

THE Grapevine

November 2021

50p

THE NEWSLETTER OF FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



The Flackwell Heath Residents' Association is proud to introduce

CHRISTMAS ON THE HEATH 2021

Taking place on Saturday 27 November between 3-6pm, villagers can enjoy a Christmas Market on Common Road, selling Christmas crafts and street-food. Come and enjoy a mulled wine under the festoon lights whilst you shop.

We will also be enjoying live performances from the Heath Singers, Juniper Hill Choir, Carrington Choir and the West Wycombe Brass Band on Jubilee Gardens, before joining in with some carols ourselves at the annual Christmas Tree lighting ceremony.

Whilst all this is going on, some extra-special fun for youngsters can be found at the Community Centre, including carousels, face-painting, a live dance performance from the students of the Anna Rose school, plus other special guests (to be confirmed), and of course, the opportunity to meet Father Christmas himself!

Save the date in your diaries - we hope to see you there!



FLACKWELL HEATH
RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION



Age Concern Day Centre Jacky Retallack-Hall (Manager) and Isobel Middleton (Committee Chair) received a cheque for £1,400 from Sudhir Patel (Flackwell Heath Golf Club Captain 2020). Mr Patel said the Day Centre was his chosen charity in 2020 and that COVID had delayed the presentation of the cheque. Isobel thanked Mr Patel and the Golf Club members for their generous donation. She said the Club had kindly supported the purchase of the original minibus in 2007 and this donation will help support the Day Centre's day-to-day operations as well as the purchase of a much needed replacement minibus.

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Under 5s free. Tickets available from local
shops, or scan to buy through Eventbrite
(booking fee applies)



News in Brief

Shakes is no more and the premises will become a Thai takeaway. We hope to report in due course.

Barnardos will not be renewing the lease on the premises alongside Sainsbury's. The shop will remain open until July and donations are still welcomed up to about April 2022.

Roadworks: Gas pipe replacement continues westwards along Straight Bit with traffic control. We now understand that this will stop at No. 74.

Recreation Ground: Fencing has now been installed around the play area. This is intended only to deter free-range dogs, not vandals (see the Neighbourhood Watch article). The parish council is exploring the possibility of installing CCTV in the area; meanwhile overnight security guards are being employed.

Simply Waste have vacated Aries House and are now working out of Cressex.

The Barbers in Aries House closed on October 24 and will re-open as *Charming Barbers* on November 1.

Old Kiln Road car park: Following the 'minded to refuse' decision by the County Council (see September Grapevine) an appeal has been made to the planning inspectorate. Any further representations must be submitted by 9 November via the planning inspectorate website at <https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk> or by emailing RT1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk. If you do not have internet access you must send 3 copies to Zoe Day, The Planning Inspectorate, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN. The appeal reference is APP/K0425/W/21/3278381. The parking survey will start shortly and we have been assured that the planning inspectorate will not start the appeal process until those findings have been submitted.

Parking: Bucks Council has approved plans to put double yellow lines at Halls Corner (off Swains Lane), at the junction of Highlands and Greenlands, and in Common Road. Other schemes are in the pipeline and we will keep you informed as we learn more.

Flackwell Heath Gospel Choir



The choir is a new venture started in September this year. We meet every other Tuesday evening, from 7.15-8.15pm. We consist of men and women of all ages, and we have a few teenagers too. We have now met for a few evenings, with around 40 people having attended, and there is a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

We have started to learn a few upbeat songs, from *Oh happy day* to Jackie Wilson's *Your love has lifted me higher*. People attending range from experienced singers, to people who have never read a note of music and never sung before, and all abilities are very welcome.

In the coming weeks, we will be starting to learn various Christmas songs, ready for **Carols @ the Pub**, at The Crooked Billet Pub, Sheepridge Lane on **Friday December 3 at 7.30pm**, and the **Carols by Candlelight** service at Christ Church, Chapel Road, on **Sunday December 19 at 6.30pm**. Everyone is warmly invited to come along!

Carrington Pre-school

held a celebration lunch for Della Ashton to mark the 30 years she has worked at the pre-school, most of the current staff attended along with representatives from the pre-schools trustees, previous staff members and the infant school staff. Of course, the children at pre-school that day joined in the party, and she continues to manage the pre-school and remains as dedicated as ever!

Della is one of the joint managers. When

Della joined the staff team she would have been working with her own children and is now working with her grandchildren. She has been the special needs coordinator for many years and her gentle, firm, kind way with the children is an inspiration to all the staff.

Thank you for all your hard work, kindness, creativity and understanding over these many years, congratulations!

Belinda Grimsey

The pre-school Christmas Bazaar will be held at the Community Centre on Saturday 20 November, 2.15- 4.15pm



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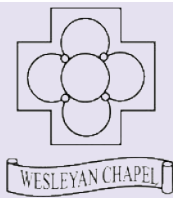
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FLACKWELL HEATH METHODIST CHURCH

We are thrilled that the church is open again for worship services. There will be in-person morning services on **Sundays November 7, 14 (Holy Communion) and 28 (Advent Sunday) at 11am**, and our monthly evening **Celebrate!** service on **November 28 at 6.30pm**, led by **Rev. Nick Thompson**.

We are also running our popular **Saturday coffee morning** from 10am to 12 noon on Saturdays; please check our Facebook page and noticeboards nearer the time for confirmation. We are still following government guidelines and our own risk assessments to ensure that everybody entering our premises is kept safe.

We are running our **PLAY & PRAISE** group inside the church building on **Friday mornings** and our **PARENT AND TODDLER (PAT) GROUP** will continue on **Wednesday mornings**. Please see the Flackwell Heath Wednesday PAT Group Facebook page for details, or 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.

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

Heath Singers Christmas Concert

Friday 10 and Saturday 11
December

7.30pm at Christ Church

Tickets £10 to include music, fun, and seasonal refreshments will be available from the church office and Jan Churchouse (07791 500478)



As the new vicar of Christ Church (see interview on back page), it's been a great joy for me to join a church where there is so much going on! It has been good to continue to welcome people to our Sunday services and to continue to see groups meeting back in person. At the same time, we know for many of us, life is not fully back to normal, and there is a need to continue to make space this winter for us all to share some of the challenges of the last 18 months, as well as gathering for more joyful occasions. Here's some of what's coming up at Christ Church in the next month.

The annual **Remembrance Day ceremony** will take place on Sunday November 14, gathering at the war memorial at 10.45am. Do join us as we pause and observe two minutes' silence to remember those who have given their lives in the service of their country.

Each year Christ Church holds a **memorial service** on the third Sunday evening in November, which this year is November 21. It is a service for anyone who has been bereaved at any time to remember their loved ones and light a candle in their memory. Everyone is welcome to attend the service at 6.30pm, and if you would like to add the name of your loved one to our Book of Remembrance to be read out during the service, please email or phone the church office (details below). If you would like to speak with someone on

the phone about your loss, please contact the church office and one of our bereavement visiting team will be pleased to talk with you in confidence.

Our **Oasis** groups, which provide support for the bereaved, continue to meet in person on the second Wednesday of each month at 7pm, and the first and third Wednesdays at 2.30pm. You can find out more by emailing oasis@ccfh.org.uk

With the weather getting colder, come and warm up at **coffee stop**, open weekdays from 8.45-11.30am. We'll be serving fairly traded tea, coffee, and other drinks, and there's always someone to talk to.

As you can see, there's a lot going on, but there's so much more to us as a church than just the things we do. If there's anything you want to talk about, or if you need help with something, please do get in touch with us using the details below.

James Dwyer

Vicar of Christ Church

 01628 533004
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Flackwell Local Area History Group

The next talk at the Flackwell Heath Community Library will be on **Monday 22nd November 2021 from 7:30pm.**



The Caringtons with Sarah Charlton

The Caringtons came to High Wycombe when Robert Smith, the first Lord Carrington, purchased Lord Shelburne's estate in 1799. Over the next 120 years the family added to this basic estate and became the largest and most influential landowners in the parish and was intimately involved in the development of High Wycombe as we know it today. Property at Flackwell Heath formed part of this estate and, like most of the rest of it, was sold off piecemeal from the

1920s onwards. Sarah has catalogued the historical records of the Carington family. Using these records the talk will aim to chart the growth of the estate and how this ties in with the development of the town with particular reference to Flackwell Heath.

Carrington or Carrington? No, we haven't made a spelling mistake. Come and find out the whys and wherefores at Sarah's informative talk about this prestigious local family.

About the speaker

Sarah Charlton started her career as an archivist at Buckinghamshire County Record Office in 1985 and worked there on and off for 30 years. She has also been heavily involved with the National Archives' revision of the Manorial Documents Register and has completed the sections for five counties. She currently works as an archivist for two London estates, Stowe School and Carrington Estates at Bledlow.

This is a ticketed event. The tickets will be available from the library on Tuesday 19th October 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 will be on Monday 21st February 2022 from 7:30pm – Sticky Bombs with John Gurney

Appeal Corner

As part of our research for next June's Platinum Jubilee celebrations we would be very grateful for details of any house that was built in the village during 1952/1953. Please contact us at the following address info@localhistorygroup.org.uk and we will be in touch to learn about your house history.

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

The annual allotment BBQ

was held on Saturday 25th September with the Parish Council supplying the meat and drinks and the Allotment Association the charcoal. Nearly 40 people attended and everyone enjoyed being able to socialise in the open air at last. Local parish councillors, Les Willis and Sue Digby represented CWPC and were relieved not to have to judge the allotment competition this year, another victim of the pandemic! At the FHAA AGM on October 15, 11 year-old youngest member, Tom Weedon (below), was presented with a certificate and, appropriately, a box of Roses chocolates to recognise his efforts at the BBQ selling seeds and books. He raised over £50 for the FHAA funds.



Butterfly Corner



Comma: Photo by Sushma Patel

Martin Adams

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Cecoelias

Despite the persistent rain, villagers turned out in their numbers for the now well-established monthly food market on the morning of 16 October. After stocking up on gluten free sausages, we visited the Cecoelia's stall. Trying to find genuine gluten free cakes and treats is an issue and despite much more awareness these days, care is always necessary. I often feel guilty in restaurants when the dessert trolley arrives and I can indulge whilst my wife is left with one option, usually a chocolate brownie, if she's lucky. No such problem with Cecoelia's though, there was a whole array of freshly made, attractive, gluten free cakes on display.



Cecoelia's (pronounced CECE-LEE-ERS), was set up by Wooburn Green sisters Rachel and Natalie Gerrish to cater for those who aren't normally catered for. Natalie herself is gluten intolerant and her sister Rachel is a professionally trained chef who set up her own business, Rachel's Creative Cooking, in 2015, teaching cookery classes to children.

When both their self-employed jobs were threatened by the pandemic in 2020, they came up with the idea of Cecoelia's and have subsequently turned it into a thriving business.

They offer classic cakes such as lemon drizzle and carrot cake, as well as treats such as millionaire shortbread and Bailey's Rocky Road, amongst other things. Menus are available across their social media channels or at cecoelias@mail.com.

In addition to GF, if you're in need of dairy free or vegan treats they can be tailor made on request. Bespoke orders



NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH NEWS

Anti-social Behaviour

It is very disappointing to have to report a surge in anti-social behaviour (ASB) activities in the village which appears to be attributable to small groups. In particular, the refurbished children's play area on the rec has come in for their attention, with equipment being damaged to the extent it cannot be used, by application of unpleasant substances or in the extreme, by fire. However, residents have been reporting these incidents to the police who are carrying out surveillance operations in the area. This reinforces the advice that by reporting ALL such activities to the police, either via 101 or the Thames Valley Police website (<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk>), appropriate priority for action can be allocated to use the scarce police resources.

Relay theft of Motor Vehicles

Malcolm Wiles wrote a very comprehensive article in October's Grapevine, describing the modus operandi of relay theft in detail, and offering advice as to how to avoid theft of these keyless vehicles. I have reported on this type of theft in the past, and have noted that Wycombe Neighbourhood Watch Association does have Faraday Shield pouches available to purchase. These handy devices stop the signal from the keyfob being detectable by the thieves.

Other Crime

The proliferation of the many and various types of crime and especially

fraud and cybercrime, continues. The incidence of 'cold calling' fraud seems to be on the increase, so the advice is NEVER to engage with unknown callers on the doorstep, and NEVER let them into your home, however plausible they may seem. Politely tell them that you NEVER deal with 'cold callers' and shut the door. Put a 'No Cold Callers' sticker by your front door – this may deter the more law-abiding.

Scam text messages (smishing) are still particularly prevalent, claiming to be regarding a delivery by Royal Mail, from one of the many courier companies or from your bank. Make sure you know how to distinguish between a genuine and a scam text message. If in doubt, report the scam by dialling 7226, then **DELETE** it, and call the organisation on a phone number you know is genuine.

A NEW anti-smishing telephone service is being developed by the major banks and phone companies. Currently nine banks participate and others either plan to join or develop their own systems. The scheme is called **159** and is charged at national rate (but is probably within the included minutes of your tariff). If you believe you have fallen foul of a smishing text and may have put your money at risk, dial **159** to contact your bank if it is one of the participating banks. (<https://stopscamsuk.org.uk/159>)

For further information about these topics or about Neighbourhood Watch in general, contact:

David Gresswell – Scheme Co-ordinator, Flackwell Heath

(Tel: 01628 525019 e-mail: flackwell-nhwatch@talktalk.net)

for layer cakes require a minimum of one week's notice. These can include chocolate drip decoration, gold glitter, sprinkles and cake toppers.

As well as the cakes and treats on offer, there were GF sausage rolls, temptation was too much to resist, and they were purchased and eaten very quickly! As we were leaving, we met a friend who was visiting the stall for her "monthly treat".

Craig Lewis

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Village quiz 2021

'The man versus what' is an annual race run over a 22 mile course in Llanwrtyd Wells?

This was just one of the questions in the annual village quiz held in the Community Centre on Saturday 25th September which had some amusing answers. It is actually man v. horse, although one team had suggested sheep. Not sure many sheep could run 22 miles!

Other questions included having to work out the singer of a version of 'White Christmas.' This had teams confusing Judy Garland, Doris Day, Liza Minelli, Eartha Kitt and Vera Lynn. It was actually Dionne Warwick.

Out of nine teams, the winners were The Electric Warriors with 88 points out of a total of 110. They were closely followed by three teams tying on 87 and another on 86. Never before in the history of the village quiz has it been so close!



The quiz master was once again the incomparable Craig Lewis, ably assisted by his wife Linda, and our thanks go to them for the hours of work they had put in to preparing the questions. The evening was fun, as well as informative, and included the usual rounds of questions with cryptic titles so that no-one knew where to play their Joker, as well as picture rounds of cathedrals (hard!), pictures of celebrities when they were younger and a round of cryptic clues to UK cities. One team managed to get all of those correct.

A tasty meal of jacket potatoes with various fillings and salad, followed by desserts which were delicious but scored highly in calorific value, was enjoyed by all.

Another part of the evening was a higher/lower game to guess how many footsteps the Quizmaster had done that day. He had actually done just over

Flackwell Heath Women's Institute

WI Banners on Parade!

Last year saw the Centenary of the Bucks. Federation of WIs. Planned celebrations were much altered, but one finally took place in September, with a parade through Aylesbury of the banners of the individual Institutes. The banner of Flackwell Heath Morning WI was carried by Jeanette Muncey and Brenda Aldridge. Barbara Dickinson carried the Flackwell Heath Evening WI banner (with the aid of a harness kindly loaned by George O'Leary).



Morning WI

We had a successful Annual Meeting with the President Jeanette Muncey and committee being re-elected plus a welcome new addition. (Room for one more!). This was followed by a general discussion on reviving our scrabble group and other possibilities.

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of one of our long-standing members, Jean Stevens.

Next month we have a speaker, Bill

Hamilton, a former BBC journalist, who I am sure many will remember, talking about "Good Days, Bad Days".

Brenda Aldridge

Evening WI

We were saddened to hear of the sudden death of one of our younger members (heart trouble, not COVID).

This year we managed to hold our Annual Meeting in person, in the Community Centre. Judith Forster, WI Advisor, came to offer her support. We elected a Committee and a President, both with the same personnel as last year. The Committee's Annual report reminded us of all the things we had managed to do, including among others Zoom talks on Ikebana, conspiracies, acting as a film extra and a gruesome Victorian murder. We also celebrated the Bucks WI Centenary at Waddesdon and had our own open-air buffet supper in a member's garden. Despite very limited opportunities for fund-raising, our Treasurer assured us that we were still in the black. Barbara Dickinson, President, thanked everyone for all the support shown in the last year, and on behalf of the membership Ruth Walne thanked the Committee and President for their work.

November would normally bring our Birthday Party, but we will celebrate with just cake and a drink (rules then current permitting).

Sue Arnavot

31,000 – which took quite a while to be guessed.

If you have never attended one of these quizzes, do think about it for next year. Not only was it a relief to be able to go out on a Saturday night with others after lockdown, but they are always good fun, with (most) people not taking it too seriously. The Question master didn't even need to use his yellow and red cards!

And for another question to get you thinking – 'Which captain has recently been given the **cold shoulder** and been replaced by 24 year old Gloucestershire mum, Charlotte Carter Dunn?'

One answer was Gary Neville! Correct answer – Captain Birdseye.

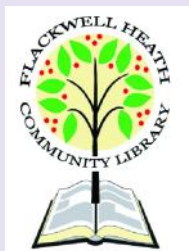
Alison Peach

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FLACKWELL HEATH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Reading Groups

There is a separate collection of books specifically for Reading Groups. Instead of each member of the group having to get their own copy of the required book from



the library, we supply you with a pack containing enough books for each member of your group. Reading Group sets consist of a minimum of 10 standard print books, while some sets also include either a cassette/CD or may be large print editions. Sets are booked out for a maximum loan period of 7 weeks, to facilitate pick up and return of the complete set (1 week collection period, 28-35 days to cover 2 meetings and 1-week return period).

The Reading Group organiser will have a separate 'Reading Group' library card in addition to their personal library card. Reading groups pay an annual fee of £25 to cover the administration of this service.

You can search for Reading Group sets by selecting 'Reading Group' in the 'Collection' field of the 'Advanced Search' feature when looking for a library item on the Buckinghamshire libraries website. Contact the library if you want to register a new Reading Group.

Regular Activities

Knitting & Crochet group is every Friday morning from 10.00 am to 12.00noon. For details contact Glen Colman on 01628 520 616 or 07960 399 178



Bounce & Rhyme for under 5s is every Thursday 10.30-11.00 during school term time. No need to book – just turn up



Craft & Chat group runs on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 7.00pm to 9.00 pm. For details contact Alison on 07803 044 298 or admayall@btinternet.com

The library may be booked for meetings and other activities outside of normal opening hours. Contact Michael Russell - michael@sedgmoor.plus.com

Opening hours

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10.00am to 5.00 pm, and Saturdays 10.00am to 1.00 pm.

Keep updated

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/>



Community Centre Boiler

The central heating boiler in the Community Centre had given good service for over forty years. However, parts were no longer likely to be available should there be a major breakdown. Furthermore, efficiency had declined to no more than 60%, which meant that 40% of the gas consumed was wasted.

We were fortunate that a very generous anonymous bequest enabled us to consider a new boiler system.

British Gas installed the new system over a week in early September. Because of the age of the old system they had to install new water and gas supply pipework and a new drainage system.

We expect an energy efficiency of up to 95% from the new system with the resultant reduced gas consumption and much lower impact on the environment.



FLACKWELL HEATH LITTER PICK

SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2021

10AM - 1PM

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From Political Journalist to Vicar

You will have seen in last month's Grapevine a photo of our new Flackwell Heath vicar, Revd. James Dwyer. This month is a chance to find out a little more about him.

James is not new to the area as he was born in Watford and raised in the Chorleywood area, going to school in Berkhamsted. He admitted to being a life-long Watford Football Club supporter. There were often family outings to Cliveden as a child, so he thinks he probably drove through, or close to, Flackwell Heath on a number of occasions.

After a degree in Theology in London and various internships, he spent three years working as a political journalist in Westminster at the time of the coalition Government. He felt the job showed him both the best and the worst of people, but interestingly maintained that of the many politicians he met and interviewed, he felt that all genuinely wanted to make the world a better place. It was a privilege to be working in the environment of Westminster.

He then felt called to train for the ministry, after which his first job was as a curate at St. Andrew's in North Oxford. Thirteen years ago he married Cheryl who works part-time from home for a charity. They have two boys – Toby, 7 attends Juniper Hill School, and Joel, 5 is at Carrington Infant School.

In his spare time he is a real bookworm – for him, this is the ultimate relaxation. He is also an armchair sports fan, particularly football and cricket (a Hampshire supporter).

I asked him what attracted him to apply for the job in Flackwell Heath. He said that when he and Cheryl came for the interview, they both felt a real sense of community and that there was a village spirit, with the Church at the heart of the community. Also that it was a lovely part of the world in which to bring up a family.

He would like Christ Church to carry on being very much embedded in the community and wants it to be an open place where people can feel welcomed and able to come for help in times of trouble. He has already been into the village schools to take an assembly and sees supporting the schools and their staff as an important part of his job. He is keen to work with other groups in the community for the good of the village.

One of the many challenges he sees is how to manage a combination of an online church with a local parish church. During lockdown, Christ Church used Facebook to relay weekly services, and he is keen to keep the church having an online presence for those who are unable to get to church physically, but to encourage people to benefit from meeting and worshipping with others face-to-face.

The family is very grateful for the warm welcome they have received. They all love being here and are already feeling well settled.

From chatting to him, it struck me that James will be very well suited to take over the baton from Chris Bull and that we are very fortunate to have such an approachable, caring, community-minded vicar.

Alison Peach



Grapevine Schedule

There is no Grapevine in January. The next issue will cover December and January, and contributions should be received by 15 November please.

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

November

Saturday 6: Village Fireworks, Lawrence Way (end Chapel Road) from 5.30pm, see p1

Saturday 13: Village Litter Pick, 10am-1pm, see p7

Sunday 14: Remembrance Day ceremony, War Memorial, 10.45am

Saturday 20: Food market in Three Horseshoes car park, 9am-12noon

Saturday 20: Carrington Pre-school Christmas bazaar, Community Centre, 2.15-4.15pm

Monday 22: History Group talk 'The Caringtons' at the library, 7.30pm, see p4

Saturday 27: Christmas on the Heath, see p1

December

Friday 10 and Saturday 11: Heath Singers Christmas Concert at Christ Church, 7.30pm, see p3

Saturday 18: Food market in Three Horseshoes car park, 9am-12noon



Contact the editorial team at
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