

THE Grapevine

February 2020

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



THE FUTURE FOR THE Grapevine



After the plea in the December issue, several people came forward to offer their help. They feel that Flackwell needs a community newsletter, and have formed a 'working group' to have a go at the editorial side of producing your Grapevine.

The Community Association (publishers of The Grapevine) are most grateful for their support. Please will you, Dear Reader, support them in any way you can and be understanding if all does not go smoothly at first.

The address for any contribution – whether an article, a suggestion for an article, an advertisement for an event, a photo – remains grapevine@flackwellheathcommunitycentre.org.uk

There will definitely be an issue in March.

FLACKWELL HEATH AND LOUDWATER AGE CONCERN

Volunteers needed!

We are looking for volunteers to help at the Day Centre in Flackwell Heath. If you have a few hours a week to help with the care of our elderly clients, please contact us. Help is required with fundraising, food preparation, driving the minibus, or assisting with various activities. Please contact Jackie at The Day Centre, Common Road, Flackwell Heath, HP10 9NS. 01628 526113.

We would love to hear from you.



Wycombe Orpheus Choir

Len Dandridge Memorial

CONCERT

'A Night to Remember'

Saturday 15 February at

7.30pm

Christ Church

Tickets £14 (to include refreshments)

from Craig Lewis on 01628

528550 or online via

www.wycombeorpheus.org.uk/tickets

*In aid of Rennie Grove and
Oasis Self-Help Bereavement
Group*



Christmas festivities in the village got off to a flying start thanks to 'Christmas on the Green', held on Saturday 30 November in the village centre. Villagers enjoyed the usual traditions of carols around the village Christmas tree, the tree-lighting ceremony itself and children meeting Father Christmas in the Community Centre. However, these old traditions were joined by a few new ones!

Common Road was closed to vehicles and played host to a Christmas street market showcasing local businesses with craftspeople, schools and charities all providing the village with an opportunity to kick-start their Christmas shopping! The mulled wine was flowing (courtesy of the Residents' Association stall) and local food and drink businesses joined in the fun, keeping villagers well fed and watered. Particular thanks must go to some of the shops and homes on Common Road who lent their electricity to the market stall-holders and kept the market a-glow with fairy lights! There



was also plenty going on down at the British Legion, who played host to a carousel, a gin bar, Ginny's Jungle mini-beast experience and children's face-painting, as well as their normal bar being open as usual.

Throughout the afternoon we were treated to festive performances from the village's choirs: Juniper Hill School Choir; Carrington School Choir; and the Heath Singers, followed by music from the West Wycombe Brass Band who played some festive favourites before accompanying villagers in singing some more traditional carols around the tree. The tree lights were switched on by winners of the children's colouring competition and Florence Upton, in recognition of her 'Look for a Book' scheme.

The village children enjoyed a very exciting afternoon: not only did they have the opportunity to meet Father Christmas, but they were kept entertained by a performance from the

Anna Rose Dance School, a Christmas disco run by local DJ Paul Freeman who volunteered his time for the afternoon and a Disney 'Frozen' singalong from Princesses Elsa and Anna! The Community Centre was packed all afternoon - what a party!

The feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive and many commented on the real feeling of community spirit enjoyed by all throughout the day. This fantastic afternoon was thanks to a combined effort from the Flackwell Heath Residents' Association, the Flackwell Heath Community Centre Association, the Scouts, the British Legion and a whole host of volunteers from the village (particular thanks to Nigel and Alison Peach who ran the outdoor PA all afternoon in very chilly temperatures). We look forward to seeing what they have in store for us next year!

Larisa Townsend



Elsa and Anna

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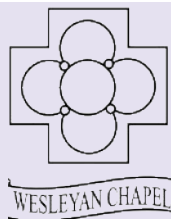
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FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

Tuesday 11 February, 9.15 - 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 11 February, 12.30 - 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.

Tuesday 11 February, 8 - 10pm – **TIME OUT FOR MUMS.** A place for mums to catch their breath.

Saturday 15 February, 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 23 February, 6.30pm – **CELEBRATE!** A lively music-based service for all. Led by Rev Georgina Bondzi-Simpson.

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
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Coffee Stop, the Christ Church Coffee Shop, is open to everyone... and serves fantastic fairly-traded tea and coffee with daily newspapers, and provides 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 you are invited. **The 'Coffee Stop 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 in the Church Foyer. You don't need to book... just turn up and enjoy good company and conversation while you eat. The next occasion is Tuesday 4 February.

'Tricks and Laughs' – starring Steve Legg – a great evening of family-friendly fun, magic and comedy – Friday 7 February, 7.30pm. Steve is an international entertainer who has performed all over the world and he's coming to Christ Church! Tickets from the Church Office (Adults £8; Children £4; Family £20 – 2 adults and 2 children).

'Hot Potatoes! CU@the Pub, a lively discussion group debating topical issues with a Christian perspective, meets on the first Friday evening of each month at The Crooked Billet Pub in Sheepridge Lane. If you fancy a great discussion then this is the place for you! The next date is February 7.

It is too late for this term's **'Time out for Parents – Parenting a child with additional needs'**... but additional sessions are available for ADHD (March), ASD (summer term) and 'Handling Anger' (autumn term). More details are available from parenting@ccfh.org.uk. Spaces are limited so please book as soon as possible. Christ Church also hosts **'You-nique'**, a regular monthly support group for parents of children



with additional needs. It meets every 2nd Wednesday of the month for coffee, 9.30am to 11.30am.

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. **Junior Church** is open to all children ages 3 to 11 years. Each Sunday is full of stories, games and crafts around a Bible theme. Email children@ccfh.org.uk for more details.

Fairtrade Fortnight runs from **24 February to 8 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.

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 – 1.00pm Monday to Friday).

Road Rep.Wanted

Carol Swadling is retiring after many years service as Road Rep for The Grapevine. We thank her for all her help. This means we need a new Road Rep to cover about 30 houses in the area including St Hilda's Way, Glenmore Close and Hawthorn Gardens. Could you help? Road Reps deliver The Grapevine to the subscribers in their area 10 times per year, and collect the subscriptions once a year (always supposing The Grapevine continues to be published – but there will certainly be an issue in March).



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Neighbourhood Watch News

HAPPY NEW YEAR

I hope you all had a safe and enjoyable Christmas and send my best wishes for 2020.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?

Neighbourhood Watch is the largest single UK voluntary organisation whose main objectives are to help reduce crime and the fear of crime. The financial constraints which continue to be faced by the police will inevitably have an impact on policing, which will make Neighbourhood Watch even more valuable. It will be interesting to see how the new government tackles this issue!

Neighbourhood Watch continues to grow in the Wycombe Local Policing Area (LPA), and the Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association is the most active in the Thames Valley area. Their web-site can be found at: <https://neighbourhoodwatchwycombe.org/>

Why not make it one of your New Year Resolutions to start a scheme in your road? If you are already in a scheme, how about giving your scheme a bit of a refresher? Have any new residents been invited to join your scheme? Is your

street signage up to scratch? We continue to be able to provide FREE street signs for NEW schemes or to replace existing signs that are out-of-date or damaged, thanks to valuable sponsorship by A-Plan Insurance in High Wycombe. Talk to anyone in an active Neighbourhood Watch scheme, and they will confirm the benefits – both practical and social – of belonging to a scheme.

CYBERCRIME

Despite being significantly under-reported, all forms of cybercrime continue to outstrip ALL other crimes, and the cost to the global economy in 2018 was estimated to be £1.2 trillion – yes – trillion. That's equivalent to £2.3 million every minute! (Source: SCMedia UK).

Cyber criminals seek to exploit human or security vulnerabilities in order to steal passwords, data or money directly. The most common cyber threats include:

- Hacking - including of social media and email passwords
- Phishing - bogus emails asking for security information and personal details

- Malicious software – including ransomware through which criminals hijack files and hold them to ransom

- Distributed denial of service (DDOS) attacks against websites – often accompanied by extortion (Source: NCA UK).

The latest example of Ransomware affected the global business of the firm Travelx, a travel money provider, and the major UK banks were also affected as a consequence.

Cyber crime is a global threat. Criminals and the technical infrastructure they use are often based overseas, making prosecution almost impossible, and international collaboration essential. It is very important to be aware of these threats and to take appropriate steps to minimise exposure both at home and at work.

For further information about this topic or about Neighbourhood Watch in general, contact:

David Gresswell – Scheme Co-ordinator, Flackwell Heath

(Tel: 01628 525019

e-mail: flackwell-nhwatch@talktalk.net)

Flackwell Local Area History Group

Our next talk - Sticky Bombs and Stool Pigeons with John Gurney

Please join us at the Flackwell Heath Community Library on **Monday 10 February 2020, at 7.30pm**

John's talk will cover the secretive WWII Weapons Research & Development organisation which was located at the Firs Mansion, Whitchurch. It was also known as 'Winston Churchill's Toyshop'. Also included will be the intelligence gathered from the bugging of P.O.W. conversations at Buckinghamshire mansions in Beaconsfield and Chesham, where MI9 officers disguised as Germans would often sit in as 'stool pigeons' and some other lesser known Buckinghamshire WWII organisations.

This is a ticketed event. The tickets are available at the library from Tuesday 7 January, and are £5 (£3 to friends of FHCL). Please note that tickets will not be available on the night.

Date for your diary:

Our next talk is on Monday 20 April 2020 from 7:30pm – **The Carringtons**

Discover the history of the Carringtons, particularly in this locality, at this informative talk given by Sarah Charlton, the Carrington archivist.

Newsletter

The Local History Group produces a newsletter twice a year full of the History Group information. It is sent by email. If you are interested in receiving it, please send your email address to info@localhistorygroup.org.uk. Your details will not be shared with any third party. We only use the information to send out the newsletter and you only need to let us know if you no longer want to receive it.



Like us on facebook/Flackwell Heath,

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

Police Non-emergency number: 101

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

Crimestoppers (Anonymous): 0800 555 111

NEW: Citizen's Advice Consumer Helpline: 03454 040 506 (Prev: Trading Standards)

Cyberaware:

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

ACTION FRAUD: 0300 123 2040

<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/contact-us>

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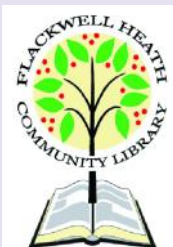


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FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Family History Research

If you want to research your family history then come to the library. You can do this yourself with the popular Ancestry.com web site, which is FREE to use, provided you are using one of our three public computers.



Alternatively, if you would like a bit of help, then book a 50 minute one-to-one session with Gill Kyle. Gill will guide you through Ancestry.com and also point out other avenues of research using your own background information. Please contact Gill to arrange a session at the library, telephone 01494 436314 or email donkyle@btinternet.com. The cost is just £2 plus any photocopying charges.

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

Tel: 01296 382415 email: fhcl@flackwellheath.net

web: www.buckscc.gov.uk/libraries



Oak Tree

As was briefly mentioned in the December Grapevine, the oak tree that was featured in the April 2018 issue was felled in November. The article noted that the tree was infected with the Oak Bracket fungus, which mostly attacks the tree's root system. A survey using ground penetrating radar was conducted earlier in 2019, and the damage was found to be extensive. It was therefore decided on safety grounds that due to its prominent position close to roads and houses, this much loved specimen, which had probably been a feature of Flackwell Heath's skyline for nearly 300 years, had to come down. It is greatly missed by local residents such as Janet & Dave who have lived opposite this beautiful oak for 52 years.

There are still several other splendid mature oak trees in the village, including one of similar stature and age at the other end of The Fairway.

Malcolm Wiles



Carrington Junior School

Here we are in 2020 and it already seems a long time since we were preparing for Christmas.

But cast your mind back to December and imagine the exciting, chaotic last few days of term at Carrington Infant School where the children from the Early Years and Year One classes were rehearsing their Christmas Nativity Play, 'The Donkey Seller'.

Early Years and Year One are made up of five classes, Ruby, Rainbow, Opal, Diamond and Emerald. These are the youngest children in the school, aged from just four to six years.

When the day finally arrived for the performance, the school hall was packed full with rows of proud parents and grandparents, perhaps wondering if their very young offspring would take to the stage and more importantly, if they would remember their lines and all the things they had to do.

Not long to wait! Suddenly the doors of the hall burst open and in came the first little angels. Tiny white dresses sparkled under the lights as one by one they moved confidently through the audience towards the stage. We were mesmerised. But wait, here was another orderly line of woolly sheep. Kings, pages, donkeys, camels, stars and narrators followed, all in beautiful

costumes. We could hardly believe our eyes. Carefully the children seemed to float to their places. Their teachers whispered quietly and gradually silence reigned, as if a magical spell of Christmas had fallen over all of us, and we held our breath, waiting for the story to start.

Mrs Morrisson, the Headmistress, briefly urged the tiny performers on with encouraging words, "Be brave today and smile".

And so the story began, telling us of a tiny town where nothing unusual ever happened (but that was definitely about to change.)

Narrators guided us, each standing up proudly, to tell the ancient story of the very first Christmas. The children sang to us about Mary and Joseph's hard

journey: "Little donkey on the dusty road - got to keep on with your precious load".

"Follow that white star," shouted the shepherds excitedly. "Someone's coming," echoed the angels as they floated about singing joyfully.

Finally the stage filled with the traditional stable scene, which we all know so well, and the music rose to the roof with "Look at the baby Jesus, born for you and me."

What a wonderful way to start Christmas. I can tell you it was truly a privilege to be there!

Juliet Bates



Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

Morning WI

In December we had a festive meeting with mince pies and Christmas cake, followed by bell-ringers playing carols for us to sing along.

In January we had a complete contrast, with slides, reminiscences and music from the 1960's from John and Jane Dunsterville, which all provided a cheerful start to 2020. In addition we look forward to lunching at La Bodega restaurant.

The speaker in February will be showing wildlife photographs.

Evening WI

For the December WI Evening meeting the members provided their own entertainment. So, after a piece of birthday cake and a cup of tea, half the members performed poems, sketches and dancing with plenty of fun and laughter. The finale was a 'Bring me Sunshine' top hat and stick dance routine that had all the right steps by

some of us - but not necessarily in the right order! Even on a second try it resulted in a lot of giggling and chaos. We rounded off the evening singing some Christmas carols to send us on merrily our way.

In January we met Andrew Eggleton. After an apprenticeship in hairdressing, he spent most of his career either practising or teaching in that field. But he was always deeply interested in music, and has particularly enjoyed singing and working with choirs. After loosening-up exercises, he tried to get us all to sing. We certainly made a lot of noise, but not always on time or in tune! It was fun, and a 'different' start to the year.

We also will be lunching at La Bodega (an antidote to turkey etc.).

February's meeting will transport us to Nepal, where Barbara Dickinson enjoyed a holiday. She's going to tell us all about it.

Brenda Aldridge and Helen Waller

Christmas with The Heath Singers

Christ Church was the venue for the Heath Singers' two Christmas concerts, under the new musical directors Jan and Paul Churchouse. For fifty years Peggy Woolhouse led and conducted the choir, but she retired last year, and has now become the choir's Honorary President. This was Jan and Paul's first Christmas concert.

The concert began with 'Masters in This Hall', followed by three carols where Mary, the mother of Jesus was the central character. Apparently, of 381 English carols, only 28% of them tell the story from the point of view of Mary – and in some of those, it is only in one verse. Mary was, after all, a vital part of the Nativity story!

Carols from the choir were interspersed with those with audience participation, and a flute solo from Sue Grundey, one of the choir members. Jan introduced one carol written by her brother-in-law for the choir. Last year she had challenged him to write a carol dedicated to the choir. The Churchouses are certainly a very musically talented family, as Jan and Paul played two fun piano duets. They also swap round between conducting and accompanying on the piano.

And if you want to know what was done with all the presents given on the Twelve Days of Christmas, the carol 'My True Love Gave To Me' gave us the answers. All that were kept were the gold rings. The French hens were returned to France, and other gifts found equally amusing homes.

There were three carols with an international flavour, from Bulgaria, Italy and New Zealand, and two readings from Maureen Foster.

The evening was great fun. Father Christmas appeared, throwing out sweets to the audience and telling jokes (acquired from last year's Christmas crackers?). I was struck by the enjoyment all the choir members had in entertaining us, and all to a very high standard. All proceeds were to be shared between two local charities - Scannappeal, and One Can Trust and also Help for Heroes.

If you missed it this year, I recommend putting a note in your 2020 diary. A great start to the run-up to Christmas.

Alison Peach

Charity Fayre 2019

The Charity Fayre at Christ Church in November raised a grand total of £3551.24. Organiser Alison Harvey says "This is a staggering amount and I know all the charities concerned will benefit greatly. Thank you to everyone for all your support and again to all your teams who worked hard on the day and sorting out bits beforehand".

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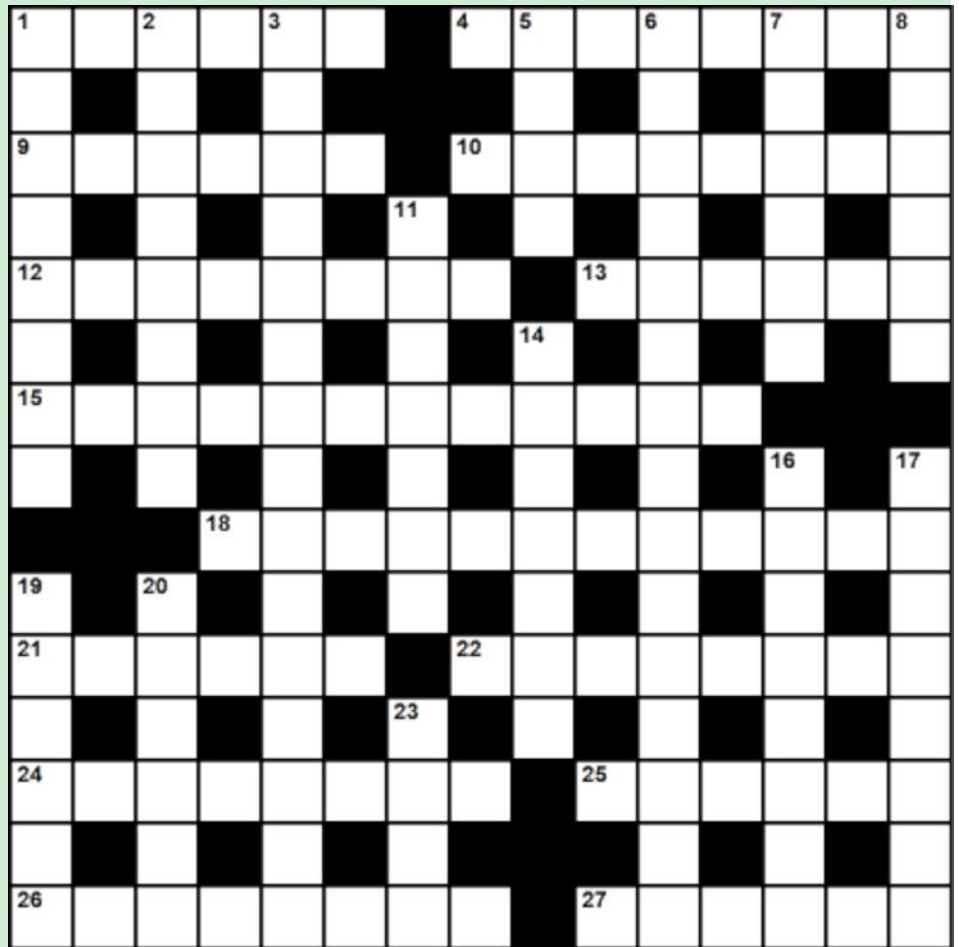
The Grapevine Cryptic Crossword 1

Across

- 1 Beg lab excitedly to talk very quickly (6)
 4 Olympic gold show jumper takes drug and becomes a secret in the cupboard (8)
 9 Christmas drink for example with bad gong (6)
 10 Duds (8)
 12 Idiot estimates chemical compounds (8)
 13 Familiarize from the east (6)
 15 By mistake crash with friend (12)
 18 Reprimand terribly handsome mesh (12)
 21 Nag 'The Harbour' to replace peas say with two vegetable starters (6)
 22 Convoluted games in a antacid (8)
 24 13 with nearly everything eastern (8)
 25 Preserved in a can, intend to order (6)
 26 A run in Flackwell? (8)
 27 Lego is mainly done for self interest (6)

Down

- 1 Novice old pub (5,3)
 2 Display of force for large glue (3,5)
 3 Italian painter given mixed advice in Orlando (8,2,5)
 5 Old hot spot road in Flackwell? (4)
 6 Edgeways reasoning-on the contrary here (7,8)
 7 Sitting room? (6)
 8 Deny secret agent's return, cover blown (6)
 11 Additions to buildings is clean to start (4-3)
 14 Home Store (7)
 16 I like NHS different in Finnish capital (8)



- 17 Drama not haphazardly (2,6)
 19 This is not one of these clues (6)
 20 Can I turn about being smaller? (6)
 23 Start of climbing tree available outside Daily News in Flackwell (4)

Answers can be hidden in the clue, anagrams, wordplay etc



For hints message
 cmted4@yahoo.com

Clues in *italic* are Flackwell Heath related

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The Queen's Archive library at Windsor Castle



Ray Williams

Flackwell Heath residents, Ray and Betty Williams have been Life Members of The College of Saint George at Windsor Castle since 1998. A few years ago, the Dean launched an Adopt a Book Scheme. Donations were invited to renovate ancient and rare books which were located in the Archives at Windsor Castle.

Recently, Ray donated his fifth rare book. This time it was a book by John Adam which was published in London in 1690.

Kate McQuillan, Archivist and Chapter Librarian at Windsor Castle sent Ray a Thank You letter and included an extract from the book.

John Adam wrote about towns and villages in England in 1690. To our amazement, the extract which I received from Windsor Castle included....Flackwell Heath, Buckinghamshire! Adams gave the map references for Flackwell Heath.

Ray Williams

The Local History Group were unable, in the time available, to find out any more about Flackwell in 1690. - Ed.


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Jigsaw and Paperback Library

This is held at the Community Centre on the first Wednesday of each month, from 1.30 to 3pm. In 2019 it raised a total of £1436 – at 50p per loan! The money goes into Community Centre funds, for upkeep of the building. The Community Association Committee would like to thank Alison Harvey and all her volunteers, not only for the cash, but also for their contribution to life in Flackwell.

Heathlands Badminton

Interested in picking up your Badminton racket again? Been away from the sport for a few years and forgotten what it was like to play?

How about you come join us in the Community Centre on Monday night (8pm till 10pm)?

Heathlands Badminton Club is a friendly club which plays doubles badminton for fun (and maybe just a little bit of exercise :-). Sadly, the natural attrition of us all growing older and the inevitable changes life brings has depleted our ranks somewhat, and we are currently down to only 10 members. As not everyone can turn up every week, this does sometimes leave us a little short, and ideally we would like to have our membership up to 14.

We take all ages and almost all skill levels, though I confess we'd prefer not to have complete novices as we all have more fun when the games are closer.

Tempted? If so, give me a call on 07800 124062. Very happy for people to come and try it out for a few weeks before they join formally.

Matthew Fenn

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

February 2020

- Monday 10 Local History Group Talk at Library at 7.30pm. 'Sticky Bombs and Stool Pigeons' by John Gurney, see page 4
- Saturday 15 Wycombe Orpheus Charity Concert at Christ Church, 7.30pm. See page 1

March

Exploratory meetings re 'Holiday at Home' week in August, all at the Flackwell Heath Methodist Church:

Wednesday 25 – 2.30pm, Friday 27 – 7.30pm, Saturday 28 – 10am

Sunday 29 Day Centre Sunday Lunch (fundraiser) £12.50

April

Monday 20 Local History Group Talk at Library at 7.30pm: 'The Carringtons' by Sarah Charlton

May

Saturday 16 'Call My Wine Bluff' at the Day Centre



Editor: **Situation Vacant**

email: [grapevine@](mailto:grapevine@flackwellheathcommunitycentre.org.uk)

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Delivery: George Boffin 01628 523829

Subscriptions: B Walmsley 01628 522016

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Spot On Print using vegetable inks on

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