwell Amblers will be going for a walk at Maidenhead. We will be meeting 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. New walkers always welcome, just turn up on the day. The next date for your diary is Sunday 23 July. C. Barker

**Shaun Guard
TV AERIAL SERVICES**

- Poor reception solved
- Aerials - supplied & repaired
- TV's - hung on your wall or set up & tuned
- Internet - extension points & improved wifi
- Extra TV Points - for aerial and Sky (In HD!)
- Sky TV - also foreign language satellite

OXFORD AERIALS

Call Marlow 01628 439115

**PIPEWORKS PLUMBING
SERVICE LTD**

For all your plumbing needs.
Fully insured.
Central heating power flushing.
Local friendly service.

Contact Jeff
on
Tel: 01628 528894
Mob: 07956 347371

SMALL JOBS
WELCOME

CHATELWORTH LIMITED

All general building work plus
Full Decorating Service
Purpose-Made Joinery
Maintenance Free Products
First class service at competitive prices
Call now for a no obligation estimate
Local Authority Approved

95a Queens Road, High Wycombe, Bucks
HP13 6AH
Tel/fax 01494 461544

Neighbourhood Watch News

May 2017



Table Top Event, Christ Church

Another successful event was held in early May, with a number of residents coming to chat to us about 'cons and scams', which continues to be a 'hot topic'! Popular items that were purchased were our multi-function personal alarm which doubles up as a torch, and the very useful Card Defender for protecting contactless Credit and Debit cards. We will be back on the morning of September 15 – make a note in your diary now!

Cyber Security and Cybercrime

As I write this, the major news item being reported is a Cyber-attack which has affected many organisations around the world, including our own NHS. Apparently, the culprit is a piece of 'ransomware' called 'WannaCry' which is affecting computers running the Windows operating system, going back as far as Windows XP. This ransomware is spread via a 'Trojan' which exploits a security loophole in the Windows operating system on many computers. To protect ourselves from this sort of infection, we should all:

- Ensure our Windows operating system is kept up-to-date by installing all the security and other updates issued by Microsoft. This can usually be set to 'automatic'.
- Ensure that the Firewall, anti-virus and anti-malware software on

our computers is not only 'Active' but is regularly updated.

- If there are critical/important files (documents, photos, etc) on our computer, regularly carry out a 'back-up' operation, preferably to an external device. If our computer becomes infected and has to be re-formatted, at least these valuable items will not have been lost.

- Never 'click' on a link in any e-mail that looks a bit unusual or is unexpected. This is the classic way in which these 'Trojans' are spread. Once the 'Trojan' is on your machine, it can be passed on to others with whom you communicate.

- Avoid 'clicking' on links that appear on websites you may be legitimately visiting, unless you are sure that it is safe. Hovering the mouse cursor over a link (often in blue, underlined text) will usually reveal the destination somewhere on your display screen.

If we all ensure that our computers are well-protected against Cyber Attack by following these basic 'rules', then we will also be doing the things that will help protect us from Cyber Crime.

Support Charity NOT Crime

Wycombe District Council – and many other councils around London – are supporting this Home Office initiative. The objective is to ensure that any donations of cash or goods that we give, go to the appropriate charity and not into the hands of unscrupulous criminals. By following some simple steps we can all help:

- when approached by a collector, check whether they have proper ID and that any collection tin is sealed.
- check the charity's name and registration on the Charity Commission's website – www.charitycommission.gov.uk
- look for the Fund Raising Standards Board (FRSB) tick logo indicating that the charity is signed up to fundraising regulation.
- if in doubt, ask the collector for more information – a genuine fundraiser will always be happy to answer questions and explain the work of the charity.

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

Cyberaware – www.cyberaware.gov.uk

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

The Information Commissioner's Office:
0303 123 1113

NHS: 111

Solicitors
Buchanans

**Divorce | Conveyancing | Commercial | Employment |
Wills | Probate | Litigation | Elderly Client**

Buchanans Solicitors can assist with all the above and more. We are a friendly, modern law firm which offers a broad range of services and aims to deliver clear advice promptly and cost effectively.

**Call Sam Buchanan or Nathalie Wespieser (Family Law specialist)
for a no obligations chat on 01628 810 707**

Swains House, Swains Lane, Flackwell Heath, Buckinghamshire HP10 9BN
office@buchanansonline.com
www.buchanansonline.com



Authorised and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority (No. 514651-EL)

Road Rep wanted!

Jenny Harris is retiring after many years delivering The Grapevine to about 15 houses with higher numbers in Straight Bit. We give her our grateful thanks. Now we need someone to take over – might that be you? The job involves delivering copies of The Grapevine ten times a year, and collecting subscriptions in March. Please contact Pauline Cooper or Sue Arnautov, details on the back page.

The Grapevine

FLACKWELL LOCAL AREA HISTORY GROUP

Our next **talk** at the Flackwell Heath Library will be on Monday 19 June from 7.30pm

Health Service and a Coronation! Committees wrestled with the vexed question of where they could squeeze in a new school, library and community centre.

Whatever next?

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

Please note that tickets will not be available on the night.

Dates for your diary:

11 September from

7.15 – 9.00pm

Fact Finding Forum at the Flackwell Heath Library

18 September from 7.30pm

Talk with local professional woodturner Robert Bishop, who will explain the process and techniques of wood turning.

Family History Research - To arrange a research session at the library please contact Jan Fanning on 01628 527506 or by email janfanning@gmail.com The sessions cost £2.00 for 50 minutes plus the cost of any photocopying.



**Like us on facebook/
Flackwell Heath &
Loudwater Local History Group**

www.localhistorygroup.org.uk



Sedgmoor Gardens 1961

Jane Dunsterville continues the story of - **'Frackle' what happened: Who built what, where, when and why?**

Sleepy little Frackle was still licking its wounds after the Second World War, when it woke up one day to find itself a building site! Before long old and familiar sights were gone for good. Cherry orchards turned into housing estates and cars took over so old roads were widened and had pavements added. New roads needed names.

Remember 'Safety First'? Children had to learn 'The Country Code', how to cross a road and not to be a 'litter lout'.

Living standards rose as water, sewage systems and electricity were laid on, soon to be followed by telephones and televisions, not to mention a

Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

At our May meetings, we discussed the two resolutions that are going to be presented at the National AGM in Liverpool next month. One is about combating loneliness and the other is about encouraging research into the shedding from our laundry of tiny plastic fibres that end up in the oceans.

Morning WI

We voted in FAVOUR of both resolutions. At least the WI can be more active re loneliness, whereas the plastic soup research is going to need a lot of work internationally.

Other news: we joined our Group coach trip to Stratford on Avon, the weather was beautiful, we went to Ann Hathaway's cottage first and after lunch enjoyed a river trip. As always the town was very busy with tourists and school parties.

At next month's meeting our speaker will take us on a train ride through Switzerland.

Evening WI

Loneliness is defined as 'a mismatch between the quantity and quality of social relationships that we have, and those that we want'. It is felt in all age groups, although most of the current efforts at alleviation are aimed at the elderly. We voted AGAINST the resolution; members were unconvinced that a national campaign would be helpful and felt it might be intrusive. Local individual action might be both more acceptable and more effective. We voted FOR more research into the problem of shedding plastic fibres from clothing; until more is known, doing something about the problem is not possible. (Plastic beads are another matter: there is an international drive to prevent their use in toiletries etc.).

After this serious discussion, we enjoyed playing 'identify the ad', amid much chat.

Next month is the draw for our Denman bursary, to use at the WI College near Abingdon. Members can still enter their name even if they are absent on the night, if they let us know beforehand.

Brenda Aldridge and Sue Arnautov



Selling and letting in the heart of your village

Frost
The Frost Partnership

01628 532777

flackwellheath@frostweb.co.uk

Your local property expert frostweb.co.uk

Towards a brighter future...

How, without time switches, do the parish council's part-night footway lights know when to turn off at about midnight and on again at 5am?

Answer: by measuring the time difference between dawn and dusk over a period of a few days and the mini-computer in the photo-electric cell then working out just where in the northern hemisphere the light has been placed and the local time.

Smart, the same as the decision by the parish council to replace over 500 lights in Flackwell Heath and Loudwater with ultra-efficient LED bulbs?

After staff wages and benefits providing footway lighting is the single largest cost to the council. About £37,000 a year, split fairly evenly between the cost of energy and maintenance. In addition we have periodically also had to invest in up-grading our lighting inventory. For example, by replacing glass-fibre and then later our concrete columns - all of which had become dangerous with age - using galvanised steel columns with an anticipated life span of over 35 years.

Five years ago with our lanterns beginning to come to the end of their useful life - weather steadily corrodes their metal fittings and sunlight denatures plastic shrouds causing them to become brittle - we put in place plans for a major upgrade and take advantage of the new LED bulbs starting to become available for street lighting.

As we watched and waited for LED technology to improve and the cost of compatible street lanterns to drop as the demand for them grew, we continued to put aside the savings we were making by having previously checked that we were paying only for 'our' lights (we 'gave away' over 40 lights that had over time crept onto our inventory) and by ensuring that the many all-night/part-night discrepancies we found were corrected.

Two years ago we had sample LED lanterns put up to help ascertain the best options for us. Then last autumn we put out to tender a request to provide and fit over 500 LED lanterns, replace over 110 aluminium columns whose welds were corroding internally and also replace over 100 iron brackets fixed to timber poles. The best tender came in at £194,000.

How to pay for it?

For a start by seeking an interest-free loan from SALIX, a scheme for providing schools, hospitals and local authorities with interest-free loans for energy efficiency projects. The loan is to be repaid over no more than five years from the energy savings made. We have received a loan of £76,000 and with electric consumption anticipated to be about 20% of current usage (16 watts compared to 85 watts) we can easily pay off the loan.

The balance of about £118,000 will be covered by the reserves we have put aside and by the savings we will make in future maintenance, at least 60% lower as LED bulbs last for at least fifteen years, compared to five or six for years for yellow sodium-based bulbs.

The new LED lights will all have been installed by the end of June. They come with a ten year guarantee, provide a warm-white light similar to daylight and project light down onto the surface below reducing the spill and glare from 'wasted light'. We have also specified that the bulbs are programmed to provide a constant light output over the years, rather than the level deteriorating as the bulbs age, and in addition have the 80 or so bulbs on our all-night routes dim down after midnight, further reducing energy consumption and CO₂ emissions.

Cllr. Jeff Herschel

Royal British Legion

On Sunday 4 June at 3pm, there will be a service in honour of past members of the Royal British Legion (RBL) at Christ Church led by Rev Christopher Bull, Chaplain to the RBL in Bucks. During the service, two Legion standards will be laid up; one for the Dunkirk veterans' section in this area, borne by Peter Rolt, and one for the Women's section in Flackwell Heath, borne by former members. Standard bearers and members are welcome to attend as an honour party and there will be a reception afterwards at the Legion Club in Common Road.

A service to remember those lost at Passchendaele and Ypres in WW1 will be held on Sunday 30 July.

Diabetes Day 16 June

After a very successful day last year raising £3,904.30p, we are again holding a 'Diabetes Day' at my house, 227 Blind Lane on Friday 16 June.

From 9am we will be serving tea, coffee and cakes all day and then from 6pm it will change to cheese and wine. We have a table top sale outside all day and inside we will have a 'Grand Draw', tombola, wine raffle, Tupperware, jewellery and a lot more.

Please come and support this very worth while Charity. *Carol Bailey*

OSTEOPATHIC CLINIC Michael Thornton ND, DO

Treatment for pain in the back, neck, shoulders, knees and hips
Sports injuries and headaches

25 Heath End Road
01494 433072 or 07799713117

**VEHICLE SERVICING
REPAIRS & MOTs**
Tel: 01628 850000 www.mavs.co.uk



Jan Siberechts

Painter

Jan Siberechts was a 17th century Flemish painter who was born, married and raised his family in Antwerp; he made a name for himself both in his native city and later with a change of subject in post-Restoration England.

In Antwerp he painted Flemish landscapes with peasant girls wading through fords balancing copper milk cans on their heads; carts piled high with vegetables on their way to market pulled by horses splashing through water. He made a close observation of cows, sheep and goats and depicted high summer skies with sunlight glinting on the water and dappled shade from the trees and foliage lining the banks of streams.

At the age of forty-five Siberechts was persuaded by George Villiers the 2nd Duke of Buckingham to come to his country mansion at Cliveden in Berkshire, England. After about four years Siberechts left the Duke's employ and moved to the country house of Sir John Thynne in Wiltshire – Longleat.

Over the following twenty-five years he travelled around England painting innovative portraits of the great country houses and their estates. His journeys took him from Wiltshire [Longleat] in the south of England through Cambridgeshire [Cheveley Park], Oxfordshire [Henley] and Nottinghamshire [Wollaton Hall], back to London and the Kent/Sussex borders before returning northwards to Chatsworth in the Peak District of Derbyshire; the subsequent paintings accurately depicting the architectural features of the buildings along with a detailed record of the period gardens and a land-use-survey style of the surrounding lands; all within an harmonious and peaceful world.

It is believed Siberechts died in London c1703.

Julia Ward

Jan Siberechts: an Interest; an Obsession; a Book

I had been retired for a few years and was looking for a new interest; it was then I discovered Art History. The V & A were running a series of lectures; I made enquiries and the tutors assured me that no experience was necessary. So, full of trepidation initially, every Tuesday I



became a commuter from Beaconsfield to South Kensington.

Needless to say I was hooked! My studies continued over the years - buying the books; attending the lectures and joining study tours before eventually settling on my chosen subject - 17th century landscape painting; only to discover that there was very little of this type of painting in England prior to 19th century! Many of the painters who were in England at this time were immigrants of Flemish and Dutch origin. One name which did appear was that of Jan Siberechts who came from Antwerp and who had painted many of the well-known country houses and their estates. Having always enjoyed the English countryside and what might be termed 'country pursuits' this seemed an ideal combination. I could read about the painter and his houses and then visit the places.

One problem - there was nothing to catch-up on or read about! The only monograph was by TH Fokker published in 1931 in French – fortunately my friend Elizabeth kindly offered to translate!

This was the beginning of a great adventure!

If you have ever done any kind of research you will know how addictive the whole process can become. The more I followed-up certain clues and information the more I became obsessed.

I have met amazing people along the way - curators of museums and galleries in both England and abroad; been down into basement stockrooms with torches and stepladders and into backrooms of auction houses and reference libraries both private and public. I have emailed art galleries, museums and private individuals all over Europe and America

chasing Siberechts' paintings as well as travelling throughout England from London to Wiltshire via Yorkshire. A trip to Antwerp was a must where I was introduced to Bert who became my guide to the city's archives where he was able to locate and translate the ancient Flemish ledgers. It was a great thrill being able to touch the actual pages signed by Siberechts!

When to stop researching and writing and try to get some order to the chapters and footnotes? Where and how to start getting it published? After some Googling it seemed that each publisher has their own 'style-guide' which consists of about thirty pages telling you where to put all the commas, full stops, capital letters and italics! Suddenly it all seemed very tedious!

In the end I decided to 'go-it-alone' which meant sorting out copyright issues, official forms to fill in and legal contracts to sign – does anyone ever read the small print?

What about the layout, the font size, shiny or matt paper? And proof reading - mortifying to realise basic errors have been missed and information repeated. ISBN numbers?

Decisions, decisions, decisions...!

At last it all came together and boxes of books arrived from the printers all neatly stacked in the hallway. My next challenge is selling to the general public – let's hope everyone wants to read about Jan Siberechts the Flemish painter who came to England and spent the last 25 years of his life painting English country houses.

And now?

After taking over my life for nearly ten years is this really the end of the affair?

Julia Ward

Express Videos & Off License

9am - 11pm every day

3 Straight Bit

Hundreds of DVDs now only £1 per night
So why not treat yourself to a bottle of wine, a good DVD and a quiet night in?

Quality beers wines and spirits with new offers on wines and the cheapest cigarettes in Flackwell Heath
Tobacco, newspapers, sweets, snacks,
Paypoint – pay bills and mobile top ups

01628 298224



Flanders Fields

In April a minibus of 16 men from Christ Church visited the battlefields of Belgium. From the Flanders Field Museum in Ypres to small and large cemeteries across the region we took in the awfulness of the story of World War One, particularly the Battle of Passchendaele, the centenary of which is remembered this July.

But this was no sight-seeing tour. We had two very personal missions to accomplish: firstly, to visit the graves of the eight men from Flackwell Heath who are buried in Belgium. Actually, only three have known graves (William Easden in Tyne Cot Cemetery; William Hills in Bedford House Cemetery and Albert Wilks in Ypres Town Cemetery); the others have no known grave and are mentioned on panels on the Menin Gate in Ypres (Arthur Smith) and at Tyne Cot Cemetery (Ernest Gibson, James Lewis, Joseph Smith and Frank Stone-Wootton). We discovered that around 50% of those killed in World War One have no known grave. It was a privilege to be able to stand where they are remembered and read out their stories and place a small cross on behalf of the village. Each night since 1928 the Last Post has been played at the Menin

Gate in Ypres and we were able, on behalf of the Flackwell Heath Royal British Legion, the Village and the Parish Church to lay two wreaths in memory of our fallen. The second personal mission was to visit the grave of the grandfather of one of our group who was killed just nine days before Armistice Day. It was the first time Terry had been able to visit his grave and place a cross to remember him. It was a poignant and very moving moment.

Another moving experience was visiting Talbot House in Ypres, a building behind the front lines where soldiers were able to rest and recuperate. Founded by two Army Chaplains it offered some normality and peace amidst the chaos and terror. Thousands of soldiers attended the simple Chapel on the top floor, many receiving their first and last Holy Communion there. In the lounge downstairs we stood around a piano and sang as one of our pianists played WW1 songs, eerily echoing a photo on the wall of 100 years ago, remembering the men who had passed through this place.

What does one glean from such a visit: a glimpse at the often futility, waste and awfulness of war, a greater desire to work for and pray for peace and reconciliation, a remembering and honouring of the stories of courage and bravery – it was both a very challenging and a very interesting visit.

Christ Church continues to remember the centenary of the death of every Flackwell Heath World War One soldier by ringing the Church bell at 11am and reading out their story.

Rev Christopher Bull

A1 TAXI SERVICE

Flackwell Heath & surrounding area

01628
851466

4 – 6 – 8 Seater Vehicles Available
Airports – Seaports – Stations
Local Fare From £4.00

Ashton Opticians

OPTOMETRISTS

1 Acorn House, 12-16 Straight Bit, Flackwell Heath

**PRIVATE AND NHS EYE EXAMINATIONS
SPECTACLES & CONTACT LENSES**

Your independent practice in
Flackwell Heath
for value, style and personal service

01628 530420
www.ashtonopticians.co.uk

Partners: Mr. M. W. Ashton BSc.(Hons), MCOptom,
Mrs R.V. Ashton BSc.(Hons), MCOptom

Flackwell Heath Community Association

Chairman: Chris Cramer
01628 526129

Secretary: Chris Thomas
01628 520361

Treasurer: Alison Harvey
01628 530186

Centre Bookings
Please use bookings enquiry page
to be found on website -
www.flackwellheathcommunitycentre.org.uk

Keyholder: Express Video Shop
Reg Charity No. 1044870

Grapevine

Editor: Sue Arnautov
58, Chapman Lane, Flackwell Heath,
HP10 9BD • 01628 523907
email: grapevine@flackwellheathcommunitycentre.org.uk
flackwellheathcommunitycentre.org.uk
Delivery: Pauline Cooper 01628 522562
Design: jillw.mjdesign@btinternet.com
Subscriptions: M Patel 01628 528101
The Grapevine is printed by
Spot On Print using vegetable inks on
Cocoon silk recycled paper.
FSC certified and totally chlorine free.

Dates For Your Diary	
June	
Saturday 3 and Sunday 4	'Feast of Football' FHMFC at Green Dragon Lane Rec.
Friday 16	'Diabetes Day' at Carol Bailey's house (227 Blind Lane) see page 6
Monday 19	Local History Group Talk, see page 5
Saturday 24	Juniper Family Fun Day, see page 1
July	
Thursday 6	Heath Singers' summer concert see page 1
Sunday 16	Village Picnic
October	
Saturday 14	Quiz (FHCA and FHRA)
November	
Saturday 25	Turning on the Christmas Lights