

Fleetville Diaries

Annual Report November 2015



Status

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

Projects 1 and 4 The Cambridge Road Project/Members' Research

We are particularly pleased with the way you, our members, have embraced the Cambridge Road project. In early June, the residents of Cambridge Road were invited to attend a meeting at the Royston Club. Turn-out was really very encouraging and Mike, Romaine, Anne Marie, Diana, Paul and myself had the pleasure of meeting a number of residents and ex-residents who had stories, photos, maps and house deeds to show us. We have now formed a committee and are looking forward to presenting these findings to you in January. Maps, house histories, land transference, personal stories and much more! Because another of our members, Romaine, has already started a history of Camp View Road, it looks as if Fleetville Diaries will be featuring a series of street histories in the future under the name of 'Right Up Our Street'

Project 2 Website

Unfortunately, we have made little headway with the website this year. I am updating the Home page with details of forthcoming events, of course, but we are still hoping that somebody in our membership might step forward to offer their skills in re-building the site and in doing so, to create a blog page and make it better to navigate.

Project 3 New Talks

Mike and I have been busy working as guest speakers at local interest groups such as U3A, women's clubs and older people's groups. It's surprising how word gets round! We have collected £275 in donations over the past 12 months and Mike and I agree that in 2016, Fleetville Diaries will be in a good enough position to give our talk donations to the new Museum fund. Between us, we can offer 16 different talks; most of which have been created by Mike. Have a look at the website list and tell all your friends.

Project 5 Links with the Highfield Trust

I must say that our friends at the Highfield Trust won't let the grass grow under their feet! No sooner had we suggested in November 2014 that we would like to strengthen our ties with them by donating a tree than we were contacted by Sue with a list of trees we could choose and a date for the planting – just before Christmas 2014! Our beautiful Tulip Tree can now be admired at the green space near the maze, next to the pathway. Thank you Highfield Trust.

Project 6 Social Event

The highlight of last summer was, for me, the wonderful garden party at Terry's house on Beaumont Avenue. I was quite blown away by Terry's generosity in opening up his garden; providing chairs, tables and gazebos; attending to health and safety; and even thinking about all the finishing touches like table decorations. I have to say that Diana played no small part in this by providing proper china cups, saucers and plates, and by staffing the tea tent; not only that but she took it all away to be washed up! I was amazed by the fantastic support that Terry's family gave in running an excellent barbeque in the corner of the garden – all for us! The weather was very kind to us and so many people flocked in. To top it all, Terry has agreed to host another one next year. Many thanks to you, Terry and Helen, and to your lovely family.

Trips

In June, our walk around Wheathampstead was well-attended again; this year it included a trip to the old station. I know that everyone is always impressed by Patrick McNeill's commitment and excellent delivery. I only wish I could have been there! Our second excursion was to the old Leavesden Psychiatric Hospital where the very lively Martin Brooks took us on an energetic walk around the grounds of what is now an impressive park; a little chilly but well worth the effort. On both of these occasions, we were, of course, driven in the minibus by Vic. His work is not always straightforward; at Leavesden, he was unable to find a high enough entrance for the bus but with some help

from Martin on the phone, he eventually ferried a buss full of trippers safely into the park. Great work and thank you, Vic.

Work in the Community

In addition to the talks that Mike and I are giving to local groups, Mike has been heavily involved with the Smallford Station project under the leadership of Geoff Lewis. In fact, he created last year's exhibition all about the Smallford station which visited the Fleetville Festival, Larks in the Parks and National Older People's Day, to name but a few places.

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 January we accepted 26 membership fees of £10 per member entitling free entry to meetings and a half price concession on guided walks. This was an increase of 6 on the previous year. The January to January membership has made things so much easier to handle because we aren't collecting fees at the AGM as in the past. Thanks to Lorraine who acts as a membership secretary.
- 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 2014 to 2015 have been Mike Neighbour, Peter Elliott, Lorraine Hammond, Dave Wilson, Diana Devereux and Liz Bloom. 2015 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. Our particular thanks to Dave who is meticulous in his accounting and very prompt when reimbursing us!

Next Year

- Although the name of Fleetville Diaries is beginning to be recognised now beyond the bounds of this ward, Lorraine and Liz will continue to work towards raising our profile in St Albans by way of social networking, media and other conventional publicity.
- There will be no change in our membership fees and structure this year.
- Local Engagement – Cambridge Road will be featured in a new guided walk and exhibition in 2016. The Cambridge Road team will be presenting the data collected during the course of this year.
- Website – We are still looking for someone interested in our work to become involved in running our website.
- New Talks – Liz and Mike will doubtless be creating further 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 will be presenting one of two talks about A J Nicholson and Co to Fleetville Diaries in 2016. Alan Cannon Jones, who was an apprentice there, and from a family that lived on Hedley Road since the birth of Fleetville, will be sharing the commentary.
- Links with the Smallford Station project. We are hoping that one of our excursions next year will consist of a guided walk around the Smallford area. The other will be to the RAF Museum in Hendon.
- Social Event – The aforementioned garden party on July 9th 2016 will probably feature an 'entrance tombola' which will help towards our finances. We hope the sun will shine because we are planning to provide more shade for you all.
- Kate Bretherton has accepted an invitation to guide us round the fantastic specimen trees in Clarence Park in June. If you haven't done this walk in the past, don't miss the opportunity next year! She is a very engaging speaker.
- Again, meetings and guided walks in 2016 will be held on WEDNESDAYS except the cemetery walks which will be on Saturday afternoons.

- Fleetville Diaries

- Financial Statement to 2 October 2015

• Date	Item	Income	Outgoings	Balance
• 3.10.14	C/ F from 2014	£331.54		£331.54
• 17.10.14	Refreshment expenses to DD		£10.00	£321.54
• 17.10.14	MN talks at Bricket Wood/St Pauls	£50.00		£371.54
• 26.10.14	Minibus fares for Frogmore Mill trip	£22.00		£393.54
• 30.10.14	Minibus hire for Frogmore Mill trip		£27.20	£366.34
• 30.10.14	Casual attendance fees (meeting)	£4.00		£370.34
• 27.11.14	Fees from November AGM	£2.00		£372.34
• 20.12.14	Payment to Highfield Trust (tree)		£30.00	£342.34
• 28.1.15	17 membership subscriptions	£170.00		£512.34
• 28.1.15	Casual attendance fees	£39.00		£551.34
• 19.2.15	Refreshment expenses to DD		£10.00	£541.34
• 19.2.15	1 membership subscription	£10.00		£551.34
• 19.2.15	LB 3 talks (Age Concern + 2)	£45.00		£596.34
• 19.2.15	MN talk at London Colney WI	£30.00		£626.34
• 19.2.15	Payment to LB for posters/leaflets		£128.00	£498.34
• 25.2.15	LB talk	£15.00		£513.34
• 25.2.15	Casual attendance fees (meeting)	£6.00		£519.34
• 25.3.15	4 membership subscriptions	£40.00		£559.34
• 25.3.15	Casual attendance fee (meeting)	£3.00		£562.34
• 25.3.15	LB talk to Rose Green Womens Club	£15.00		£577.34
• 26.4.15	LB payment for posters		£18.00	£559.34
• 29.4.15	1 membership subscription	£10.00		£569.34
• 29.4.15	8 casual attendance fees	£24.00		£593.34
• 29.4.15	LB talk	£15.00		£608.34
• 2.5.15	Membership of CVS (2 years)		£36.00	£572.34
• 12.5.15	LB payment for literature (Camb.Rd)		£15.00	£557.34
• 6.6.15	Unpresented cheque (Camb.Rd)	£15.00		£572.34
• 6.6.15	LB payment for literature (Camb.Rd)		£35.00	£537.34
• 6.6.15	LB talk (Age Concern)	£15.00		£552.34
• 6.6.15	Fees from "Made in Fleetville" walk	£33.00		£585.34
• 10.6.15	Fees from Wheathampsted walk	£53.00		£638.34
• 10.6.15	Donation to Wheathampsted H.T		£40.00	£598.34
• 28.6.15	Payment to MN for display boards		£108.00	£490.34
• 27.6.15	Fees from "Laid to Rest Pioneers"	£17.00		£507.34
• 11.7.15	Garden party donation	£10.00		£517.34
• 13.7.15	LB talk to Vesta Women's Club	£15.00		£532.34
• 13.7.15	Fleetville Comm. Band Ass donation*	£600.00		£1132.34
• 18.7.15	Public liability insurance		£84.80	£1047.54
• 25.7.15	Fees from "Laid to Rest" walk	£38.00		£1085.54
• 26.7.15	Garden party donation	£15.00		£1100.54
• 26.7.15	Minibus hire (Frogmore OAT)		£20.00	£1080.54
• 7.8.15	Unpresented cheque (Frogmore OAT)	£20.00		£1100.54
• 7.8.15	Minibus hire (Vic Foster)		£20.00	£1080.54
• 12.8.15	Fees from "Steaming thro' Fleetville"	327.00		£1107.54

• 17.8.15	LB talk	£15.00		£1122.54
• 28.8.15	Fees from "Camp Road" walk	£32.00		£1154.54
• 15.9.15	FCC room hire (Oct 14 – April 15)		£105.00	£1049.54
• 26.9.15	MN talk to London Colney History Soc.	£25.00		£1074.54
• 26.9.15	MN talk on 14.9.15	£35.00		£1109.54
• 26.9.15	Fees from "Private lives" walk	£44.00		£1153.54
• 2.10.15		£1840.54	£687	£1153.54

• **Fleetville Diaries financial comparison 2014/2015**

	Income	Outgoings
• Financial statement to 2 October 2014		
• Membership subscriptions	£200.00	
• Stationery/publicity		£374.00
• 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 Trust		£40.00
• CVS membership		£20.00
• Public liability insurance		£84.80
• Total	£469.20	£723.10
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• Financial statement to 2 October 2015		
• Membership subscriptions	£230.00	
• Stationery/publicity		£304.00
• Casual attendance fees	£76.00	
• Refreshment expenses		£20.00
• Fees from walks (6)	£191.00	
• Community centre room hire		£105.00
• Fees from November meeting	£2.00	
• Talks (11)	£275.00	
• Donations	£625.00	
• Fees from Frogmore Mill trip	£22.00	
• Fees from Wheathamsted Heritage Trail	£53.00	
•		
	Income	Outgoings
• Minibus hire for member trips		£47.20
• Donation to Wheathampsted HT		£40.00
• Payment to Highfield Trust (tree)		£30.00
• CVS membership (2 years)		£36.00
• Public liability insurance		£84.80
• Total	£1474.00	£667.00

**This amount was part of our share of the break-up of the Fleetville Festival Committee. Money also went to the Swing Band and Fleetville Harmony.*

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Current Account

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

Summary		28 Sep 2015	to	28 Oct 2015
		Sheet	45	
Previous balance				1,269.70
Withdrawn				165.00
Paid in				104.00
New balance				1,208.70

N35900/00683399/I 601811/00652



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

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		