

THE Grapevine

March 2021

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



A TALE OF TWO ROUNDABOUTS

Heath End Road/Abbey Barn Lane Junction

Part of the infrastructure package agreed with the developers at Abbey Barn South will include a new roundabout at the junction of Heath End Road with Abbey Barn Lane. Work will start in April, initially with 3-way traffic lights at the junction. Later work will require the closure of Abbey Barn Lane, with a diversion through Flackwell Heath and 2-way lights on Heath End Road. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in August with a final weekend closure of Heath End Road.

The Barclays Building

Renaissance Personnel Ltd (Bucks) was officially registered by the Care Quality Commission on 21.01.21 to operate as a Domiciliary Care agency from the former Barclays Bank on Common Road, Flackwell Heath, HP10 9NS.

The company provides personal care and treatment of diseases and disorders to people in their own homes on a live-in or live-out basis.

The owners of Renaissance Personnel Ltd (Est.2002) - Mr Dennis & Mrs Melissa Mawadzi - are local Flackwell Heath residents and they are delighted to be opening a branch in this lovely village. Mr Mawadzi, the Director and CQC registered Manager, had this to say, "We are privileged to be in Flackwell, and we are committed to recruiting locals for both office and field work. Renaissance offers flexible work to accommodate those with other responsibilities like school pick ups". To find out more about the service or jobs, please visit www.renaissancepersonnel.co.uk or send an email to dennis@renaissancepersonnel.co.uk

Straight Bit



As we were going to press, a new roundabout was being installed at the Straight Bit play area. This is designed to be wheelchair-friendly with a special access path also being included. Future plans for the play area include fencing and a zip wire facility.

Paperback and Jigsaw Library

It seems unlikely that this will be able to take place in March. However, keep your eye on the village Facebook pages and look for the banner at the community centre - you never know.



Thanks to all our customers for bearing with us and we look forward to seeing everyone as soon as we are able.

Alison and Jeff



Community Centre Car Park

The Community Centre would like to ask for your support by not using our car park once the lockdown has ended and the Centre is fully opened again. Most days, for example, our first hirers are in before 9.00am, requiring use of the car park for their clients. This means our bookings do not work around school drop off and collection times when some parents are using our car park.

As you can imagine, due to the pandemic, our loss of earnings and outlay for all the COVID precautions has

been huge. Therefore, we would like to keep our hirers happy and confident that they are able to park when they are using the Centre. After all, they are paying to hire it and should expect to be able to park there.

There will be better road signage reminding you that the car park is private and can only be used for those using the Centre or Day Care Centre.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Community Centre Committee



Where are these children? See page 6

Wildlife Spotting?

Local walks are all the exercise most of us are getting these days. In warmer weather we can watch for birds and changing blossom. But in winter I have been 'wildlife spotting' in a different way. Without leaves, there's a better view of front gardens, and I am struck by the number of garden ornaments, decorative plaques, weather vanes etc that feature animal life of one kind or another.

A pair of hounds beside the front door? A rat on a rubbish bin? A laughing mole leaning out of a caravan on a gatepost? A Yogi-style bear in wood? A tree-frog (or is it a gecko) flat on a wall? Cats with glass eyes prowling across a lawn? A cat who plays football? There are birds too: certainly a falcon, some owls, a kingfisher, and members of the crow family. Invertebrates are rarer, but I've seen a beautiful snail door knocker.

Once you start looking, these creatures



are everywhere... Some are realistic in every detail, some are cartoon-style or impressionistic. Not all are entire animals, maybe only the head (I'm told there's the rear end of a digging terrier somewhere).

All the above, and many more, can be readily seen from the public pavement, and are outside houses (so not including, say, ornaments at a bedroom window). Some are at ground level, some are on name/number plaques, some are among plants, some are higher up....

So far, no horses.



How many you can find? Let us know of anything particularly unusual.

Sue Arnavot

Corkscrew Hazel, *Corylus avellana* 'Contorta'

The Corkscrew Hazel is a sport of the Common Hazel, which is widespread and abundant as a native bush or small tree in woodlands throughout the UK. It arose naturally in a hedgerow near Frocester in Gloucestershire in the mid 19th century, and all examples are devolved from cuttings from the original.

The Corkscrew Hazel has a genetic mutation which causes its branches to grow in a highly twisted and contorted fashion. Their shape is best seen in the winter months when not obscured by leaves. The leaves also grow twisted, and in summer they can appear shrivelled as if the tree is suffering from drought or some dreadful disease, but the tree survives and grows. It is in fact

quite easy to grow, and prefers chalky, alkaline soils so is quite at home in Flackwell Heath and the Chilterns. The pictured example grows in a garden in The Meadows.

The famous Scottish music hall singer and comedian, Sir Harry Lauder, often carried a walking stick made from a branch of a Corkscrew Hazel, as a kind of signature trademark or prop. The tree is sometimes simply known as "Harry Lauder's Walking Stick" for this reason. It is grown mainly as an ornamental curiosity, but the branches are also popular with flower arrangers to make attractive displays.

Malcolm Wiles



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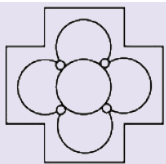
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Harry Lauder



WESLEYAN CHAPEL

FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

At present we are unable to provide physical worship services in our building on Sundays but there are still ways for us to get together and worship online.

There is a regular **SUNDAY MORNING CIRCUIT WORSHIP SERVICE at 10.30am** which can be accessed from the Marlow Methodist Church website: www.marlowmethodistchurch.org.uk. Please also use this link for our Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services on **March 14th**, **March 28th** and **April 4th**, respectively. There will also be a traditional Tenebrae service of increasing darkness on the evening of **Maundy Thursday April 1st**, again using the above link.

On **GOOD FRIDAY, April 2nd at 9.30am** there will be a service of meditation on Zoom. Please see our Facebook page (below) for the link.

WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH is offering a service via YouTube. This will be posted at 10.30am but can be viewed at any time thereafter. Please see their website or Facebook page for details.

We are running our **PARENT AND TODDLER (PAT) GROUP** and **PLAY & PRAISE** virtually on Wednesday and Friday mornings, respectively. For the foreseeable future our toddler sessions remain virtual, and for security reasons the log in details are new each time; these are posted on the Flackwell Heath Wednesday PAT Group Facebook page. For details, please contact our **Community Mission Worker, Vicky Everitt (07979 541874)**.

Flackwell Heath Methodist Church is continuing the exciting process of exploring our vision for the future and we would love to have your input. Please let us know what you think is lacking in our village and how we as a church could use our building and resources to help to provide this. You can contact us by emailing our stewards at suzstoll@aol.com or posting a message on our Facebook page (see below).

If you have specific prayer requests or need any information, please contact us on the links below; our Facebook page has regular updates.

www.facebook.com/FlackwellHeathMC

prayer.requests@fhmc.org.uk



The Vaccination Experience

As the oldest member of the editorial team, I received the Pfizer vaccine at Adams Park at the beginning of February. The whole operation was impressively well-organised with large numbers attending, but all being kept safely apart. There was a short queue to enter the car park and a few minutes wait outside before we went in to collect our paperwork; then straight on to the doctors from Bourne End and Wooburn Green for the jabs. I experienced minor side effects: feeling a little shivery in the evening and slightly tired the following day, as well as the anticipated soreness in the arm. I feel fine now and by the time you read this, I should be reasonably protected against serious illness - which should be a relief to the rest of the team!

An enormous thank-you to our local GPs for organising this. Also to the marshals, furniture sprayers, paper-shufflers, and

back room personnel that made it all so easy for us.

I had measles as a toddler and my parents worried about the effect on my eyes; my mother's best friend died with tuberculosis, aged about 40. I saw kids in my London street with crutches - they were the lucky ones - the polio had only crippled them. Dads avoided their children when they caught mumps, and pregnant women worried about catching rubella (commonly called German measles). I can understand the reluctance to have something injected into your body, and I can appreciate that some people may be wary of trusting our government. But vaccines have offered a way out of so much illness and they can work for coronavirus too. When your opportunity comes, please do seize it with both hands and get that jab.

Joyce Wiles



Over the past year, where things have been so difficult for all of us during lockdown, many

people have discovered that singing together can really help to lift our spirits and create a sense of community. Have you ever imagined yourself singing in a village choir here in Flackwell Heath? We already have a wonderful ladies choir called the Heath Singers, but this choir will be a bit different.

FLACKWELL HEATH GOSPEL CHOIR will be open to everyone: male or female, young or old, whether you can read music or not, whether you have sung before or never sung a note in your life, whether you have a faith or no faith at all. It will be a time to make friends and enjoy singing together.

I'm Debbie Fox, and I am one of the Lay Ministers at Christ Church. My other job is a music teacher, and if you went to Carrington Junior School in the past, then you or your children may possibly have been in one of my choirs before.

Although we can't start the choir yet due to Covid restrictions, as soon as things return to 'normal' and it is safe for us to socialise again, then I will be starting our village Gospel Choir on Tuesday evenings fortnightly, from 7.15pm to 8.15pm, at Christ Church.

If you would like to join us or would just like more information, then feel free to email me on debbief@ccfh.org.uk, or Christ Church office on 01628 533004 or admin@ccfh.org.uk

SUPPORT DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

We at Christ Church want to be there for people, not only for those who come to our church, but for everyone in our village, if they are in need of support. If you are BEREAVED and GRIEVING, or feeling LONELY and ISOLATED, and would like a listening ear and someone to talk with, then please feel free to contact the church office on 01628 533004 or pastoral@ccfh.org.uk. We would love to hear from you and be there for you.



01628 533004



admin@ccfh.org.uk



www.ccfh.org.uk



Christ Church Flackwell Heath



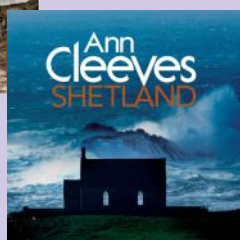
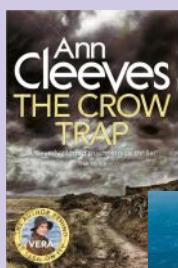
Flackwell Heath Community Library

This month we focus on two prolific authors writing crime fiction

Ann Cleeves

Ann Cleeves is the author behind ITV's Vera and BBC One's Shetland. She has written nearly 40 novels, including ten featuring Vera Stanhope and ten featuring Jimmy Perez in the Shetlands – characters loved both on screen and in print. There are about 16 titles available as an electronic resource for your eReader. Her books have now sold millions of copies worldwide.

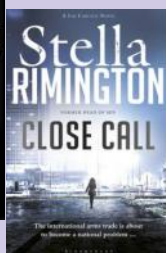
In 2012 she was inducted into the CWA Crime Thriller Awards Hall of Fame and is the 2017 recipient of the CWA Diamond Dagger, the highest honour in British crime writing. Ann lives in Whitley Bay, North Tyneside.



Stella Rimington

Stella Rimington joined the Security Service (MI5) in 1965 and during her career she worked in all the main fields of the Service's responsibilities – counter-subversion, counter-espionage and counter-terrorism – and became successively Director of all three branches. She was appointed Director-General of MI5 in 1992 and retired in 1996. She was the first woman to hold the post and the first Director-General whose name was publicly announced on appointment.

Using her vast experience of the security services, she has penned ten novels featuring Liz Carlyle – protecting the country from spies, terrorists and other subversives. Five of these titles are available to loan as an electronic resource.



Books on Loan

During lockdown all library loans have been extended to March 31st and no fines will be charged. Refer to the Bucks libraries web site for up-to-date status.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page or the library noticeboard for any changes & the latest library news.



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

Tel: 01296 382415 email: fhcl@flackwellheath.net

web: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/libraries/>

Front-line and key workers are invited to submit contributions to an anthology documenting the pandemic. Sale proceeds from the anthology will be donated to **Rennie Grove**. For more information please email info@janmoranneil.co.uk.

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Wendy Mulhall MCFHP MAFHP

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2021 Census

The 2021 census will take place on March 21 and is described as a digital-first census, meaning that everyone will be encouraged to complete the form online. You will receive a letter with an access code to enable you to do this. Clearly, there will need to be some support for people who are unable to use the internet, but at time of writing there are no details on how this might work. Beware of possible scams: do not click on email links purporting to send you to a form, and do verify the ID of any person claiming to be a census official.



Neighbourhood Watch Contact Information

David Gresswell

Scheme Co-ordinator, Flackwell Heath
(Tel: 01628 525019 e-mail: flackwell-nhwatch@talktalk.net)

Police General & Non-emergency number: 101

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/contact-us-to-discuss-something-else/>

Wycombe District Neighbourhood Watch Association:

<https://neighbourhoodwatchwycombe.org/>

Community Safety Team

(Anti-social behaviour): 01494 421 087

Crimestoppers (Anonymous):
0800 555 111

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

Cyberaware

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

Get Safe Online

<https://www.getsafeonline.org/>

National Crime Agency (NCA):

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news>

SERS : report@phishing.gov.uk

The Information Commissioner's Office: 0303 123 1113

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News from the Allotments

The local allotments have been extremely busy throughout the lockdown. Over the last year, empty allotments have been taken on by people wanting to grow their own fruit and vegetables and there is currently a waiting list for plots. Many of the newcomers are younger than the traditional allotment holders and it's great to see young families getting involved. There's a very friendly atmosphere and seasoned plot holders are always on hand to give tips and hints on what to grow, when to plant and of course, what not to do!



New gates for the allotments

Not everyone is fortunate enough to have an allotment, but it's noticeable that more and more people are wanting to grow their own produce and many are resorting to tubs, window containers and grow bags at home. This year's growing season is about to get underway and hardy allotmenters have been preparing their plots even in the snow! First to be planted, usually in March, if it's warm enough, will be beetroot, brassicas such as cabbage, onions and parsnips. Meanwhile in the greenhouse

gardeners will be chitting their potatoes and sowing various other crops such as leeks and peas.

Fruit such as raspberries should already be planted, albeit you may get away with late planting if the weather's cooler. Last year of course we had a warm March but we all know what the British weather is like, unpredictable in the extreme.

The hard work pays off later in the year when throughout the summer and autumn there will be a glut of very tasty, organic produce to eat. There's no doubt in our minds that the taste and freshness is worth all the endeavour.

Being out in the fresh air and working on the allotment is great exercise. An added benefit for wildlife lovers is sharing the environment with the animals and birds that have made the allotment their home. Pheasants have been known to nest on the beds, and following a very successful year, kestrels are now regularly hunting over the allotment, often waiting patiently on a fruit cage before pouncing on some poor, unsuspecting, passing vole.

If you're interested in taking on a plot, please email Chepping Wycombe Parish Council via the clerk@cwpc.org.uk. They will add you to the growing waiting list!

Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society

Several Flackwell residents join in the activities of the Bourne End Flower Arrangement Society which has provided the following update.

As I write, we're in our 3rd Lockdown and the possibility of meeting up to see our floral community seems far away, however we remain positive that 'we will meet again'! We continue to keep our skills honed with the monthly Chairman's Challenge; February's 'Simply Red' provided us with much-needed colour in stunning reds and vibrant pinks!

You don't have to be able to arrange flowers to join in the fun! If you would like to be part of our floral community, please contact Liz Payne 07914 757035 or email BourneEndFAS@hotmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook @BourneEndFAS.



A truly stunning arrangement from BEFAS member Tracey Ricci for the February Chairman's Challenge!

Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

Evening WI

We met again by Zoom. Jeff Rozelaar gave us a 'Second Helping of Bagels and Bacon', his stories about growing up in the East End after the Second World War. He was part of a large family with many talents and adventures, in what was still a thriving Jewish community. His anecdotes were leavened with pictures and snatches of the music of the period. We, and our speakers, are getting used to the subtly different conditions of a virtual meeting, especially the absence of instant feedback. So far, no-one has appeared as a cat!

Next month, Denise Beddows will be telling us about the history of Bulstrode Manor, Gerrards Cross.

Sue Arnautov

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Crossword Answers

Across: 1: acidic, 5: la bodega, 9: tallisman, 10: tee off, 11: staycation, 12: soho, 13: scheming, 16: see 14, 17: embers, 19: robust, 21: lung, 22: family tree, 25: litter, 26: temerity, 27: hyacinth, 28: cherry
Down: 2: coast, 3: daisy, 4: campari, 5: lending, 6: botanic, 7: dressings, 8: gift horse, 14, 16: community centre, 15: energetic, 18: saffron, 19: rematch, 20: bulimic, 23: three, 24: enter

Jubilee Society of Mongolia

Some of you may remember Rev. Eric Hart, who was vicar in Christ Church until he died in 1990.

In 1992/3, his widow, Elizabeth (Liz), who you may also remember, retired from her job as a radiographer and went with her sister-in-law to China to visit her niece, who was working as a VSO. As her sister-in-law was afraid of flying they went by train. (An experience in itself!)

On the way, they stopped at various places including Ulaanbaatar in Mongolia. While there, Liz, who had been praying about her future, felt God telling her "I want you to come back here and tell these people I love them"! Within 12 months Liz left the UK, moved to Mongolia and started working for a bible translator. She kept seeing children begging on the street and then climbing into the drains at night to sleep because the city's heating system kept them warm. The temperature in the winter drops to minus 30 degrees at night and that's in a mild winter!

She started the Jubilee Society, a Non-Government Organisation (NGO), in 2001 to bring help to the poverty-stricken people in one of the Ger (Tent) districts outside the city. Most of these Mongolians had been herders living in



NGO Workers. Uzme is the Bayanhushu watch lady, 2nd from the left at the back. Banjuu is in the front (red jacket). Davka (far right at the back) is the other watch lady who lives in Chinletei site.

city hoping for help but without education or other skills there is very little work available for them.

Having lived and worked in Mongolia for 10 years Liz sadly passed away and Michael Deegan, who had spent the summer holidays with Liz, teaching doctors and nurses English, was asked to arrange her funeral. He went for 3 weeks and stayed 3 years until he found and helped train a new person, Banjuu Chuulun, to take over the work. Banjuu had worked with Liz when the NGO was

child sponsorship programme, a preschool food subsidy programme and assist with increasing family incomes by helping them start businesses as well as running youth development and senior citizen fellowship schemes. There are NGO centres in two of the Ger communities and, following a bequest from a former supporter, one of them has running water and proper toilets. (That is when the water pipes don't freeze!) The other centre still has to collect water from a central point and the toilets might remind you of the old girl guide camps!

Having such a close connection, Christ Church in Flackwell has supported the work in Mongolia since Liz Hart started it and with a bequest in Liz's will, a charity was formed to maintain this support which is still continuing. Banjuu has been to Flackwell Heath three times so far, to update the church with developments and Trustees of the charity visit Mongolia every few years to encourage them in their work.

Please go to our website for more information:

www.jubileesocietyofmongolia.org. It is worth a look!



Children receiving school supplies for the New Year

Gers out in the vast countryside, keeping sheep, goats and yaks. Every so often there is a bad winter however (minus 50 degrees) and their animals freeze to death. Having lost their livelihood, the herders move their Gers towards the

first started and then went to work with World Vision so had a lot of experience. She and the team are hardworking and committed and are making a massive difference to the Ger communities in Bayanhushu and Chingletei. They run a



Liz Hart

Page 1 picture: Children in one of the Jubilee Centres.

Flackwell Local Area History Group

Did you Know?

Did you know that there was once a pond on the South side of Straight Bit opposite what is now the recreation ground? Although many older villagers remember it as 'Clear Pond' it was probably originally named 'Cleare Pond' or 'Clere Pond' after an early resident.



Appeal Corner

We would love to hear from you if you have any photos or memories of the Juniper Hill Cherry Fayres in the 1970's and early 80's?

If you do have any information, please email us at info@localhistorygroup.org.uk

Family History Research - At present there are no research sessions in the library but if you would like help or guidance please contact **Gill Kyle** on **01494 436314** or by email donkyle@btinternet.com

Like us on facebook



Flackwell Heath, Loudwater & Wooburn Local History Group

www.localhistorygroup.org.uk

Catalytic converter thefts

The following information has been provided by Thames Valley Police

This type of crime is on the rise and involves offenders getting under your car, often using a car jack, to remove the converter from the exhaust on certain vehicles. A catalytic converter is a device that is incorporated in the exhaust system of a vehicle to convert pollutant gases into less harmful ones.

Vehicle makes that are targeted include Honda, Toyota, Lexus, and Mini. The offenders are after the currently high value metals in the catalytic converter, these are rhodium, platinum and palladium. If you have one of these vehicle makes, please consider the preventative measures below.

- Park in a locked garage or densely populated area.
 - Park close to walls and fences, with your exhaust being closest to the barrier, this will make it more difficult for the thieves.
 - Avoid mounting your car on a kerb to park as this gives the thieves easy access.
 - If your catalytic converter is bolted on, ask your local garage to weld the bolts to make it more difficult to move.
 - Consider a cage clamp which locks around the catalytic converter.
 - Speak to your car dealership about a tilt sensor which activates the car alarm if someone tries to jack up your vehicle.
 - Consider installing CCTV to cover the area your car is parked and Dash Cameras inside your car.
- If you have been a victim of crime or have witnessed a crime please report it to Thames Valley Police. These include calling 999 in an emergency, 101 or online via www.thamesvalley.police.uk if it is not an emergency. You can report via Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111 or online via www.crimestoppers-uk.org.



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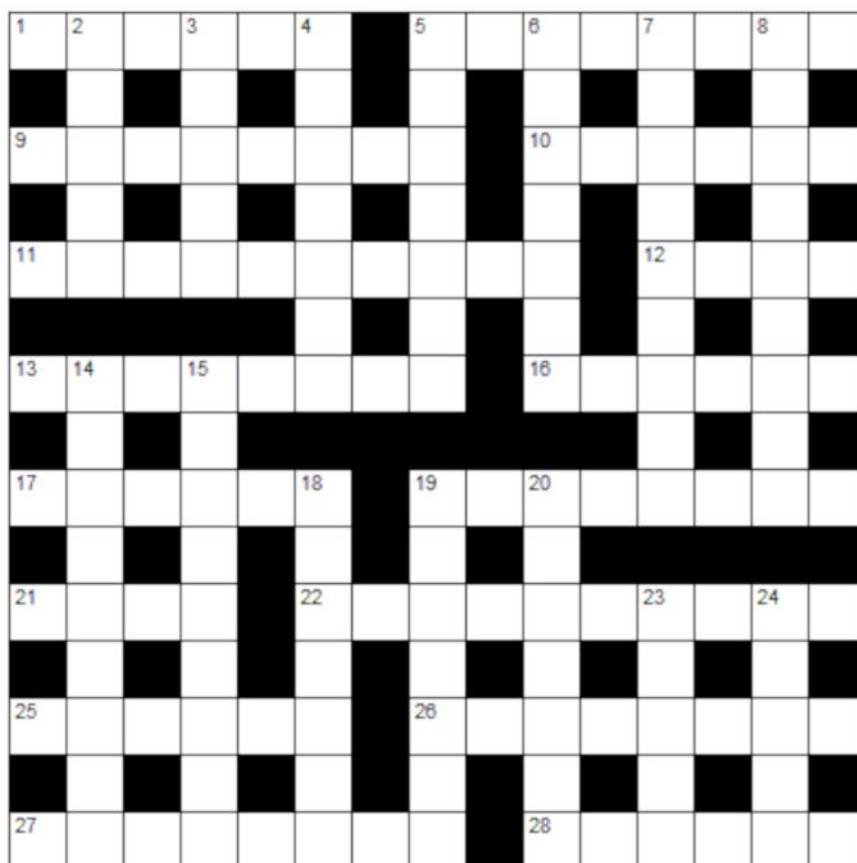


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Cryptic Crossword



Across:

1. Tart of a hundred and one detectives in retreat (6)
5. Place for refreshment in experimental environment, nothing old returned (2, 6)
9. Animals tangle with tiger's head or rabbit's foot? (8)
10. Start hole with no top (3, 3)
11. Noisy cat at mixed likely summer activity this year (10)
12. Note round London area (4)
13. GCSE in HM's organised planning (8)
16. See 14
17. What's left at the end of the last 2 months (6)
19. Public transport in retro arrangement is stronger (8)
21. Vulnerable organ this year in dive without edges (4)
22. Gill Kyle's expertise here to unravel fertile Amy (6, 4)
25. Rubbish pups (6)
26. Boldness you might find in late merit - yes (8)
27. Greet short girl with flower (8)
28. Yell about woman's one-time common product of Flackwell (6)

Down:

2. Head of sleeve in garment is favoured location for 11 (5)
3. Local business exists in time period (5)
4. Irish rebels go back to tents for liqueur (7)
5. Heather secures tip for library activity (7)
6. Ballpoint outlines international organisation's reversal relating to plants (7)
7. Wound coverings clothe misplaced sign (9)
8. Fight sore anyway, but don't make an oral inspection here (4, 5)
- 14, 16: Meeting place where U is (9, 6)
15. Cite green dealings with go (9)
18. Sonar confused around very loud spice (7)
19. Nameless merchant involved in repeat game (7)
20. I sit between tail-less creatures with an over-eating problem (7)
23. Every early riser has trouble initially backing the position of Daisy (5)
24. Go in for some seven terms (5)

Answers on page 5

New to cryptic crosswords? An explanation of how they work and how to arrive at the answers to this crossword will be available as bonus material on the Grapevine page of the FHCA website. Google for 'Grapevine Flackwell' and you should find it.

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Flackwell Heath Community Association

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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
Reg Charity No. 1044870



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