



The Green Man pub stood where Sainsburys stands today and was a familiar sight to many village residents. During the war, a hut and garage behind the pub were used as the base for the Flackwell Heath Fire Brigade which was formed in 1940. This was part of the National Fire Service or NFS.

Equipped with a modified Austin 16 and a towable Coventry Climax pump which were stored in the garage, and with bunks for six men on overnight duty housed in the hut, it was quite a comfortable set up. The hut also had a table, chairs and a stove to warm the

occupants and heat their food.

The unit undertook dry drills every Sunday in a field next to Stan Smith's orchard just off North Links Road. The unit operated continuously throughout the Blitz (70 nights) and was eventually disbanded at the end of the war.



The **Methodist Church** and **Christ Church** both supported the spiritual needs of the village throughout the war. Christmas, Easter and Harvest Festivals encouraged a community spirit and there were also wartime marriages and baptisms to celebrate.

As the names on the War Memorial will testify there were also dark days for those who were suffering wartime losses and bereavement, and spiritual guidance was always available for those in need. Quite often men were reported missing before their families knew if they had been captured or killed in action and these were anxious days for those awaiting news of their loved ones.

Remembrance Days were well attended and a time to

gather the various groups eg Home Guard, National Fire Service, ARP, Red Cross, Guides and Scouts together.



The **Village Hall**, or Memorial Hall, was situated where Carrington Junior School is today. Originally a WW1 army gymnasium, it was moved to the village and was used by the residents as a community hall for many years. During WW2 it was regularly used for dances, whist drives, bazaars and other fundraising activities, in addition to talks and meetings by various village groups such as the WI. It was also used as an extra schoolroom for evacuated children. The adjoining recreation ground, (now the Junior School playground and the Infants School) was used for fetes

and sporting events throughout the war.

(The 'New' Recreation Ground on Straight Bit, which we use today, was acquired later in the war to be used as a playing field for sports.)