



Fleetville Diaries

Annual Report November 2016

Status

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

Projects 1 - The 'Right Up Our Street' projects

We can't begin this section of the report without reflecting on the outstanding success of the Cambridge Road project – the first in what we hope will become a series of 'Right Up Our Street' local histories. We began 2016 with a presentation evening about 'progress so far', much to the trepidation of some members of the team! However, it attracted a good number of guests who were able to provide further fascinating content on which we could research. Our wonderful collection of images from Ann Mundy enabled us to create an exhibition which has appeared 5 times this year; one occasion being the Cambridge Road street party in early July. Meanwhile, the exhibition was adapted and enhanced for the publication of a booklet (courtesy of funding from Herts University History Hub). We have been able to give these to all CR residents and anyone attending walks during the latter half of the year. Did I mention walks? Well, in September, we were in a position to run a guided walk from the top of Camp View Road to the Ashley end of Cambridge Road; we had maximum attendance, with quite a number of new faces amongst them. In October, Anne Marie Kelly gave a terrific talk at the Local History conference in which she outlined how we planned and carried out our work. In fact the story isn't over yet! One of our group, Keith Robertson, is in the process of creating an 'app' to allow anyone with a mobile phone to do a self-guided walk along Cambridge Road. We will be adding a talking commentary in 2017 so watch this space. So now to the Camp View Road project. Romaine had already started research on Camp View Road in 2015 and this year she has been joined by Anne Marie and myself (taking a bit of a back seat). The focus in this project is very much on the residents and their lives, and fascinating it is too! We still have room for more researchers and would welcome those who would like to progress afterwards by adding their own street to the 'Right Up Our Street' series.

Project 2 - Website

This year, you may have noticed that the Fleetville Diaries website is a much simpler affair. We have lost the Fleetville Harmony pages and Google has received a request for improving the listing status. I have made enquiries about adding Fleetville Diaries to the Herts Memories vast website and this can be done in several different ways, incurring a variety of costs. However, I think that we will be choosing the option of creating a replacement site ourselves, based on the 'Our Welwyn' format but making sure we send project reports to Herts Memories at regular intervals (with our website link) so that we can take advantage of their huge 'footfall'. I am in contact with a volunteer website technician who can set me on the right trail.

Project 3 - Our 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! Between us, we can offer 17 different talks. We told you last year that we would be donating our fees to the New Museum fund; to date, we have raised £760.70. Next year's fees will be for Fleetville Diaries' coffers!

Project 4 - Members' Research

I know that a number of you carry out family history research and you have found out more than you bargained for in some cases! The 'Right Up Our Street' projects are keeping others busy and the results are not only adding to our knowledge of the area but they are creating teams of friends who

are discovering the delights of very satisfactory sleuthing! Early this year, with the outstanding help of Alan Cannon Jones, I was able to present the outcomes of research into the Nicholson Coat Company and indeed, that work continues. Next year's Fleetville Diaries exhibition, presented in the same way as the Cambridge Road exhibition, will feature Nicholson and Co.

Social Event

For the second time, Terry and his family hosted a terrific garden party at Beaumont Avenue. This event is really about acknowledging and thanking all those who have contributed to the activities of our group, many of whom are very elderly. Terry's family put so much into this occasion, providing all the necessary facilities, including their BBQ kit. Our thanks must also go to Diana, Lorraine, Dave and Peter for their time and efforts, not forgetting Fleetville Harmony who always add that little bit of fun to any occasion. The weather was once again fair and it was a real pleasure to welcome so many of you there. Next year we will be giving the garden party a miss as I will be in the throes of worrying about a family wedding. I hope, however, that we can extend an invitation in 2018. Many thanks to Terry and Helen and their lovely family.

Trips

In June, our walk around Redbourn, hosted by Mario Violentano of the St Albans City Guides, was well-attended and thoroughly enjoyable. Our second excursion was to the RAF Museum in Hendon where we were treated to an outstanding 2 hour guided tour by volunteer Howard Clark. On both of these occasions, we were, of course, driven in the minibus by Vic with Vera in attendance. His work is not always straightforward so thank you so much, Vic.

Walks

In addition to walks mentioned earlier, we were able to welcome back Kate Bretherton to do her 'tree walk' in Clarence Park. I was sorry not to have been able to attend because I know she is always very good value for money! Mike also introduced a new walk this year which runs from Smallford to the Galleria along the Alban Way. He was able to enlighten us about the families, farms and buildings along its route. Thank you, Mike; a very pleasant way to spend an evening!

We are receiving more and more requests by organisations to run 'private hire' walks and in 2016 we ran events for the U3A, St Albans City Guides and the St Albans Heritage Open Days programme.

Members

- This year we accepted 32 members; their fees of £10 per member entitle free entry to meetings and a half price concession on guided walks. This is an increase of 6 on the previous year. Thanks to Lorraine who acts as a very efficient 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.

Next Year

- Although the name of Fleetville Diaries is beginning to be recognised now beyond the bounds of this ward, we 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 – Camp View Road we hope will draw in local interest and will be the subject of a talk in the latter half of 2017 - with possibly an exhibition in 2018.
- In 2017, we are hoping to forge links with London Colney local history society by asking them over to talk about one of their projects and to 'network' with us. We would also like to have a guided walk around Old London Colney in early summer 2017.

- Website – Will be replaced by a new one in 2017.
- Exhibition – ‘Nicholson and Co Coat Manufacturer’ will be first shown at the Fleetville Festival in March 2017.
- 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 will collect a small income for FD from these talks.
- New Walk Guides – Liz and Mike are finding that walk and talk bookings are on the increase so Fleetville Diaries is now look for new recruits to conduct at least 2 of our walks; or even to create a new one. Of course, full training will be given!
- Members’ activity. Liz will be presenting a talk about Frederick Sander, the ‘Orchid King’ to Fleetville Diaries in 2017. This will be an introduction to a project which is inviting members to get their hands dirty; the renovation of the Sander family plot in Hatfield Road cemetery. Of course, the Camp View Road project will be in full swing throughout 2017.
- As a change, we have invited Ian Gotts and Carol Parker to run a family history evening as part of our programme next year. This is a ‘hands on’ evening and you are invited to bring along notebooks or laptops. Even if you already know a lot about your family’s past, Ian and Carol may be able to reach the parts that other searches cannot!
- Again, meetings and guided walks in 2017 will be held on WEDNESDAYS except the cemetery walks which will be on Saturday afternoons.

IF YOU WISH TO READ OUR ACTION PLAN, PLEASE FIND IT ON OUR WEBSITE.

The Committee

- 2016 committee meetings were only held in October and November although there was an un-minuted meeting about the garden party in June at Terry’s house (actually in his man cave). During these meetings, invoiced expenses submitted by committee members were paid according to the rules of the FD bank account. Members from November 2015 to 2016 have been Mike Neighbour, Peter Elliott, Lorraine Hammond, Dave Wilson, Diana Devereux and Liz Bloom. Currently, Mike, Liz, and Peter are bank account signatories. Our particular thanks to Dave who is meticulous in his accounting and very prompt when reimbursing us!
- Unfortunately, this year, Peter and Diana are stepping down from the committee because of personal changes in circumstances. Lorraine and Dave will, in due course, be stepping down too although for the time being, they are happy to stay on. The work of all 4 on this committee has been invaluable and I cannot emphasise enough how grateful Mike and I have been for their presence on the Committee. We hope that they continue to call in at meetings from time to time. Following this report, we hope to be recruiting new committee members.

Chair of Committee – Liz Bloom
November 30th 2016

Fleetville Diaries
Financial Year to 2 October 2016

Date	Item	Income	Outgoings	Balance
3.10.15	Carried forward from 2015	1153.54		1153.54
6.10.15	MN talk to U3A	40.00		1193.54
10.10.15	Minibus fees Leavesden Hospital walk	22.00		1215.54
10.10.15	Fees from Leavesden Hospital walk	42.00		1257.54
10.10.15	Donation to Martin Brooks (Leavesden)		40.00	1217.54
10,10,15	Minibus hire from Frogmore OAT		20.80	1196.74)
28.10.15	Casual attendance fees (meeting)	9.00		1205.74
25.11.15	LB talk to Age Concern	15.00		1220.74
25.11.15	MN talk to CS Retirement Group	20.00		1240.74
25.11.15	Casual attendance fees (AGM)	9.00		1249.74
25.11.15	Refreshment expenses to LH		0.75	1248.99
30.11.15	Payment to DW for receipt book		3.49	1245.50
18.12.15	Christmas meeting refreshments		40.85	1204.65
18.12.15	Christmas meeting donations	36.00		1240.65
27.1.16	LB printing of leaflets/posters		135.00	1105.65
27.1.16	27 membership subscriptions	270.00		1375.65
27.1.16	Refreshment expenses to DD		3.60	1372.05
20.2.16	LB/MN walk with Blue Badge Guides	42.00		1414.05
24.2.16	2 membership subscriptions	20.00		1434.05
24,2,16	Casual attendance fees (meeting)	12.00		1446.05
20.3.16	LB talk to Davis Court	45.70		1491.75
20.3.16	LB talk to Woodville Ladies	30.00		1521.75
22.3.16	LB talk to Vesta Women's Club	30.00		1551.75
24.3.16	LB talk to Parkwood Women's Club	40.00		1591.75
30.3.16	2 membership subscriptions	20.00		1611.75
30.3.16	Casual attendance fees (meeting)	12.00		1623.75
21.4.16	LB for Cambridge Rd materials		240.00	1383.75
23.4.16	LB talk to Townswomen's Guild	30.00		1413.75
27.4.16	FCC room hire (Oct 15-April 16)		105.00	1308.75
27.4.16	Donation to Wheathamstead Hist Soc.		45.00	1263.75
2.5.16	Unpresented cheque (LB)	240.00		1503.75
2.5.16	LB for Cambridge Rd materials		288.00	1215.75
2.5.16	Fees from U3A cemetery walk	40.00		1255,75
2.5.16	1 membership subscription	10.00		1265.75
2.5.16	Casual attendance fees (meeting)	12.00		1277.75
10.5.16	MN walk for U3A	30.00		1307.75
10.5.16	LB talk to Colne Mill Women's Club	25.00		1332.75
24.5.16	LB talk to Age Concern	25.00		1357.75
25.5.16	Fees from Camp Road walk	27.00		1384.75
15.6.16	MN printing Cambridge Rd brochure		251.00	1133.75
15.6.16	LB talk to Age Concern	30.00		1163.75
15.6.16	Fees from Redbourne walk	65.00		1228.75
15.6.16	Donation to Redbourne guide		54.00	1174.75
22.6.16	Fees from Amazing Trees walk	40.00		1214.75
22.6.16	Donation to tour guide (K. Bretherton)		30.00	1184.75
30.6.16	LB talk to Grosvenor Ladies Club	40.00		1224.75
4.7.16	University of Herts match funding (CR)	435.00		1659.75
9.7.16	Garden Party donations	121.10		1780.85

9.7.16	Refreshment expenses to DD (G. party)	9.00	1771.85
9.7.16	Payment to LB for Public Liability Ins.	87.60	1684.25
22.7.16	LB walk for St Albans Guides	40.00	1724.25
28.7.16	Minibus hire from Frogmore OAT	21.60	1702.65
30.7.16	Fees from Private Lives walk	41.00	1743.65
10.8.16	Fees from Steaming thro Smallford walk	11.06	1754.71
13.8.16	Garden Party expenses to LB	112.40	1642.31
13.8.16	Garden Party expenses to Terry/Helen	30.00	1612.31
31.8.16	Fees from Made in Fleetville walk.	14.00	1626.31
15.9.16	LB talk to Parkwood Women's Club	45.00	1671.31
24.9.16	Fees from Cambridge Rd walk.	48.00	1719.31

2015/16 end of financial year balance carried forward to 2016/17 **£1719.31**

(£415.70 accrued from talks in the financial year will be donated to the St Albans Museum Fund)

Fleetville Diaries financial comparison 2015/2016

Financial statement to 2 October 2015

Membership subscriptions	£230.00	
Casual attendance fees	£78.00	
Stationery/publicity materials		£304.00
Refreshment expenses		£20.00
Community Centre hire		£105.00
Fees from walks (6)	£191.00	
Fees from talks (11)	£275.00	
Donations	£625.00	£70.00
Fees from members' trips	£75.00	
Minibus hire for members' trips		£47.20
CVS membership (2 years)		£36.00
Public liability insurance		£84.80
Total	£1474.00	£667.00


Financial statement 2 October 2016

Membership subscriptions	£320.00	
Casual attendance fees (18)	£54.00	
Stationery /publicity materials		£677.49
Refreshment expenses		£45.20
Community Centre hire		£105.00
Fees from walks (6)	£181.06	
Fees from MN/LB walks (4)	£152.00	
Fees from talks (13)	£415.70	
Donations	£36.00	£169.00
Fees from members' trips	£129.00	
Minibus hire for members' trips		£42.40
Public liability insurance		£87.60
Match funding (University of Herts)	£435.00	
Garden Party donations	£121.10	
Garden Party expenditure		£151.40
Total	£1843.86	£1278.09

02323658
2 01261 01

NatWest Current Account

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

N35900/02323658/I 601811/01261

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

Summary 5 Oct 2016 to 4 Nov 2016
Sheet 57

Previous balance	1,605.76
Withdrawn	0.00
Paid in	468.10
New balance	2,073.86

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

Declaration: This is a complete and accurate record of the activities of Fleetville Dairies from November 25th 2015 to November 30th 2016.

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