

THE Grapevine

July 2019

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



FLACKWELL IS SPREADING FLOWER POWER

There is a quiet, but purposeful takeover in the village that is gaining support from nature lovers.

Tired of seeing unkempt verges and grass borders, a few gardening enthusiasts have taken matters into their own hands by creating wildflower areas.

Not only are the pretty blooms brightening the village's public spaces, they are serving as welcome habitats for wildlife such as butterflies and bees.

One such reclaimed verge is at the corner of Green Dragon Lane with Bracken Way where local residents have sown flowers that include Poppies, Meadowsweet and Ox-eye Daisies to provide a jolly display of colour.



One wild flower enthusiast, Jane Dunsterville, welcomes the 'wild style'. She says: "Since the Council seems so slow in their grass cutting around the village, some of us have decided to fight our own corner."

Although some residents have called into question the role of the Council in maintaining the verges, it seems most of those who have noticed the flowers are now enthusiastic supporters of the movement.

"The wild style takes a little getting used to, but it's lighter on maintenance and it is lovely to see some of the old-style meadow flowers again," Jane adds.

Read more about the wildflower project on Facebook including how to start your own flowering meadow on Flackwildheath.

No leads in shop attacks

Thames Valley Police are continuing to appeal for information in connection with the burglary at Sainsbury's on Straight Bit when tobacco and cigarettes were stolen. The front window of the store was smashed in the raid in the early hours of Friday 3 May. Despite following a number of lines of enquiry in their investigations no arrests have been made. The police have emphasised that they are still asking anyone with information to call them on 101, quoting reference 43190132556.

The attack at Unit 4 newsagents earlier in the same week when two men wearing balaclavas entered the shop – one wielding a knife – has also drawn a blank in police investigations. "Officers have conducted a thorough investigation in connection with this incident but it has now been filed pending further information coming to light," said a police spokesman. The incidents are not believed to be connected. Any information regarding Unit 4 can be reported to them on 101 quoting reference 43190128633.

Sunday July 14th 12 Noon - 4pm
Recreation Ground, Straight Bit
Flackwell Heath

PACK A PICNIC. bring a blanket, and come along with family and friends to enjoy a fun afternoon.

JUST RELAX OR JOIN IN! Tea, soft drinks and alcohol, ice cream and some light refreshments available.

ACTIVITIES & ENTERTAINMENT. Bouncy castles, games and activities for children. Entertainment provided by a variety of local musicians and performers.

Organised by Flackwell Heath Residents Association

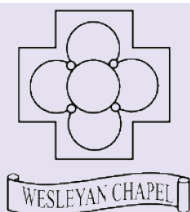
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FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 2 July, 11am – FAMILY SERVICE followed by FAMILY BARBECUE. All welcome; please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the church beforehand so we know numbers.

Tuesday 9 July, 9 to 11.30am – TIME OUT FOR 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 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.

Tuesday 9 July, 12.30 to 2.30 pm – CRAFTAFTERNOON. 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.

Sunday 14 July, 11 am – HOLY COMMUNION led by Rev. Nick Thompson.

Saturday 20 July, 10am - 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 28 July, 6.30pm – CELEBRATE! Lively music-based worship for all, led by Lesley Hatton.

All weekday groups meet at their usual times, with Sunday services at 11am, except where there is an afternoon service as specified above. 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



• Thank you to everyone who gave and everyone who helped support the **Christian Aid** collection and fundraising in Flackwell Heath in May. It raised a staggering £3376.

• On Sunday 29 June **Isaac Knight** was ordained Deacon in Oxford and joined Christ Church Flackwell Heath as Curate. He and his wife Ruth live in Green Crescent.

• **First Sundays at 10.30am** are 'Worship for Everyone'. It is what it says... worship for everyone... for all ages and stages! On **Sunday 7 July** there will an all-age look at wisdom from the Psalms.

• Christ Church is collecting for **One Can Trust**, the High Wycombe based food bank, from **30 June 30 to 14 July**. 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.

• The '**Tuesday Lunch Club**' meets at the Church Centre every first Tuesday of the month. Open to everyone, it serves 'Soup of the Day' and a roll from 12noon. You don't need to book... just turn up and enjoy good company and conversation while you eat. The next lunch is Tuesday 2 July.

• Christ Church hosts '**You-nique**', a regular support group for parents of children with additional needs. It meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month from 9.30am to 11.30am. This month it is **10 July**.

• '**Prayer for Healing**' is offered regularly every 3rd Sunday morning at the 9.00am Holy Communion service. The next date is **Sunday 21 July**. Healing Prayer is also offered every Sunday after the 10.30am service.

• **Is Coffee Stop Flackwell Heath's best-kept secret?** Every weekday morning during term-time from 9am to 11.30am (Wednesday only during school holidays) Coffee Stop serves fantastic fairly-traded tea and coffee with daily newspapers. Open for everyone, it provides a friendly place to meet old friends and make new ones. Why not give it a try!

• **Please contact the Church Office for further information on any of the above (Phone 01628 533004: 9am – 1pm Monday to Friday or email admin@ccfh.org.uk) or visit www.ccfh.org.uk**

Walk the Life of Jesus – Outdoor Prayer Stations



Christ Church is putting up a series of stations outside the Church in our grounds from 1 July to 14 July. The 12 stations will tell key stories from Jesus' life, from birth to resurrection. Each station has activities, appropriate for adults and children. Free to visit at any time, you are invited to come and experience the Prayer Stations. More details from admin@ccfh.org.uk or visit www.ccfh.org.uk

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Fabulous Footie weekend



Over 200 young teams from across Bucks and beyond descended on Green Dragon Lane for the annual Festival of Football in June.

The event saw in the region of 1,700 boys and girls engaged in football matches across the weekend.

Chairman Declan Breen said "We were incredibly lucky with the weather again this year, glorious sunshine and great football have made it a brilliant event. It's helped us raise much needed funds for the club which will provide new equipment and help us refurbish our clubhouse.

"A big thank you to all our coaching staff, parents and their families and friends and volunteers from the village, we couldn't have done it without them."

Three Flackwell teams were successful over the weekend and won their finals: Flackwell Under 12 Girls Dragons (pictured right); Flackwell Under 13 Boys (below), and Flackwell Under 10 Boys (above)



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Peggy Woolhouse at the concert
Photo: Emily King

Golden Harmony

As we went to press, the Heath Singers celebrated 50 years of song. The concerts were also the final appearance of Peggy Woolhouse as conductor – after leading them for the entire 50 years. Packed audiences applauded a programme of the choir's favourites. Maureen Foster read one of her monologues ('The Swimsuit') and Paul and Jan Churchouse played some piano duets. The grand finale was a specially-arranged piece by John Rutter and a rousing version of 'Thank you for the Music'. Read more in the next issue of *The Grapevine*.

Sue Arnautov

Flackwell Local Area History Group

The next talk at the Flackwell Heath Community Library will be on

Monday 2 September 2019, at 7.30pm
Secrets of Bucks in WWII with John Gurney



The talk will explain how secretive establishments in the High Wycombe area helped shorten the war by their interpretation of air reconnaissance for passing on to the military. The main topics covered will be the aerial photograph interpreters of RAF Medmenham at Danesfield House, the map makers of 'Operation Hillside' at Hughenden Manor and their links to Daws Hill USAF base and RAF Bomber Command at Walters Ash.

Several secretive units, including Operation Hillside Hughenden Manor, laid claim to their contributions significantly shortening the war. Hopefully this talk will prove that the UK's superior use of air reconnaissance did just that.

This is a ticketed event. The tickets are available at the library from Tuesday 23 July, and are £5 (£3 to friends of FHCL). Please note that tickets will not be available on the night.

Village history – Flackwell Heath timeline

A village timeline has been prepared by the Flackwell Local Area History Group and can be found on their webpage at localhistorygroup.org.uk/Timeline/index.html. It lists the events which have shaped Flackwell Heath since 1800 and also sets them in the national and international context. Information about any of the events listed in the Timeline will be welcomed by the local history group who hope you enjoy reading it and invite comments or corrections.

Contact the group
at info@localhistorygroup.org.uk

Folders on the farms, woods and houses can be found in the local history section in Flackwell Heath Community Library. The following two items about the Swing Riots may be of interest:

"Buckinghamshire Machine Breakers" Jill Chambers (for loan)

Local History Group Swing Riots Documentation & Research 1830/31 (reference)

We made a mistake in the last publication in calling Fennels Wood, Fennels Farm Wood. We apologise for any upset caused.

Schools Records

The Local History Group have CDs of the Flackwell Heath & Loudwater Schools records for sale at £5 each.

Flackwell Heath 1876 – 1913

Loudwater 1871 – 1918

Please contact Pat Trotter 01628 524332 if you wish to buy a copy.

Appeal Corner

We are trying to find the oldest cherry tree in the village. Do you have an old cherry tree in your garden? Do you know when it was planted? How tall is it? What type of cherry is it? Please email Sally on info@localhistorygroup.org.uk



Cherry Trees Chapman Lane, Flackwell Heath c1930

Family History Research - To arrange a research session at the library please contact Gill Kyle on 01494 436314 or by email donkyle@btinternet.com. The sessions cost £2 for 50 minutes plus the cost of any photocopying.



Like us on facebook

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

Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

Morning WI

Speaker, Graham Horn, gave us an illustrated talk on his walk along the Macmillan Long Distance Path which runs for 290 miles from Boston, Lincolnshire to Abbotsbury, Dorset using public footpaths through lovely unspoilt English countryside. It took him three weeks, staying in B&B's overnight, and sometimes accompanied by a friend here and there. Fortunately the weather (it was Spring) was kind to him. He raised the splendid sum of £10,000 for Macmillan Cancer Support. The charity was founded in 1911 by Douglas Macmillan after seeing his father die from cancer.

For those of us who have been, or still are, walkers, we could appreciate the effort involving walking between 13-19 miles a day!

Next month we will be welcoming Denise Beddows to recall her career as 'No Job for a Woman'.

Brenda Aldridge

Evening WI

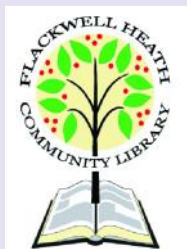
Two members went as observers to the National WI Annual Meeting in Brighton, and had greatly enjoyed the occasion. Both resolutions, on the cervical cancer screening test and rural bus services, were passed by large majorities.

July's speaker, Jeremy Holmes, had us enthralled with the story of Ernest Shackleton's expedition to Antarctica. Their ship 'Endeavour' was trapped and crushed in the pack ice, and with no communication at all, the only way home was over the ice to Elephant Island and then by sea to South Georgia, where there was a whaling station. With enormous difficulty and hardship, all the men were eventually brought home safe. This was documented in diaries and accounts and especially in wonderful photographs by Frank Hurley.

Next month's speaker will be very different as Rosemary Hillyard tells us about her diabetic grandsons.

At the July Meeting, the draw will be made for the annual bursary to attend a course at Denman. Members unable to attend can put their names forward for inclusion to any committee member.

Sue Arnautov



FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Change to opening hours

Owing to a much reduced demand from users for Tuesday evenings, we have revised our Tuesday opening hours to 10am to 5pm starting from the beginning of August 2019. We have now been running as a community library for more than 7 years and will still be opening for longer hours than the previously county-run library. We will now be open 10-5 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and 10-1pm on Saturdays.

Village picnic – Sunday 14 July

Come and see us at the Village Picnic, at the Straight Bit recreation ground, where there will be FREE Craft activities for the children, together with our very popular BOOK SALE.

Our regular activities

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 10am and 12 noon. 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.

Family History Research using the internet, with Gill Kyle. Individual 50 minute sessions. Cost £2 plus any photocopying charges. Please contact Gill to arrange a session at the library, telephone 01494 436314 or email donkyle@btinternet.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: 01296 382415 email: fhcl@flackwellheath.net

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Royal cuppa for Gilly



Lollypop man Gilly Fryer was given the royal seal of approval when he was invited to take tea at Buckingham Palace in May.

Bucks County Council nominated Gilly for the chance to attend the Queen's garden party as a thank you for his tireless job as crossing patrolman at the Carrington Schools for the last 17 years.

"I had a fabulous day. If I lived to be 180, I could not beat it," said Gilly, who saw Prince Charles and the Duchess of Cornwall and Princess Anne during the afternoon.



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Ash dieback disease reaches Flackwell Heath



Ash trees between Norlands Drive and Juniper Hill School

During May a mature ash tree on the corner of Norlands Drive and the Straight Bit was felled and confirmed to be suffering from ash dieback disease. Since a single affected tree can infect others over a range of 10 kilometres or more, it has to be assumed that all the ash trees in Flackwell Heath are now at risk. (If you have a favourite ash tree now might be the time to take a last good look before it's too late.)

The five ash trees in the picture (above), in the border hedge between Norlands Drive and Juniper Hill School, are less than 100 metres from the felled tree. At least three are showing signs consistent with having the disease.

Ash dieback is caused by the fungus *Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*, and is spread by airborne spores. The fungus was previously known as *Chalara fraxinea*, and ash dieback is still also known as Chalara dieback. It kills by blocking a tree's water transport vessels; thus it tends to be branches high in the crown, which have the longest water pathways from the roots, which are affected first. This, and the

fact that most of the symptoms of the disease can also be caused by other factors, make it difficult to diagnose with certainty in mature trees. In young trees and saplings where the twigs are more accessible for inspection, it is easier.

In a walk around Penn Wood recently, the author estimated that around 90 per cent of ash saplings there are affected. In Flackwell, something like half of our ash trees are now showing possible signs of Chalara. This is a big jump from last year, when only a handful looked as if they might have it. Possibly the drought conditions last summer stressed trees so that they became more vulnerable, or maybe last autumn provided good conditions for the disease to spread.

The outlook is bleak. Young trees are killed quickly, within a year or so. Older trees die progressively over a few years, but once infected hardly any recover. On felling, mature trees are often also found to have a canker rot in their heartwood, possibly an opportunistic disease taking advantage of the weakened tree. This may make diseased trees structurally unsound and necessitate felling on safety grounds. The Norlands Drive tree was

one such. Unlike elm trees, which reproduced by root suckers and which were genetically identical, there remains a glimmer of hope that the genetically diverse ash tree population will contain some individuals that have natural resistance, but despite early optimism there is as yet no evidence that this will be the case.

Malcolm Wiles

Flackwell Amblers

If you would like to join us on Sunday 21 July, the Flackwell Amblers will be going for a walk at Wooburn Common. 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.

Please note this walk may be subject to change at short notice due to prevailing weather conditions. New walkers welcome, just turn up on the day. The next date for your diary is Sunday 18 August.

C. Barker



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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

We're all going on a summer holiday.....!

The following are the 'Top Tips' for keeping your property secure over the summer:

- Always close and lock your windows and doors when leaving your property – even a small open window could entice a burglar.
- If you're in your garden make sure the windows and doors at the front of your property are secure.
- Do not leave valuables on display through windows.
- Any car or house keys should be out of sight and some distance from a window or door.
- Ensure that any side entrance is secure, locked and not easy to climb over, even when you're at home.
- If you want to leave windows open while you sleep, fit window restrictors so they cannot be fully opened.
- Consider installing a visible security light or alarm to deter criminals.
- If you're going on holiday make arrangements to ensure that your house appears occupied whilst you're away. Put your lights on a timer and

ask a neighbour to come and pick up your mail and draw your curtains. Don't advertise the fact you're on holiday on social media.

If there are any topics regarding security or crime prevention that you would like to see mentioned in this column, please get in touch via the contact details listed below.

For further information about Neighbourhood Watch, contact:

David Gresswell – Scheme Co-ordinator, Flackwell Heath

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

Police General & Non-emergency number: 101

Community Safety Team (Anti-social behaviour): 01494 421 087

Crimestoppers (Anonymous): 0800 555 111

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

Cyberaware – <https://www.cyberaware.gov.uk/>

ACTION FRAUD: 0300 123 2040 - <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/contact-us>

The Information Commissioner's Office: 0303 123 1113

NHS: 111

Rotary brings garden closer to fruition

Thanks to a generous donation from the local Rotary Club, Carrington Infant School is seeing its hopes for a super new garden coming one step closer.

John Dunsterville, President of the local Rotary Club, accompanied by Mike Ware Youth and Schools Chairman, generously presented the school with a cheque for £1,500.



The donation will be used to help fund a special sensory reading and music garden that will be used

by all the children for outdoor learning. The school has already raised a considerable sum helped by their fantastic PTA together with some other fabulous donations, so the children are now ready to help design their garden through ideas given in a recent design competition.

Through the Rotary Club, the school will also be setting up an exciting link with a school in Zambia. The aim is to become pen friends with school children in Zambia which will be a fantastic learning project.

Please take a chair...or table

Carrington Junior School is set to replace most of its classroom tables and chairs and is on the look out for people, or groups who may be able to recycle them. The classroom furniture is in various sizes, and although some is rather old, it is perfectly serviceable.

If anyone, maybe from a charity, nursery or group could benefit, please contact Mrs Moore via the school office on 01628 521457 or drop in at the Junior School reception.

Charity cash boost

I'm delighted to announce that the Diabetes Day fundraiser raised £2,867.56 on Friday 17 May.

I would like to thank all the local businesses and shops that donated goods or vouchers. Ashton Opticians, Bourne End gifts and cards, Cakes by Justine, Cleopatra, Costa coffee, Daisy

gift shop, Mr Patel, The Happy Union, Martin Adams, Dolce Vita, Fat fish, Lavender & Stone, Mitzi's, Nails Envy, Sainsbury's, Tesco (BE) and Bourne End fruit & veg.

Without all these people, helpers & supporters we could not do this. Thank you all very much.

Carol Bailey

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D-Day landings remembered

The 75th anniversary of the D-Day landings was commemorated with a service led by the Revd Canon Chris Bull at the War Memorial on Sunday 9 June. The service was followed by a reception at the British Legion Club with music and a special D-Day cake cutting.

The Flackwell Heath branch of the Royal British Legion continues to support serving and ex servicemen and women within the local community.

They are currently looking for a Poppy Appeal Organiser and volunteers to help the charity in Flackwell Heath. If you would like to volunteer in any capacity to assist The Royal British Legion, please contact: Mrs Sarah Sturt, Buckinghamshire County Secretary, email SSturt@britishlegion.org.uk.



Dates for your Diary

July

Saturday 6: Carrington Schools' Summer Fair 12 - 3pm at the Junior School grounds in Chapel Road. See front page.

Sunday 14: Village fete and picnic 12 - 4pm at the Recreation Ground, Straight Bit. See front page.

August

Saturday 3: 30th Anniversary tea party at The Cherries care home, Heath End Road. See this page.

September

Monday 2: Secrets of Bucks in WW11 with John Gurney a talk at the Community Library at 7.30pm. Tickets available from 23 July at the library. See p.4

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Raffle request

The Cherries Care Home on Heath End Road is celebrating its 30th anniversary on 3 August by holding an Open House with afternoon tea and a raffle. If you can spare a bottle (any type) that could be used as a raffle prize, the residents would be most grateful. Please drop any donations off at the home.

BBQ fun

The Allotment Association will be hanging up their gardening tools in favour of burgers and buns at their Annual Allotment BBQ on 20 July from 12 noon. Veggie lovers also catered for I'm sure - Ed!

Flackwell Heath Community Association

Chairman: Chris Cramer
01628 526129

Secretary: Chris Thomas
01628 520361

Treasurer: Barrie Walmsley
01628 522016

Centre Bookings

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

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