

# Fleetville Diaries

## Annual Report November 2014



### Status

Fleetville Diaries is a fully constituted voluntary group. It is a member of CVS and takes out Public Liability Insurance annually.

### Project 1 Young Historians

With the cooperation of three local cub-scout leaders we were able to create a framework for cub-scout leaders to use when running a Local Knowledge badge with games and activities. Its creation was supported by a team consisting of Frank Brittain, Mike and Liz. The pack has been dispatched to all leaders involved but with no feedback as yet. We hope that through these activities, young people will be able to discover the fun to be had in understanding the history of their beautiful city.

### Project 2 Website

The website is currently undergoing a tidying up! It is hoped that information will be faster to track down and that the graphics will be easier on the eye. Mike and Liz are looking into another website provider which will cost nothing and allow even the most challenged to use.

### Project 3 Members' Stories

In October we hosted the usual members' evening and were kept busy with discussions about house deeds, drainage arrangements and street plans. Many thanks to those of you who contributed.

### Project 4 Guided Walks

This year we have presented two new guided walks; one about Camp Road, our first one of the year, and an additional cemetery walk called 'Private Lives'. 'Steaming Through Fleetville' was run again with the addition of notes and maps. All our walks this year have been well-attended and prove to be our main source of revenue.

### Project 5 Talks to Local Residents

The intention was to create a series of talks based on our guided walks but this has been deferred until the coming year. Sometimes we are too ambitious for our own good!

### Project 6 Exhibition – A History of Camp Road

Once again, Mike has exceeded himself by putting on a marvellous display of photographs, plans and written material about this fascinating part of the Fleetville district. It took pride of place at the Fleetville Festival, Larks in the Parks and National Older People's Day at the Albans Arena.

### Trips

We ran two events out of our borough this year. In June, members were treated to a guided walk around Wheathampstead. It proved to be a great success and the general feeling was that we should return there next year for a slightly different route this time. The second outing took place in October when members visited Frogmore Paper Mill for an excellent journey through what was the very first mechanised paper mill in the world. Very many thanks to Vic and Vera for providing a minibus for us.

### Work in the Community

- In December 2013, a few members joined singers from Fleetville Harmony and their families to sing carols at the Community Centre; many thanks to those brave souls who ventured out in some awful weather. We had a good time, though.
- In March, Liz gave a talk to the Footpaths Association about the growth and activities of Fleetville Diaries. Mike continued to work with the Smallford Station Project team, producing a spectacular exhibition

- Mike has been in some demand as a speaker. He has addressed St Paul's Tea Party Plus group, the Bricket Wood Society, Wheathampstead History Society and SAHAAS.
- Mike's expertise has been evident in 3 extensive displays this past year:
  - 'Sandridge 900' which was very well received at MOSTA;
  - The aforementioned 'Camp Road';
  - 'Bringing the Story of Smallford Station to Life' which some of us were lucky enough to see at the new UH Law Centre.

### **Other History Groups and Activities**

- Mike is a driving force behind the St Albans and District Local History Network which held its fourth annual conference in October. Once again, delegates were treated to some excellent talks which reveal the extraordinary work being done in the county. I urge you to attend next year!

### **Members**

- Last November we accepted 20 membership fees of £10 per member entitling free entry to meetings and a half price concession on guided walks. This was a decrease of 3 on the previous year.
- Many thanks to members who helped by carting things around and pitching the gazebo at the Fleetville Festival and at Larks in the Parks. We also thank Diana Devereux for providing welcome refreshments at our meetings.

### **The Committee**

- Members from November 2013 to 2014 have been Mike Neighbour, Peter Elliott, Lorraine Hammond, Dave Wilson, Diana Devereux and Liz Bloom. 2014 committee meetings were held in April, October and November. During these meetings, invoiced expenses submitted by committee members were paid according to the rules of the FD bank account. Unless the committee members change, Mike, Liz, and Peter will continue to be bank account signatories.

### **Next Year**

- Public Awareness of FD in St Albans – Lorraine and Liz will be working towards raising our profile in St Albans by way of social networking, media and other conventional publicity.
- Further change in Membership Structure – Membership will now run from January to January and will represent better value for money. Membership will still be £10 but fees for talks and guided walks will henceforth be £3 for non-members. This is because room hire, printing and stationery costs are increasing.
- Local Engagement – Cambridge Road will be the focus for a guided walk and exhibition in 2015. Early in 2015, Cambridge Road residents will be contacted with a view to collecting evidence for this project.
- Website – We are looking for someone interested in our work to become involved in running our website now that we will be changing our web provider.
- New Talks – Liz and Mike will be creating 2 or 3 talks from material collected for the guided walks. They are intended to be 'virtual walks' for the elderly and infirm. We hope we can collect a small income for FD from these talks.
- Members' research. Liz is embarking on a project about AJ Nicholson in an attempt to collate existing data and add to it. Anyone interested in becoming involved in this work; please talk to her!
- Links with Highfield Trust – We have already made contact with the Highfield Trust who have agreed in principle to the idea of us funding the planting of a tree in the park. This is an expression of our support for the wonderful work that they do. We hope to have a tree planting ceremony followed by refreshments at Highfield itself.
- Social Event – Terry Swain has kindly offered the use of his back garden for a social event one day in the summer months. We hope we can run an old-fashioned garden party with a few activities and refreshments. Members are encouraged to ask friends and family along. There will be a small charge to cover costs. What a great idea!
- We will continue to have about 2 Members' trips in the summer months. Some ideas, please?
- Please note that meetings and guided walks in 2015 will be held on WEDNESDAYS except the cemetery walks which will be on Saturdays.

## Annual Statement of accounts to end of September 2014

### Fleetville Diaries

#### Financial Statement to 2 October 2014

Date	Item	Income	Outgoings	Balance
OCT 2013	Carried forward from 2013	£585.44		£585.44
22.10.13	Payment to LB for stationery expenses		£14.95	£570.49
23.10.13	Fleetville Community Centre room hire		£90.00	£480.49
7.11.13	Fees from October meeting	£6.00		£486.49
27.11.13	16 membership subscriptions	£160.00		£646.49
27.11.13	3 membership subscriptions	£30.00		£676.49
15.1.14	1 membership subscription	£10.00		£686.49
15.1.14	Payment to DW for stationery expenses		£1.99	£684.50
30.1.14	Fees for St Albans guide		£40.00	£644.50
30.1.14	Refreshment expenses		£4.76	£639.74
27.2.14	Printing		£185.00	£454.74
27.2.14	Refreshment expenses		£3.77	£450.97
12.3.14	Casual attendance fees	£11.20		£462.17
12.3.14	Refreshment expenses		£4.87	£457.30
12.3.14	Payment to MN for stationery/display		£134.39	£322.91
12.3.14	Payment to LB for cash box		£16.85	£306.06
31.3.14	Casual attendance fees	£23.00		£329.06
30.4.14	Payment to LB for stationery expenses		£21.72	£307.34
1.5.14	Payment to Highfield Park Trust		£40.00	£267.34
8.5.14	Casual attendance fees	£23.00		£290.34
29.5.14	Fees from Camp Road walk	£40.00		£330.34
28.6.14	Fees from Cemetery walk	£33.00		£363.34
7.7.14	FCC room hire		£60.00	£303.34
18.7.14	CVS membership		£20.00	£283.34
31.7.14	Fees from Shopping in Fleetville walk	£22.00		£305.34
7.8.14	Public liability insurance		£84.80	£220.54
14.8.14	Fees from "Steaming through" walk	£36.00		£256.54
30.8.14	Fees from "Pioneers" cemetery walk	£42.00		£298.54
27.9.14	Fees from "Private lives" cemetery walk	£33.00		£331.54
<b>Total</b>		<b>£1054.64</b>	<b>£723.10</b>	<b>£331.54</b>

### Fleetville Diaries financial comparison 2013/2014

2013 financial statement to 2 October 2013	Income	Outgoings
Membership subscriptions	£230.00	
Stationery/publicity		£240.83
Casual attendance fees	£35.00	
Refreshment expenses		£11.00
CVS membership		£20.00
Fees from walks (4)	£176.00	
Public Liability insurance		£84.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>£341.00</b>	<b>£365.63</b>
<b>2014 Financial statement to 2 October 2014</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Outgoings</b>
Membership subscriptions	£200.00	
Stationery/publicity		374.90
Casual attendance fees	£57.20	
Refreshment expenses		£13.40
Fees from walks (6)	£206.00	
Community Centre room hire		£150.00
Fees from October meeting	£6.00	
Fees for St Albans guide		£40.00
Payment to Highfield Park Trust		£40.00
CVS membership		£20.00
Public Liability insurance		£84.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>£469.20</b>	<b>£723.10</b>

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## Current Account

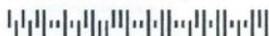
Branch details  
St Albans Branch  
10 St Peter's Street  
St Albans  
Herts  
AL1 3LY

### Summary

28 Aug 2014 to 26 Sep 2014  
Sheet 32

Previous balance	334.50
Withdrawn	84.80
Paid in	42.00
<b>New balance</b>	<b>291.70</b>

N35900/01472914/I 601811/02576



MRS ELIZABETH BLOOM  
FLEETVILLE DIARIES  
53 CAMBRIDGE ROAD  
ST. ALBANS  
HERTFORDSHIRE  
AL1 5LE

WE ARE NOW REGULATED BY THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY AND THE PRUDENTIAL REGULATION AUTHORITY. OPERATION OF YOUR ACCOUNT WON'T CHANGE

If you have changed your address or telephone number,  
please let us know

For Bank use

Account Number 17366682  
Branch sort code 60-18-11  
National Westminster Bank Plc

FLEETVILLE DIARIES  
COMMUNITY ORGANISATION A/C

BIC NWBK GB 2L  
IBAN GB73 NWBK 6018 1117 3666 82

This is a true and accurate account of the activities of Fleetville Diaries history group during the year from October 2013 to October 2014

<i>Committee member</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
Lorraine Hammond		
Peter Elliott		
Mike Neighbour		
Liz Bloom		
Dave Wilson		
Diana Devereux		

## ***Provisional Events Calendar 2015***

### **Invited guest speakers for the first 4 meetings in 2015:**

Mark Freeman – Boundary Wars

Roger Plumb – A History of Rothamsted Manor

Iain Loe – The history of CAMRA

Peter Swinson – Cyril Swinson and the revival of the St Albans Pageants

- Wed, Jan 28<sup>th</sup>** Membership renewal. Guest speaker
- Wed, Feb 25<sup>th</sup>** Guest speaker
- Sun, March 22<sup>nd</sup>** Exhibition about the *Smallford Station Project* at the Fleetville Festival
- Wed, March 25<sup>th</sup>** Guest speaker
- Wed, April 29<sup>th</sup>** Guest speaker
- Wed, May 27<sup>th</sup>** *Camp Road* guided walk
- Wed, June 10<sup>th</sup>** Another, but slightly different *Wheathampstead Trail* with Patrick Mc Neill.
- Sat, June 27<sup>th</sup>** *Pioneers* guided cemetery walk
- Sun, June 28<sup>th</sup>** Larks in the Parks – *Smallford Station Project* Exhibition
- Sat, July 11<sup>th</sup>** FD Garden Party at Terry's house
- Sat, July 25<sup>th</sup>** *Baker's Dozen* guided cemetery walk
- Wed, Aug 12<sup>th</sup>** *Steaming Through Fleetville* guided walk
- Wed, August 26<sup>th</sup>** *Made in Fleetville* guided walk
- Sat, Sept 26<sup>th</sup>** *Private Lives* guided cemetery walk
- Sat Oct 10<sup>th</sup>** Members' Trip – Guided tour of the old Leavesden Hospital with Martin Brooks
- Wed, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>** Members' Research Projects
- Nov 25<sup>th</sup>** AGM and members' stories
- Dec 16<sup>th</sup>** Members' Xmas Party