

THE Grapevine

May 17

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Children's Easter craft at the Library, see page 5



Congratulations to Lily Simons

who celebrated her 100th birthday on 11 April. She lived in Fennels Way for 65 years until last August, when she moved to a home in Chorleywood near one of her sons.

Photo: Marie Rollison

Wanted: New Editor for The Grapevine!

This June, it will be six years since I took over the Editorship of The Grapevine from Tim Kendell. It's been fun, interesting, eye-opening, and, I hope, useful for the people of Flackwell. However, I fear I'm getting stale, running out of new ideas, and it's time to look ahead. I shall resign no later than May 2018. Between now and then, I'd be happy to help my successor learn the ropes.

So, a new Editor is needed! Qualities required? An endless interest in what's going on around you! Necessary technical abilities - minimal: able to use a word-processor and email. We have

a number of correspondents, a demon proof-reader and a professional designer who does the layout. (Our publisher is the Flackwell Heath Community Association, which runs the Community Centre).

Sounds like something you'd like to try? Get in touch, contact details on back page of The Grapevine.

Sue Arnautov



Flackwell Heath and Loudwater Day Centre AGM

Tuesday 23 May 2017
at 7.30 pm

in the Day Centre (next to the Community Centre)
All Welcome

NEWS FROM FLACKWELL HEATH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

FHRA's AGM was held on 6 April and we're very pleased to report that despite earlier fears to the contrary **FHRA LIVES ON!** As such, the Fête & Picnic, Quiz and Christmas Lights Event should be going ahead as planned, so pop 16 July, 14 October and 25 November in your diary! Membership renewals will be sent out shortly, now we know there's something for you to belong to!

Some existing committee members have taken on additional responsibilities, but even better, several people have volunteered to come and help us. Chris Marriott was elected Membership Secretary and over the coming weeks, we hope to co-opt at least three more people into the team. Watch out for a full team announcement in the next Grapevine.

For now though, it is appropriate to give a huge vote of thanks to Janet Smith and Anne Cameron who have retired from their FHRA roles after many years sterling service. Janet agreed to take on the Vice Chairman's role in 2013, never expecting that just six short months later she would have to step up to lead FHRA. Under her guidance, FHRA has built relationships with many other village groups, who combine together to make community events such as the Fête and Picnic so successful. Anne has single-handedly managed FHRA's Membership database and renewal process for the past four years and if that weren't enough, she's been a huge help in all FHRA's events during this time. It would be remiss to thank Janet and Anne without mentioning their husbands, Phil and Don, and of course Anne's sister Paula Cusack who has turned up to help at so many events,

even though she doesn't even live in the village!

Litter Pick

It was no April Fool's joke! We were delighted that we had a very successful Village Spring Clean the morning of 1 April and that so many people turned up to be greeted enthusiastically by Samson. We want to thank everyone who came and helped and it was great to see so many young people there. The Methodist Church very kindly invited everyone for refreshments throughout the morning and to delicious leek and potato soup for lunch. A huge thank you to Vicky Everitt and all of her helpers who made this possible. It was really interesting to see the innovative way a couple of our younger villagers used their scooters to help support and carry the litter as it was collected. We were very disappointed however to find fly tipping by the bottle bank; this was reported in so it could be investigated. We hope this does not happen again as it is an offence. We were told a number of times that there was not as much ordinary litter in the main locations where we usually find loads so we hope that this continues and that our village becomes a more attractive place to live in and for others to visit.

Finally, please remember our website: www.flackwellresidents.news, our email address: info@flackwellresidents.news and  Flackwell Residents News.

Carolyn Leonard
Chair of Planning and Environment
Group
01628526512
fhra-planning-environment@flackwellheath.net



Football!

Football season over?...If you're looking for a quick fix then the biggest football tournament in Buckinghamshire is happening just around the corner.

Flackwell Heath Minors FC 'Festival of Football' Tournament will be held over the weekend of Saturday June 3 and Sunday June 4 at Green Dragon Lane sports ground.

It's a great village tradition and club occasion and when the sun is shining it's a great day out for all the family. As well as the football, there's a bar, bouncy castles, barbeque, tombola, face painting and lots of other fun to be had over the two days.

There'll be over 1,600 boys and girls from 200 teams across the county and beyond, supported by their families and friends as well as hundreds of our loyal supporters from the village. "It's a great club and we're really proud to be a part of the community" said Declan Breen, Club Chairman. "The tournament is a major event for the club, it takes a great deal of planning and organising and the money we raise goes back into the club to fund equipment and facilities".

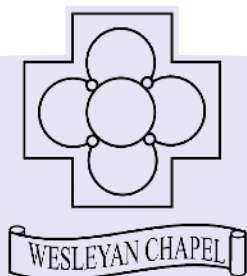
We look forward to welcoming you all in June



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FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesday 9 May, 9.15 - 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 such activities as adult colouring, pancakes and a recipe swap. To book a place in the crèche, please contact Vicky on 07979 541874.

Tuesday 9 May, 12.30 - 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 13 May, 10am - noon – **GIRLS' BRIGADE SPRING FAIR, COFFEE MORNING AND CAR WASH.** Come along and support our GB and have your car cleaned too!

Saturday 20 May, 10am - noon – **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 21 May, 11am - noon – **SUNDAY LIVE!** with food from 10.15. A service for young families and the young-at heart, led by Deacon Ruth Richey.

Sunday 28 May, 6.30 - 7.30pm – **CELEBRATE!** A lively music-based service for all the family led by Rev. Singa Vunipola.

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

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!

'ThinkUknow' and Bucks Youth Space are running a seminar for parents concerned about helping their children use the Internet and Social Media safely on Wednesday 3 May at 7.30pm. Book in or just turn up.

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 7 May there will be an all-age look at **'The Walk to Emmaus'**: the 'No Strings Attached' Puppeteers will be helping us with the story.

'How to Drug Proof Your Kids' – a six week course about helping children make positive choices. Ideal for parents of children Yr5 upwards, it begins Friday 12 May (9.30am – 11.30am). There are limited places so please book in.

Christian Aid Week is 60 years old! From **May 14 – 20** everyone can play their part and truly make a difference! Money raised is sent through partner organisations that are best placed to make sure it goes to those who need it most. To find out more please go to: www.christianaid.org.uk. Apart from the village door-to-door collection we are holding two fund-raising events:

- A Bread & Cheese lunch on Tuesday 16 May 12noon – 1.30pm (please book so we can cater for you)
- A Plant Sale with Car Wash, Cake Stall & Refreshments on Saturday 20

May 10am – 12.30pm.

'Prayer for Healing' is offered regularly every 3rd Sunday morning as part of our 9.00am service of Holy Communion. The next date is Sunday 21 May. Healing Prayer continues to be offered every Sunday after the 10.30am service.

Ascension Day Quiet Morning and Communion: Remember when you used to get the day off school for Ascension Day? Sadly this no longer happens... but you can still remember Ascension Day. A Quiet Morning on Thursday 25 May offers quiet space for personal reflection with two short guided talks with an Ascension theme (9.30am to 12.30pm) will be followed by a short service of Holy Communion at 12.30pm. All welcome.

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 9am to 11.30am and on Wednesday 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

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Neighbourhood Watch News

May 2017



Table Top Event, Christ Church - Tuesday, 9 May, between 10am and 12noon

There will be a table-top display of security and safety information and products, at Christ Church during the Coffee Stop and other activities on 9 May. If you have ANY concerns about the safety and security of either yourselves or family members, do come along and have a chat with us. Whilst we may not be able to answer every question, we will do our best to point you in the right direction.

Keep your property safe and secure

Although government statistics suggest that there has been a decline in theft in general, thought to be due to the growth of 'cons and scams', we must not become complacent, and must continue to look after our homes and property. At the risk of repeating myself, ensure that your property looks 'lived in' at all times, especially when you are away on that well-earned holiday. Security marking of garden machinery, expensive furniture and even garden ornaments is worth considering. Should you be unlucky and have things stolen from your

garden, the police will have a fighting chance of re-uniting you with your valuables if they can be traced back to you.

Current crime picture

Lighter evenings encourage folk to stay out later into the evening, and there have been reports of some antisocial behaviour in our village, often involving youths from neighbouring areas. Should you witness any such undesirable activity, don't be afraid to report it on the Police 101 number, as it is only with our help that the police will be made aware of a problem, and then perhaps they can do something to prevent it.

Those of you who are registered to receive Thames Valley Alerts will have been intrigued by the 'Lawful Citizen' scam that was reported during April on behalf of Action Fraud. For the benefit of readers who do not receive TVAlerts, the scam e-mail arrived addressed to the recipient by name and carried details of their home address. The attached document used the recipient's name as a title, and there was a file 'password'. The attachment is believed to contain the Banking Trojan Ursniff/Gozi, hidden within an image in the document. The Ursniff Banking Trojan attempts to obtain sensitive data from victims, such as banking credentials and passwords. The data is subsequently used by criminals for monetary gain. Should you ever receive such an

e-mail, DELETE it at once and advise Action Fraud.

We continue to see the receipt of phishing e-mails appearing to be from organisations such as PayPal, Amazon, DVLA, ASDA, to name but four! Vishing (telephone phishing) calls claiming to be from Microsoft, BT, TalkTalk, etc. continue to pester many residents, although the introduction of call blocking services or equipment by some providers is helping to reduce their impact.

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 'spoofer'
Crimestopper site

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

Cyberaware – www.cyberaware.gov.uk

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

The Information Commissioner's Office:
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NHS: 111

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Heath Singers Spring Concert

The Heath Singers had the pleasure of singing at Green Acres Burial Ground in aid of Diabetes UK on 1 April. It was a beautiful spring afternoon - sunny, warm with the trees just in tender green leaf. We sang a variety of songs, including a delightful spring song 'It was a Lover and his Lass', and were delighted to welcome a young man, Nick Pullen, who captivated the audience with his classical guitar solos.

The Green Acres staff were immensely supportive during the planning of the event, and on the day when they kindly served tea and cakes made by choir members. Over £1000 was raised for Diabetes UK. We would like to thank everyone who supported us.

Flackwell Amblers

If you would like to join us on Sunday 21 May, The Flackwell Amblers will be going for a walk at Odds Farm. 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 25 June, 2017.

C. Barker

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Flackwell Heath Community Library

Annual General Meeting: Sunday 4 June at 12noon

All people who are members of 'Friends of Flackwell Heath Library' (FFHL – the charity that runs the library) are invited to the AGM to be held at the library. This is your chance to learn details of the operation of the Library and to voice your own opinions and suggestions of things you might like us to consider. The positions of the Committee are all voted on and if anyone wishes to join our Committee then please let your intention be known to an existing Committee member. It is our intention that the formal business of the AGM will be followed by a BBQ for FFHL members and their partners.

Easter Crafts

The Easter Crafts activities on 1 April were a great success with around 18 local children creating various craft items to help their families celebrate Easter. The photo shows just one child who participated and her creation.



Keep an eye open for further children's events later in the year.



Flackwell Heath
Community Library,
Chapel Road, Flackwell
Heath,
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email: fhcl@flackwellheath.net
web: www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries

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Dates For Your Diary	
May	
Monday 8	Local History Group Fact Finding Forum, see page 6
Tuesday 9	Neighbourhood Watch stall at Christ Church, 10am – noon.
Monday 15	Local History Group talk: 'Loudwater in The Great War' see page 6
Tuesday 23	Lacemaking demo in Library, 10.30 – 12noon, see page 6
Tuesday 23	Age Concern Day Centre AGM, 7.30pm at the Centre, see page 1
June	
Saturday 3	'Feast of Football' FHMFC at Green Dragon Lane Rec.
Sunday 4	'Feast of Football' continues
Friday 16	'Diabetes Day' at Carol Bailey's house (227 Blind Lane)
July	
Thursday 6	Heath Singers' summer concert
Sunday 16	Village Picnic

A few hours a week to spare?

Could you offer a few hours of your time to help in the Day Centre each week? There are jobs such as preparing vegetables, helping serving tea/coffee, befriending clients, driving the minibus or escorting the driver on the minibus. Also - can you play an instrument to lead singing from time to time? Please ring the Day Centre on 01628 526113 if you could help with any of these, or come along to the AGM (see details above).

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What is our village's Favourite Hymn??

For weddings, Christenings and funerals people often choose a hymn that means something to them or to a loved one, or perhaps something is remembered from school assemblies or heard on the radio or TV's Songs of Praise? The two churches in the village think it would be really interesting to find out what is a favourite of yours. Here are some suggestions, but tell us about any others, too.

- *Great is Thy faithfulness*
- *Love divine, all loves excelling*
- *All things bright and beautiful*
- *Shine, Jesus, shine*
- *Thine be the Glory*
- *In Christ Alone*
- *This little light of mine*
- *The Lord's my shepherd*
- *The day thou gavest Lord is ended*
- *Abide with me*

At some time in the near future we would like to arrange a Village Songs of Praise, when we could come together to sing the Top Six favourites!

Please let us know by 31st May at the latest, via our websites: www.ccfh.org.uk or www.fhmc.org.uk - by email to either wallisrands@btinternet.com or sue@gdtfire.com

We look forward to receiving some interesting responses!!!

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Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

When you join the WI, you become a member of your local Institute, which may be part of a Group of five or six local Institutes, and also belongs to a County Federation and the National Federation. Your own Institute has regular monthly meetings and occasional events. You also have access to social events, conferences, day schools and trips organised by the County.

National has an Annual Meeting, some years at the Albert Hall but sometimes in other cities with big enough venues – this year in Liverpool. This is where the resolutions about potential new campaigns, which have been discussed at Institute and County level, are either approved, amended or sometimes turned down – the WI is democratic and can be radical. Governments of any stripe tend to listen to us.

This year's resolutions are about combating loneliness and encouraging research into the shedding from our laundry of tiny plastic fibres that end up in the oceans. We shall discuss them at our May meetings.

Morning

We celebrated our 25th Birthday at our April meeting with about 30 members plus nine visitors from other local institutes in our Group.

The speaker, Nigel Eagling, a retired police officer of the old school, whose talk was entitled 'Fags & Frustration' which says it all! He served in the Met and then Thames Valley Force for many years in what became the Regional Crime Squad (now on a National basis). In his earlier years he said the TV programme 'The Sweeney' was not unlike his experiences. He had a number of amusing tales to tell. We followed this with a finger buffet provided by our members.

Evening

Because this year the second Thursday in April fell on Maundy Thursday, we are having a formal meeting in August instead.

Our 3-member team came third in the southern heat of the BFWI quiz this year, which means they go on to the WI 3-County (Bucks, Herts and Beds) final in the summer.

FLACKWELL LOCAL AREA HISTORY GROUP



Our next talk at the Flackwell Heath Library will be on Monday 15 May, from 7:30pm:

Loudwater in The Great War

Mike Dewey and John Gurney will speak about, and show pictures of, the village of Loudwater at the time of WWI and also relate stories about some of the local soldiers who either perished or survived during the Great War.

The talk will consider:

- What Loudwater looked like at the time of WWI
- Some of the men who served and paid the ultimate sacrifice
- Those who served and survived
- The families left behind in the village when their men went off to war

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.

Fact Finding Forum at the Flackwell Heath Library on 8 May, from 7.15 – 9.00pm

Local Area Pubs – We have lost many pubs over the years. They have either been converted into accommodation, or have been demolished. Do you remember how many pubs there used to be

in the local villages? What were their names? Were they owned by a brewery?

We would love to have your memories, and photos if you have any. Please come and join us for a chat and a cuppa.

A date for your diary: Monday 19 June from 7:30pm



'Frackle' what happened: Who built what, where, when and why?

Jane Dunsterville resumes her story of the development of the modern village of Flackwell Heath, from the 1950's.

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.



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Flackwell Heath &
Loudwater Local History Group**

www.localhistorygroup.org.uk

Two members went on a County trip to the Royal Academy to see the exhibition of Russian art in the period from 1917 – 32; the art reflected the turbulence of the times, with wildly varying styles and subjects.

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Recycling: worth every penny!

Six ladies from Flackwell Heath Evening Institute visited High Heavens to find out more about recycling in our area. We had food waste specifically in mind as the NFWI is encouraging us to find out more about waste in the journey of food from farm to plate. We had visited some of the main supermarkets in the area and found most retailers are well aware of concerns regarding food waste– for example few now encourage customers to buy one get one free (BOGOF). This was an extension of that research.

We were welcomed to High Heavens by Andrew Jenkins from BCC and some of the on-site team who then took us on a tour of the site. The site is used to bulk up material, before it is sent on to its final destination. This saves the local collection vehicles time and is more efficient all round.

First impressions: clean, tidy and no smell! We saw one of the familiar recycling vehicles bring in its load of green waste and kitchen waste. Green waste is kept in optimised-size heaps to rot down – and eventually finds its way back to the land to improve its wellbeing. The ultimate goal is to replace petrochemical fertilisers.

Our bins of Food Waste are put in the pod at the front of the vehicle – some 16,000 tons is collected annually. Sometimes the waste collectors can be seen using normal wheelie bins to collect the food, this is just an efficient way of working, and the food is still recycled. A quick turn round of both Green and Food Waste is essential to avoid unpleasant smell and contamination.

Andrew told us that it is not necessary to use corn starch bags for our food



waste bins, indeed no bag at all is OK, but a lining of paper is also acceptable. Regarding food labelling he said only a 'Use By' date was important as this was usually on food that could be dangerous to health after a stated time; 'Sell By' date was about marketing and 'Best Before' was more about taste not health. All very useful information!

We asked about plastic recyclables and the confusion many of us have in knowing what can and can't be put in the blue bin. Andrew said this is improving all the time. Plastic film still cannot be recycled, all other 'hard' plastic pots, tubs and trays can be put into the blue bin as nearly all can be recycled. Currently black plastic (such as plant pots and the new trays for fish and meat in some supermarkets) is a problem as they cannot be 'seen' by the infrared used to sort the plastic. His advice was to try and avoid buying black plastic where possible, and put it in the general rubbish bin if you do have it.

We asked Andrew 'Is there too much food packaging?' His view was that producing food is much more expensive, in terms of environmental and financial cost, than the packaging it comes in, so if we get more food to the consumer in good condition that reduces food wastage which is better for the environment.

What we saw at High Heavens is the outcome of a Buckinghamshire County Council 2013 contract with FCC Environment to build and operate an Energy from Waste (EfW) plant at Greatmoor in north Buckinghamshire. This contract is worth £275 million and will save Buckinghamshire taxpayers £150 million over its 30-year life.

So what we have is a Waste Service that is good for the environment and for our pockets!

If you want more information – google 'recycling in buckinghamshire'

Pat Kendell



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PTA

* The Circus is coming to Flackwell Heath! *

Thursday 18 May - Show starts 6pm

Gates open 4.30pm, Interval 6.45pm, Second-half 7.15pm

Show finishes 8pm

We are excited to announce that the Circus is coming to Flackwell Heath!
A Big Top will be set up on Carrington Junior School field and the show will include clowns, acrobats, aerialists, magic, fun and much, much more!

There will also be a bar and food available to complete the family fun night out.
www.happyscircus.co.uk

Tickets are on sale to the whole village and beyond!

A family ticket for 4 people is £35. Individual adults are £12 and children £8

Children under 3 years old are free of charge, provided they sit on a lap!

Seats are strictly limited, so please don't miss out!

For details on how to get your tickets, or to find out more please contact carringtonpta@gmail.com

Wye Valley Volunteers

The office of Wye Valley Volunteers (WVV) is in Bourne End but it offers its services to a wider community, including Flackwell Heath. In fact, Flackwell Heath Good Neighbours joined the newly merged Bourne End Good Neighbours and Volunteer Bureau in 1988, so there is a long association.

Then, as now, WVV has offered a range of services to people in need in the community. There is a much used transport scheme in which volunteer drivers using their own cars take clients to (mainly) medical appointments – hospital, GP, dentist etc. Clients pay the driver a small sum to cover the petrol costs.

Also available is a home visiting scheme in which volunteers befriend mainly elderly clients who live alone: they can offer practical help such as shopping and dog walking. Many friendships have been built up in this way over longer term visiting but visits can be for short periods as, for example, if the family of a client goes on holiday.

Bourne End and Flackwell Heath have their own separate arrangements for lunches and coffee mornings for the

elderly.

We have quite a few clients from Flackwell Heath and would like to increase the number of volunteers; we would be delighted to hear from more of both categories. Our clients are generally older or have mobility difficulties but, as stated above, WVV is for 'anyone in need'. We are always keen to recruit new volunteers, particularly drivers. We work on the principle that even if you can only do an occasional trip, it all helps – there is no pressure!

If you would like to find out about our services, or would be interested in volunteering, do please contact us by phone - 01628 521027, in person – Community Volunteer Office, Wakeman Road, Bourne End SL8 5SX open 10-12 noon each weekday, or by email – enquiries@wyevalleyvolunteers.co.uk

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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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Grapevine



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Cocoon silk recycled paper.
FSC certified and totally chlorine free.