

THE Grapevine

March 2019

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



REPAIRS GRIND TO A HALT

Frustrations have bubbled over following further delays to reinstatement work outside the shops at Aries House in Straight Bit - and still no one can say when the work will be completed.

A display of inflatable monkeys and a sign saying 'What are we hanging around for?' was placed across the site in February where work on infilling the sinkhole had ground to a halt a few weeks earlier.

Shop owner Linda Jacob said that the display was to raise the profile of the delay. "Everyone is frustrated by this ongoing mess, the local businesses feel powerless and it makes the village look awful."

But the protests seem to have done little to speed the process up. Managing agents of Aries House, Lambert Chartered Surveyors, have admitted that the work has proved to be far more extensive than they had initially expected.

And Graham Drake from Cuxton Ltd, owners of Aries House, said:

"I have been very disappointed by all the delays that have affected not only my property but also others, including the local population.



"The sinkhole is a highly unusual phenomenon. In this case it has given rise to an Insurance claim and the professionals involved have had to get the approval for the work below and above ground. This involves a tendering process for each stage and is very slow. No progress can be made at any stage without the approval of the insurers."

Because the land is privately owned, none of the councils (county, district and parish) is able to intervene.

Last year another display at the site with toy dinosaurs and a sign proclaiming 'The land that time forgot' made headlines up and down the country and received around 300,000 shares on social media.

theWI

FLACKWELL HEATH EVENING WI

We would like to invite you to an
Open Meeting of our WI
on Thursday March 14 2019
at 7.30 for 7.45 start in the
Sarney Room, Community Centre

THE THANKFUL VILLAGES

(Those which lost none of their
combatants in WW1)

Speaker: Graham Horn

Please call 01628 528679
for a free ticket

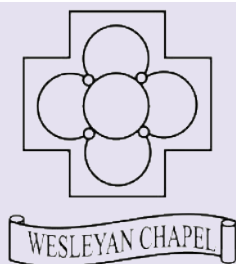
INSPIRING WOMEN

Subscriptions Due



It is time to renew your annual subscription to The Grapevine. You will soon receive a visit from your local Road Representative to collect payment. The cost remains the same as last year at £5 for 10 issues/year or £4 for those householders who are over 65 years. For those paying by cheque, please make it out to Flackwell Heath Community Association.

The Grapevine is produced by a team of volunteers who give their time and effort to keeping the newsletter afloat. So a big thank you to everyone who makes that possible including editorial contributors, advertisers, proof readers, designers and further down the line to our distributors, Road Reps and finally to YOU our readers. We rely on our readers to keep us in touch with all news and events in the village so if you have anything you would like to have publicised, or have any suggestions to share, please feel free to get in touch with us at grapevine@flackwellheathcommunitycentre.org.uk



FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesday 12 March, 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 12 March, 12.30 to 2.30pm – CRAFTERNOON. 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 16 March, 10am - 12 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 31 March, 11am – MOTHERING SUNDAY. A service for all the family led by Linda Lovell.

Sunday 31 March, 6.30pm – CELEBRATE! Lively music-based worship for all, in a joint service with Christ Church. Led by Rev. Nick Thompson and Rev. Chris Bull.

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



- There is **something for everyone at Christ Church**, with 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.

- Until 25 March we have been running the course – **'Parenting a child with additional needs'**. Additional sessions are available for ASD and ADHD. More details are available from parenting@ccfh.org.uk. Space is limited so please book as soon as possible.

- **Fairtrade Fortnight** runs from **25 February to 10 March** and reminds us to be fair to those who produce what we buy. Christ Church is a Fairtrade Church serving Fairtrade refreshments on Sundays and in Coffee Stop.

- Thinking about a Christening / baptism? An **"Exploring Baptism"** event takes place on **Sunday 3rd March** from 4pm to 5.30pm. As a first step to thinking about baptism for yourself or your children why not come along? For more information, contact the Church Office.

- On the first Tuesday of every month we host a **'Coffee Stop Lunch Club'**. Soup and a roll are served from 12noon. If you want good food, good company and good conversation just drop in. The next lunch is on **5 March**.

- **Mark the start of your Lent** and preparations for Easter by coming to an Ash Wednesday Holy Communion on **6 March** (8.00pm). In a service of quiet hymns and prayers may you find a place to renew your faith and passion for God.

- On **Saturday 16 March**, Fellowship – the Men's Group at Christ Church, welcome **Major General Tim Cross CBE** for a breakfast meeting. Come and hear his story!

- **Mothering Sunday 31 March:** At both 9am and 10.30am morning services we shall be presenting mums with flowers to say 'thank you'.

More details for the above are available from the Church website (www.ccfh.org.uk) and the Church Office in Chapel Road on admin@ccfh.org.uk and 01628 533004 (9.00am – 1pm Monday to Friday)

Volunteers sought at Day Care Centre

Do you have any free time in the week? The day care centre is appealing for volunteers to help support their senior citizens.

The Flackwell Heath and Loudwater Age Concern Day Centre is largely funded by Bucks County Council grants and charitable donations, but it relies on the goodwill of its volunteers to keep their valuable service available to residents.

There are always activities and entertainment at the friendly gatherings held from Monday to Thursday, plus there are fresh home cooked hot meals and refreshments at a nominal charge to

the 10-15 visitors who visit each day.

Chairman of the Trustees, Isobel Middleton, said: "We would be grateful for any free time people feel they may be able to offer. This could be in the centre or driving the minibus to and from our residents' homes."

Anyone interested is welcome to call in at the Day Care Centre between 9.30am and 3pm or go along to the AGM on 21 May at 7.30pm to learn more about the work of the Centre and ask any questions. Alternatively, you can call Centre Manager Jacky Retallack-Hall on 01628 526113.

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Pets' Champion Retires

Pet owners are going to notice a difference when they next visit Temple End veterinary surgery. Following many years of welcoming all types of animals - and their owners - through the door, Branch Manager Cindy Thomas is retiring.

Always offering reassuring support to anxious pet owners and ready to assist the veterinarians with any kind of medical emergency, Cindy has earned a huge amount of respect in the 34 years of caring for all types of domestic pet. She started at the Heath End Road branch surgery, when it opened in 1985. Initially working full time, she has been behind the reception desk three days a week for the past 2 years.

Cindy has seen and handled all creatures 'great and small' at the Heath End practice from amiable dogs and cats to more tricky rodents. She said: "I was once bitten by a hamster which led to a rather nasty infection spreading up my

arm, but on the whole most of our patients are very well behaved."

Veterinarian and Temple End Partner, Tim Ferens said Cindy will be sorely missed by all who know her. "Cindy has been like a second mum to a succession of young vets at the clinic. To the clients she is a friend and confidante, helping countless owners through the happiest and saddest parts of pet ownership. To the pets themselves she is always there with cuddles, tummy rubs and of course the odd biscuit after their examination. It is a joy to watch patients straining at the leash to come into the clinic so they can see their Aunty Cindy. She has been a huge asset to the practice."

Cindy and husband Haydn now plan to enjoy new adventures and family time together. The couple live in the village and have 3 married children and 8 grandchildren spread between Flackwell Heath, Devon and Loughborough.



She adds: "I have absolutely loved my time at Temple End. I have worked with some wonderful, dedicated people who have become dear friends over the years. Each day is different and over time I have got to know so many of the pets and their owners. I am going to miss it like mad!"

Carrington Infant School graded 'good' by Ofsted

We are delighted that following a visit by Ofsted last month, our school has again been graded Good. We know that Carrington Infant School is a fantastic place for young children to start their education and the report endorses this.

One parent mentioned that: "My daughter absolutely adores going to school" which is just what we want to hear! One child mentioned to the inspector that they thought it was a very happy school. Again, this is vitally important as happy children learn well.

The report highlights many lovely aspects of our school, including:

- Every child is supported to do their best.
- Pupils make strong progress.
- Parents are supportive of the school.
- Parents and children felt the school was safe.
- There are rigorous systems to monitor and check the well-being of pupils.
- Pupils behave well and support each other.
- Special needs children make good progress.



Carrington Infants is an exciting place for your child to begin their education. We believe in challenging ourselves and the excitement that comes from being immersed in learning. Recently, children were presented with prizes for an e-safety competition about keeping safe on-line and a mini graduation was held for 16 children across the school who have completed a learning challenge for each week of the school year so far! We are very proud of our lovely school and

will continue to work hard to develop our school even more, so that we offer the children an excellent education so each child can fulfil their potential. If you would like to come and visit the school, please contact the office by email office@carrington-inf.bucks.sch.uk or phone 01628 523356.

Rebecca Morrisson, Headteacher

Right royal appointment

Congratulations to much-loved lollipop man Gilly Fryer who has been invited to the Queen's garden party at Buckingham Palace in May. Gilly who celebrated his 90th birthday last October, was nominated by Bucks County Council for his unstinting dedication at the Carrington Schools where he has looked after children crossing the road for 17 years.

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Flackwell Local Area History Group

The next talk at the Flackwell Heath Community Library will be on **Monday 15 April 2019, at 7.30pm**

Steam on the Met and Chiltern Lines with John Gurney



John Gurney presents a repeat of his 2018 talk on the history of the local railways. Topics included will be:

The Metropolitan Railway which spawned the term 'Metroland' via Amersham to Verney Junction and its steam locomotives

The Brill Steam Tramway

The construction of the Marylebone main line from Denham to Princes Risborough and its steam locomotives.

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

Appeal Corner

Now for a photograph from the Sarney Collection. Is this lane or footpath near Sedgmoor still in existence?



If you recognise where this photo was taken then please email: info@localhistorygroup.org.uk

We also continue with our plea for old maps of the local villages as we would like to build a picture of how the villages have changed and grown over the years. We are also interested in copies of house deeds which detail who owned the land/or the house over the last one hundred to two hundred years.

Copies of old photographs of local houses, schools, churches, chapels, pubs, farms and farmland are also welcomed.

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 £2.00 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

February's speaker, Richard Poad, from Maidenhead Heritage Centre, gave a fascinating talk on film making in and around Maidenhead since the 1930's. Some local mansions were bought and used as studios, then eventually Bray studios were established. In the Carry On films, Maidenhead Town Hall was used as the hospital and when the council later wanted to demolish it, there was an outcry by the Fan club who won the day!

We watched many clips of films over the years up to recent times and a very long list of the well known actors who appeared.

In March the speaker is John Pearson on "Blessed are the Cheese Makers".

We meet on 1st Wednesday of the month at 10am in the Community Centre.

Brenda Aldridge

Evening WI

Two members went to the WI's Denman College. Their 2-day course was on Machine Embroidery and the resulting samplers were on display for us to admire.

February's speaker, Andrew Waite, introduced us to Jewellery. There was some relieved laughter when his 'diamond tester' declared several of our rings to contain genuine diamonds! He touched on assay marks, the purity of gold and silver, and the varied sources of stones, using amethyst, peridot, and opal as examples. After a film clip on amber, he had us all measuring our ring sizes.

The March meeting will be an Open Meeting, all are welcome (men too!). Speaker Graham Horn, a Blue Badge Guide, will discuss The Thankful Villages, those who lost none of their combatants in World War 1. Tickets (free!) are available from 01628 528679 (see front page).

Sue Arnautov

Sign of the times?

It was in November last year that a late night traffic incident resulted in a car colliding with the



village sign on the green at Common Road. Those wondering whether we have lost our village landmark for good may be assured that it will return, once police have completed their investigations. The flagpole with its metal picture depicting the old village school that once stood on the site of the Community Centre was erected in 2003. For now it is being safeguarded by Chepping Wycombe parish council until they receive police permission to place it back again.

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Get Music Scores from the library?

Whether you play the piano, violin, or other instrument, there is probably a score for you in the Bucks library collection. We have over 1,000 different music scores covering lots of different instruments and a wide range of music genres; from classical, light and popular music to jazz, film, folk and world music. There are also vocal scores, as well as sets of scores available for longer loan for choirs and orchestras.



Most of these are held in Bucks County Reserve Stock in Aylesbury but can be reserved for 60p reservation fee or free for concessions (under 18 and 65 and over)

Our regular activities

Yoga sessions—Sundays 10.00am-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 11.00 am. No need to book, just turn up.

Sewing Bee - Held on the 4th Wednesday of every month, between 7.00 and 9.00 pm. 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, Bucks HP10 9NR
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Triple Celebration



Birthday smiles from John, Audrey and little Leo

The extended family of popular Flackwell Heath couple Audrey and John Langley organised a celebration party for them on Sunday 10 February.

This was to celebrate the 90th birthday of Audrey, the 92nd of John, and the birth of their latest great grandchild Leo. The couple have lived in the village since 1957, except for a spell of a few years when John's work took them to Chelmsford.

Over the years they have been heavily involved in the life of the village, particularly the Bowls Club. Audrey also played a leading role in organising events to raise funds for the building of the Community Centre. It was particularly appropriate therefore that the party was held in the Sarney Room of the Centre and was attended by over 40 family and friends.

Mike Dewey

Easter Bonnet Parade

Look out for Carrington Infant School's annual Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday 3rd April.

All manner of headwear will be on display as the pupils and the younger Pre-School children wend their way from the school in Chapel Road along to Sainsbury's, turn down into Old Kiln Road and back along the footpath opposite the Junior school.

The procession will start at roughly 9.30am.



Flackwell Amblers

If you would like to join us on Sunday 24 March, 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. N. B. This walk may be subject to change at short notice due to prevailing weather conditions. New walkers are welcome to just turn up on the day.

There is no walk in April so the next date for your diary is Sunday 19th May.

C. Barker



Music at the Legion

The Royal British Legion in Common Road has live music every Saturday. If you like to dance and/or socialise, give them a try. Details of bands, groups etc. from the Legion.

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NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

A Potential Financial Scam Case History

A resident was dealing with an established service provider with whom he had regular contact by phone and e-mail, and when a particular job had been completed, the supplier sent him an e-mail confirming details of the job and the cost incurred. The resident would usually settle any bills by bank transfer over the Internet. So far, so good.

However, just a few minutes after the initial e-mail had been received, came a second e-mail – apparently from the same e-mail address – asking the resident to transfer payment into the supplier's 'sub-account' because there was a problem with the supplier's main account which was being looked into.

Fortunately, there were enough clues in the second e-mail – lack of a personal greeting, poor spelling and grammar, various text errors – to make the resident suspicious, and he immediately phoned the supplier and asked how many e-mails he had just sent to the resident. 'Just the one' came the reply!

Sadly, this type of scam is not uncommon, and can take several forms, so when making financial transactions online, the best thing to do is follow the advice from Financial Fraud Action UK (<https://www.financialfraudaction.org.uk/>)

- Be on the lookout for unexpected invoices or unusual payment requests.
- Avoid enabling any macros on an untrusted document – in lay terms, don't open or download any document that you think may be dodgy!
- If you're suspicious – don't reply to the email but instead call your supplier on the number that you have on file to check the authenticity of the invoice.

For further information about any of these topics or 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>**

**The Information Commissioner's
Office: 0303 123 1113**

NHS: 111

Lottery launch at Carrington

Carrington Schools PTA has launched a school lottery open to everyone in the community who'd like to support the schools whilst having the chance to win some cash prizes.



There will be two draws each week both taking place on Saturday night at 8pm. The first draw guarantees a winner from the local community, with the cash prize determined by the number of tickets sold. The second draw is for the national prize of £25,000.

Tickets cost £1 per week and 40% of all ticket sales gets donated back to Carrington School funds. The first draw takes place on Saturday 2nd March, with weekly draws from then onwards. Results are posted online and winners notified by email. Join up and buy tickets online at www.YourSchoolLottery.co.uk

Feeding those in crisis

Donations of various store cupboard staples have been flooding through the doors of Christ Church for the One Can Trust. The trust gathers food donations from various collection points like Christ Church and redistributes them in emergency food parcels to local people in crisis. Christ Church makes three such collections to the Trust each year. Curate Margot Suter said: "This is another example of our congregation's ongoing generosity."



Margot with a small number of donations for One Can Trust



Carrington Junior School

This term we have started WOW – walk once a week to school. The WOW mascot came into assembly, made all the children laugh but inspired the children with his serious message. So far lots of children have made the positive first step of walking to school and bringing their parent/carer with them. Children achieve badges for walking every month. There are lots to collect so keep walking everyone!



We invited Julian Bazley, a local poet, to come and inspire our children to be even better writers. Julian has written a book called *The Brilliant Fish and the Clumsy Octopus*, and he shared the story in an assembly. Julian then spent some time with our youngest children helping them to write some poetry. As a result we had so many wonderful poems written that Julian very kindly offered to come and judge the poems – the prize being his brilliant book. We then displayed all the poems on our display aptly named, Beneath the Waves.

Our footballers have had a great season so far, the Under 11's competed in a quarter final of the Wycombe School cup. They played against current district champions Danesfield and put in a great performance but unfortunately lost 1-0.



The Under 10's then competed against local school Tylers Green and completely dominated for a 2-0 win. It was a very good performance with both goals scored by

Harrison. We move into the next round of the cup to be played this term.

Not to be outdone our netballers are in the league and have a number of matches lined up to play this season. I'm sure we will be hearing lots of great news from them.

Mrs Cameron, the deputy head teacher, has auditioned the children to set up a school choir.



There were lots of hopefuls which is always positive and now we have a great choir. We have

been fortunate enough to be selected to take part in Dare to Dream which is a performance at the Royal Albert Hall in March.

So this is a very exciting time for Carrington Junior School. A great way to end the winter blues and welcome the spring.

Anna Majcher, Head Teacher

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The first blooms of Spring

FHRA's next **Litter Pick** takes place on Saturday 27 April. Once again we're joining forces with the Flackwell Minors and Simply Waste. Let's hope for a sunny day.

Please also look out for details of the **AGM** which should take place in April as well.

In **Planning** news, FHRA and the Wycombe Society spoke at the WDC Planning Committee meeting on 13 February where Berkeley Homes' revised planning application for the Abbey Barn South development was considered. This is one of the reserve sites (not Green Belt or AONB) that WDC have released under the new Local Plan. The Ride will be preserved, and it is planned that the Chiltern Rangers will operate out of the site.

FHRA's comments included the desire for tenure neutral affordable housing, dwelling heights, playground and other recreation facilities. Most particularly, we argued against the inclusion of warehouse/storage facilities instead of Extracare provision. Although several councillors supported this view during the debate, we were unable to have the proposal overturned.

The Planning Committee approved the outline planning application for up to 550 homes and the full application for Phase 1's 129 homes. The plans are available on WDC's website under Reference 18/05363/FUL.

Chloë Andrews-Jones

Chairman FHRA

www.flackwellresidents.news

info@flackwellresidents.news

Flackwell Heath Residents News



Beautiful Cherry Plums at The Orchard

Myrobalan Plum, Prunus cerasifera

Myrobalan plums are fairly common in gardens and by roadsides in Flackwell. Native to the Balkans, it grows to be a small to medium tree, up to about 9 metres tall. It is regularly the first of the flowering trees into flower in the spring, and is mostly grown for this reason. The time of flowering is very variable; in exceptionally mild winters in towns, it can be into flower at the end of January, but in the

extended winter and very cold March of 2018, it was the last week in March before our trees emerged. It usually precedes blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), with which it is often confused, though in 2018 both were out together. The tree illustrated is in The Orchard.

The flowers are small with five petals, with conspicuous stamens, and in the type they are white. A number of cultivars with pink flowers (see inset) have been developed by the trade, and it is mostly these that are planted nowadays. They tend to be in flower a few days after the white flowering type. Unfortunately these cultivars also have purple leaves (in the case of the 'Nigra' cv almost black) which in the writer's opinion makes them dark, dull and drab plants for most of the summer. Some cultivars also tend to revert to the type, and it is quite common to see trees with a mix of both pink and white flowers.

Also often known as the Cherry Plum, the fruit is green, the size of a large cherry, but tasting of plums. It ripens to a yellow or red colour in early autumn, and makes delicious jam.

Malcolm Wiles

Road Rep Wanted

After many years service, Barbara and Maurice Hills are retiring; we send them our grateful thanks. Is there anyone willing to take over about 10 houses in Wilfrids Wood Close? It involves delivering The Grapevine ten times a year and collecting subscriptions once a year. Please contact George Boffin - 01628 523829.

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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Dates for your Diary

March

Saturday 2: Grow Your Own Veg, a talk organised by Flackwell Heath Allotment Association, Christ Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Thursday 14: Open Meeting of the Flackwell Heath Evening WI in Sarney Room, Community Centre, 7.45pm. See front page.

April

Wednesday 3: Easter Bonnet Parade, see p5.

Saturday 6: Easter crafts for children at the library from 10.15am to 12.30pm.

Monday 15: Steam on the Met and Chiltern Lines with John Gurney. A talk at the library from 7.30pm.

Saturday 27: Village Litter Pick



Editor: Julie Dickenson

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