

THE Grapevine

July/August 2021

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



THE NEW FOOD MARKET

A bustling friendly atmosphere greeted us when we called in. A total of 635 people attended and the amazing support from the village ensured that the ten stallholders want to return. Many had sold out by 11am, with some reporting that they had sold more in Flackwell than at any other market. This shows clear demand for a market in the village and we hope it will go from strength to strength. Other stalls have been requested by villagers and the Residents' Association will try their best to source these. Special thanks to them for all the work they have put into this event, and to the Three Horseshoes for hosting. Next market: 17 July.



FLACKWELL
HEATH
SUMMER FETE & PICNIC
SUNDAY 18 JULY 2021
STRAIGHT BIT RECREATION GROUND
12-4PM
INCLUDING:

BAR & BBQ	LIVE MUSIC	SILENT DISCO
CRAFT STALLS	JUNIPER V CARRINGTON FOOTBALL MATCH	BOWLS

Come and join the fun!

FLACKWELL HEATH RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Your village day centre needs you!



By the time you read this, the Flackwell Heath and Loudwater Day Centre will hopefully be open and all running smoothly!

But to continue running smoothly, your help is needed. If you can spare some time, we need volunteers to help on the committee. It is not an onerous task. We meet about every two months, plus occasional extra meetings and it does not mean you need to be involved in helping in sessions at the Centre. – unless you would like to!

If you are interested, or would like to find out more, please contact Jackie at the Day Centre on 01628 526113.

The Grapevine

A reminder that there is no Grapevine in August. The next issue will be the September one and contributions should be submitted by August 15 please.

Your Local Pubs and Restaurant

We are all aware of the negative effect of the pandemic on the hospitality sector. If you are able, now is the time to support your local venues. Should you feel uncomfortable about meeting indoors, then all the village pubs have some kind of outdoor seating arrangements. It's normally OK to pop in for a quiet weekday lunchtime drink, but continuing social distancing requirements mean that you will probably have to book at busier times.



Phone numbers:

Cherry Tree: 01628 290360

Green Dragon: 01628 529253

The Stag: 01628 529100

Three Horseshoes: 01628 526614

Meanwhile our only village restaurant, **La Bodega**, re-opened at lunchtime on the May 18 with all of the pre-lockdown staff returning to serve from the new lunch, tapas and al la carte menus. Alex, Jenny and team are looking forward to welcoming everyone back.

Mondays, Closed

Tuesday to Thursday, 12.00 – 15.00,
18.00 - 21.30 (last orders)

Friday and Saturday, 12.00 – 15.00,
18.00 - 22.00 (last orders)

Sunday - 12.00 till 15.00

Phone: 01628 522833



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 Assoc:

<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

The Samaritans: 116 123 (FREE to call from landline or mobile)

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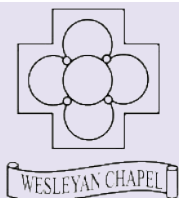
flackwellheath@robertsonsestateagents.co.uk

www.robertsonsestateagents.co.uk



June 10: Eclipse over Flackwell

Photo: Craig Lewis



FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

The church is starting to open again for worship services, but not yet on a weekly basis. There will be in-person services on **July 18** and **July 25 at 11am**. Please check our noticeboards for dates of services in August. We are following government guidelines and our own risk assessments to ensure that everybody entering our premises is kept safe.

There will be a **SUMMER CIRCUIT SERVICE at 10.30am on Sunday July 11 at Marlow Rugby Club**, which will be an opportunity for the Circuit to come together again in a safe way as we emerge from lockdown and to give thanks together. There will be stories and contributions from across the Circuit and beyond from young and old as we worship God together. After the service there will be the chance to enjoy a Hog Roast and to enjoy the riverside.

There is a regular **SUNDAY MORNING CIRCUIT WORSHIP SERVICE at 10.30am** every week (repeated at 6.30pm) which can be accessed from the Marlow Methodist Church website: www.marlowmethodistchurch.org.uk.

WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH is offering a live-streamed service at <https://bit.ly/WesleyHWYT>. 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)**.

GIRLS' BRIGADE is now meeting back in the church. If anyone needs further information, please contact us at suzstoll@aol.com and we will put you in touch.

Flackwell Heath Methodist Church is continuing the exciting process of exploring our vision for the future and

New Vicar: We are delighted to announce that the Rev James Dwyer has been appointed as Vicar of Flackwell Heath and will be licensed in September. He and his family will be moving from Oxford over the summer and we look forward to introducing them to you very soon! *(We are hoping for an interview for the October issue - Ed.)*

Services: It has been a joy to "gently re-gather" (June issue) and to have socially-distanced fellowship each Sunday. With the lifting of all restrictions being postponed until later this month, we are continuing to sing in our car park after every morning service. We offer 3 services each Sunday:

9am Traditional service of Holy Communion

10.30am Contemporary service (live-streamed on Facebook)

6.30pm Evening service in a variety of styles (see our website for more details) Holy Communion is also offered on the first Thursday of the month at 10am.

Coffee Stop: We look forward to welcoming you back very soon to Coffee Stop for fairly-traded coffee and tea and tasty treats – Monday to Friday 9am to 11.30am. You will also find a quiet space to come to pray or to talk to someone in confidence. Do get in touch with the Church Office if we can help you.

You-Nique: Our support group for parents of children with additional needs has been able to offer support throughout the pandemic and will meet next on Wednesday 14th July. Do contact Leonie for more information: families@ccfh.org.uk

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



Oasis: our support groups for those bereaved will resume once it is safe to do so. Do take a look at our Facebook page – Oasis Self-Help Bereavement Group

Gospel Choir: don't forget that the Gospel Choir will launch once singing in groups is allowed – no audition required!

CU @ the Pub: "Gin & Topic" and "Pints of View" discussions at The Crooked Billet, Sheepridge Lane on the first Friday of the month at 7.30pm on 2nd July and 3rd September.

Sue Simpson, Licensed Lay Minister

Congratulations to everyone who contributed to **Christian Aid Week** and the Plant Sale this year.

Thank you to those who delivered envelopes, provided plants, cakes and coffee, and washed cars. Thank you too to all who so generously gave and helped create such an enjoyable community morning on Saturday 15th May, raising an amazing sum for Christian Aid to help the poorest of the poor.

The Plant Sale and donations raised £1,394.00 and the envelopes raised £916.00.

Well done!



01628 533004



admin@ccfh.org.uk



www.ccfh.org.uk



CCFHOnline



Flackwild Heath Photo: Craig Lewis

Village Quiz

Don't miss it.

Make a note in your diary now for September 25.

London Plane, *Platanus x hispanica*



The Palace Plane stands head and shoulders over its neighbours

The editorial team usually insists that I'm fairly parochial in these articles, and stay within the boundaries of Flackwell Heath for my subjects. But this month I'm straying down to Wooburn Green to feature the magnificent London Plane tree that grows alongside the River Wye as it flows across Wooburn Park behind the cricket pitch. It is actually on private ground, on the far bank in the back garden of a house in Wooburn Manor Park, unlike most of the other trees nearby which are on the Wooburn Park side. It is visible from almost everywhere in Wooburn Park.

Known locally as the Palace Plane, it is the largest London Plane tree in Buckinghamshire, and is about 300 years old. About 15 years ago the author was one of a small group which measured its girth - no easy task, but we achieved it without anyone actually falling into the Wye - as 8.75 metres. By now, if it is growing at the usual rate, it should be over 9 metres (about 30ft), and probably around 35 metres (115ft) tall*. Of late its trunk has become rather overgrown by ivy, but it is still possible to appreciate its impressive size.

London Plane trees are hybrids of two other plane trees, the Oriental Plane and the inappropriately named American Sycamore. It is a good example of hybrid vigour, as neither of its parents grows well in this country. The species originated around 1650, but where is uncertain; some think in Spain, others Vauxhall Gardens in London, and whether the cross was deliberate or accidental is also unknown.

Whatever, it was London that really took the tree to its heart. It is estimated that half the trees in central London are planes. It is tolerant of pollution, and its roots function well in compacted soil, and so it is frequently used as a street tree, often hideously lopped and mutilated. Much more satisfactory are the many awesome specimens allowed to grow unhindered in squares and parks. It is an interesting thought that the oldest plane trees are around 350 years old, all are still in full vigour, none has yet died of old age, so it is unknown what age and stature they may eventually attain.

There are only a handful of plane trees in Flackwell Heath. One grows between the vicarage and Christ Church, and there are eight younger trees around the old Budgen's car park. These are happily now all covered by a tree preservation order which hopefully may give them some protection from whatever development eventually happens there. If so they could provide a superb centrepiece on a grand scale for the village for centuries to come. The grey bark which peels to show pale yellow patches is distinctive. Seed balls, retained through the winter and often mistaken for conkers, are another unusual feature, but the seeds are sterile.

Malcolm Wiles

* *The London Plane in the Bishop's Palace garden in Ely, thought to have been planted in 1674, is the largest in the country. This had a girth of 10 metres in 2009, increasing by 2-3 cm annually.*

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An Old Kiln Road Plane displays the characteristic bark.

Flackwell Local Area History Group

Did you Know?

Did you know that this cottage in Green Dragon Lane was the original Green Dragon pub before the present day one at the top of Blind Lane.



Flackwell Heath Residents' Association's Fete & Picnic

In the two week run-up to the Fete & Picnic this July the Flackwell Local Area History Group is preparing a self-guided history trail. This will run in conjunction with a 'Then and Now Scarecrow Trail' around the village from the 4th to the 18th July. Come and find out how the village used to look.

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

JIGSAW & PAPERBACK LIBRARY

We would like to say a huge thank you to all our customers for your support over the last few months. Like most activities it has been stop/start but we have been thrilled to see so many of you on our return. We are so sorry we were not able to keep you supplied when you needed us over the dark days of winter lockdown.

Also, thank you so much for all your many donations.

It is lovely to see so many local people support us, but we are also pleased to

welcome customers from Cookham, Maidenhead, Henley and Hazlemere amongst others.

All the money raised from the library goes towards the general upkeep of the Community Centre.

We hope from now on we will be open as normal 1.00-2.45 first Wednesday of the month.

Thank you

Alison & Jeff Harvey



Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

The annual meetings of both the Buckinghamshire and National WI Federations were held virtually. The advantage is that more people can 'participate' – the disadvantages are the loss of atmosphere and sense of fellowship and involvement.

Today we heard that the centrepiece 'Centenary Plus One' celebration for Bucks' WI Federation - a Garden Party at Waddesdon - has been postponed to 10 August (from 6 July). We can only hope it happens this time! We shall be running a stall selling crafts, so we shall see what some clever people have done with their lock-down time.

Morning WI

Dependent upon the situation, we hope to resume our monthly meetings in September but will be contacting members with details in due course.

Our normal meetings are on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10am in the Sarney Room at the Community Centre and we would be pleased to hear from any prospective new members.

Brenda Aldridge Tel. 01628 525249.

Evening WI

Our June meeting was again on Zoom. We had no invited speaker, but after the business we read some favourite poems, and then caught up on some of our news. Our Book Club is restarting this month. Given fine weather, the first few meets will be in members' gardens.

The July meeting will also be on Zoom; we hope to arrange a speaker. In August we may gather in a garden, perhaps with supper. In September, we hope to be back in the Sarney Room at the Community Centre....

Sue Arnautov

Martin Adams

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The return of the Scarecrow Trail: Flackwell Heath 'Then & Now'

Owing to its popularity last year, the Flackwell Heath Scarecrow Trail is returning this summer - brought to you by the FHRA in conjunction with the Flackwell Local Area History Group.

This year's trail has a theme: Flackwell Heath 'Then & Now'. Villagers have been invited to make a scarecrow of someone or something who may have lived in Flackwell Heath in the past, or a representation from the present day. The trail of scarecrows will be supplemented by a display of historical photographs of our village in times gone by.

The trail will run from 4-18 July 2021 and the winner will be announced at the village Fete & Picnic on 18 July. First prize is a £100 Hobbycraft voucher, and second prize is a £50 Hobbycraft voucher, both kindly sponsored by Keegan White Estate Agents. Trail maps will be available from Crumbs Corner and Daisy Gift Shop for a suggested donation of £2.

FHRA Fete & Picnic - 18 July 2021

It's been a long time since we've been able to gather together, but, at the date of publication, the FHRA Fete & Picnic is going ahead as planned on 18 July 2021 (ensuring compliance with all government regulations and social distancing!).

The event starts at 12pm and will be an afternoon of live music, food and fun! See the poster on page 1.

FHRA Village Litter Pick

On 12 June 2021 Flackwell Heath took part in the Great British Spring Clean Campaign.

Over 65 people turned out, from the Flackwell Heath Minors players and families to local residents of all ages. The Flackwell Heath FC first team and reserves also came along to lend a hand.

A huge thank you to everyone who took part.

FHRA Community Grant Scheme

The FHRA is launching an exciting new initiative to distribute some of the proceeds of its fundraising efforts. The

committee will consider applications for grants from individuals and voluntary organisations who serve the local community and whose objectives align with those of the FHRA:

- To strengthen and support our local community;
- To reduce the negative impact that our village has upon the environment and encourage sustainability;
- To provide additional support for groups within our community who need it the most;
- To promote inclusivity; and
- To inspire and encourage positive change that will increase the chances of all groups in our community to enjoy life in Flackwell Heath!

The purpose of the grant scheme is to provide funding for projects at a grass-roots level which contribute to making our village a better place to live and promote positive change within our community. The FHRA will consider applications (up to £500) on a rolling basis at the next decision meeting.

The application form can be found on the FHRA website (www.flackwellresidents.news).

This month we mention Kirsty Keiller's fitness class which runs on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. The class uses step and dumbbells for all over body conditioning.

Contact Kirsty on 07581 217334 or kirsty.keiller@googlemail.com.



Flackwell Heath Minors FC
'FESTIVAL OF FOOTBALL'
6 a side Football Tournament

Fun for all the family
Tea Bar, Beer Tent, Barbecue, Tombola, Bouncy Castle & Slide

**Saturday September 4th
& Sunday September 5th 2021**

Green Dragon Lane Recreation Ground
www.fhmfc.org.uk

Flackwell Heath FC Minors 'Festival of Football' 2021 6 a Side Tournament



What a tremendous Summer of Football we've had and just as the new season has started we've got one more great football event to enjoy and it's on your doorstep! See poster above.

It's taken a while though....having had to cancel our June 2020 tournament and then June 2021 we were worried that we'd miss out again this year.

So please pop in and show your support, there'll be plenty of football of course but also tasty BBQ food, teas and cakes, a well

stocked bar, Tombola stall, Funfair, Ice Cream Van and lots of other fun stalls around the ground to keep you entertained.

It's always a fantastic weekend but it wouldn't be the great event it is without all the support we get from the parents, coaches and village friends, so please pop by and say Hello!

Declan Breen



Flackwell Under 10 boys -
June 2019

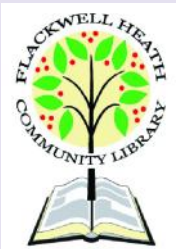
GDPR

Heard of General Practice Data for Planning and Research? Possibly not. This is a scheme by the government, as NHS Digital, to take all your personal medical data, some of the most sensitive personal data you have including your mental and sexual health history, from your GP records and sell them to a variety of third parties. The uses to which these data will be put are not clearly specified and sale to commercial companies has not been ruled out. No names will be included, but geographical and age data will be needed for meaningful analysis. The scheme was launched amid no publicity at all via flyers to GPs in April. Reports first started to appear in the national press in early June.

Data collection was originally scheduled to begin on 23 June but, following concerns, has been postponed to 1 September. Neither the British Medical Association nor the Royal College of General Practitioners has endorsed GDPR at the time of writing.

Apparently, contradictory to Data Protection law and good practice, by default you are opted IN to the GDPR process unless you specifically opt out, and once your data have been collected they will not be deleted even if you subsequently do opt out. If you want to opt out, perhaps until more is known, you need to complete a "Type 1 Data opt-out" form and hand it in or post it to your GP surgery as soon as possible. These are available on the home page of the Bourne End and Wooburn Green Medical Centre website, or from <https://medconfidential.org/how-to-opt-out/>

Editor's note: while the Grapevine is not the place to debate the merits or otherwise of GDPR, we thought our readers should be informed about it so that they can make up their own minds.



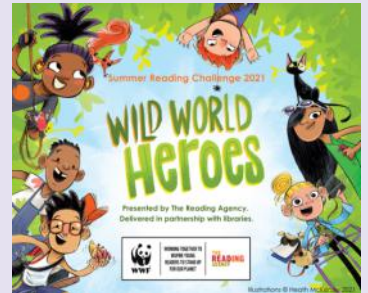
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Volunteers needed

We are looking for more volunteers to ensure we can continue to serve the community as we have been doing for more than 9 years. Please contact Michael Russell on 01628 531343, email michael@sedgmoor.plus.com or just call into the library for an application form. Any of our volunteers will be only too pleased to explain everything to you and tell you what an interesting and rewarding activity it is.

Summer Reading Challenge returns for the school summer holidays

This year the theme of the Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) is Wild World Heroes. We're teaming up with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) for a very special nature-themed Challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet! Wild World Heroes will feature amazing books, awesome rewards, and plenty of ideas for taking care of our environment. The goal is to read 6 books and children receive awards as they progress to their target.



You can register and pick up your packs from Saturday 10th July and you have until Saturday 4th September to complete your tasks.

Village Picnic: Children's crafts + Book sale

Come and meet us at the village picnic at the Straight Bit recreation ground on Sunday 18th July. The youngsters can spend time on FREE craft activities inspired by nature & the environment. For the adults, once again we have our book sale with a huge selection of fiction and non-fiction genres.

Keep up-to-date as things change

We are currently open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 10.00am to 1.00 pm. After COVID restrictions are lifted, then we hope to increase our opening hours to pre-pandemic times, and also expect to continue with previous activities and events. Watch this space.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page or the library noticeboard for 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/>



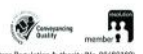
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The Parish Council

In last month's Grapevine, I described the main features of the new Buckinghamshire Council and, this month, it's the turn of the Parish Council. Parish and Town Councils are the lowest tier of local government and have quite limited powers and responsibilities. The only real difference between Town and Parish Councils is that the Town normally has a mayor and sometimes other civil functionaries.

For Flackwell Heath, we are covered by the Chepping Wycombe Parish Council and the village is one of three Wards in the Parish; the others being Tylers Green and Loudwater. Each ward has a number of Parish Councillors reflecting the population of each Ward. So Tylers Green has 5, Loudwater has 5, and Flackwell Heath has 7.

Council elections for the Parish occur at the same time as the other tiers of local government but an actual election only occurs if there are more people standing than seats. At the last election in May, this was the case for both Loudwater and Flackwell Heath. The following were elected to represent Flackwell Heath:

Alec Barron

Sue Digby

Jeff Herschel

Dave Johncock

Liz Johncock

Luca Webb

Roger Wilks

All but Luca have served as Parish Councillors before but, at 20, Luca introduces some much needed new blood and many of the views of the younger generation which all government organisations need.

Apart from a full Council meeting, the

Parish Council has 3 main committees; Works and Services (WS), Open Spaces (OS) and Finance and General Purposes (F&GP). Each Councillor would normally sit on 2 of these committees.



W&S Committee covers topics such as the maintenance of Council property

and some footpaths, some footway lighting, and cemeteries. OS covers allotments, the Tylers Green common, playgrounds and recreational areas such as the Green Dragon sports ground and the Rec on Straight Bit. F&GP clearly covers budgeting and in-year financial management as well as looking after Council policies and procedures, publicity, the website and legal matters.

On the subject of money, the precept for the Parish Council (the amount of monies provided to the Council via the collection of Council Tax is £355,500 per year. Compared to the previous District Councils and now the new Buckinghamshire Council, this is very small and often limits what the Council can do each year. However, unlike the Buckinghamshire Council, there is no cap on how much the precept can be increased each year. However, we try not to increase the precept unless we have a very strong reason for doing so.

More information on the Council, its committees (including their agendas and minutes) and your Councillors can be found on the Council's website at: <https://www.cwpc.org.uk/>

If you are unable to use the website, you can contact the Parish Clerk (Wendy Thompson) on 01494 814600.

Can I draw your attention to the webpage that we have on the Council website promoting an initiative that we

have begun on making the village dementia friendly. If you would like to be part of that project, please contact Liz Johncock on 01628 521495.

Finally, we continue to progress the final stages of the playground refurbishment which began quite a few years ago. You will have seen the latest addition of all-ability roundabout that was installed a few months ago and in early July, we will be erecting a fence around the play equipment to keep young children safe and the area dog free. The final stage which is to install a zipwire is still being discussed with a number of potential options being considered. We will keep residents informed as soon as a decision has been reached.

Next time: Community Boards – their aims, organisation and funding.

Dave Johncock

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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

Reg Charity No. 1044870

Dates for your Diary

July:

Sunday 4 – Sunday 18 July: Scarecrow Trail, see p6

Saturday 17: Food market in Three Horseshoes car park, 9am-12noon

Sunday 18: Village Fete and Picnic, Straight Bit Recreation Ground, 12noon-4pm, see pp1,6

August:

Saturday 21: Food market in Three Horseshoes car park, 9am-12noon

September:

Saturday, Sunday 4,5: Festival of Football, Green Dragon Recreation Ground, see p6

Saturday 25: Village quiz at the Community Centre. Further details TBA



Contact the editorial team at
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