

# SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

## JULY 2006

50P  
WHERE SOLD



*Coronation Garden refurbishment is well underway towards completion as Mark Short (right) and Chris O'Reilly are seen performing regulatory structural tests on the new wall. Our photographer (a freelance amateur on this occasion) did not notice the blatant advertising opportunity seized upon by Mark. In late night deliberations, the editorial office was compromised by the advertising department to let it go, as Inkerman Builders are long-term, paid-up advertisers in Parish News, although the "Connells" poster was not so favourably regarded! Against recent local history of verge-smashing, MI encroachment and fly-tipping it is good to see a move to improve the look of our village for once: PN advocates more! Hopes are that the authority does something about that street light column, which has leant over crazily for over a year now, well before Mark & Co. started work, we hasten to add!*

# The Parish @ Large

## **SCHOOLS**

*Slip End Lower: 720152  
Five Oaks: 726058  
Streetfield: 613421  
Ashton: 663511  
Manshead: 608641*

## **SPORT**

*Bowling Club: 412506  
Tennis: 733253  
Darts League: 425323  
Football: 418494  
Cricket: 414157*

## **HALLS**

*Village Hall: 723109  
Peter Edwards Hall: 455185*

## **COMMUNITY**

*Brownies: 723109  
Beavers: 725297  
Cubs: 414157  
Fly Tipping (SBDC): 472222  
Friendship Club: 720392  
Slip End Assoc: 414796  
Mother's Union: 738435  
Playgroup: 728865  
Toddler Group 405931  
Allotments: 736892  
FoSELS (PTA):  
*alex.a.mcpherson@btinternet.com*  
Women's Institute: 421034  
Police: 471212  
Aircraft noise: 395382*

## **PARISH COUNCILLORS**

*Christine Benson: 456200  
*Christinebenson@bensons-autosupplies.co.uk*  
Stephen Fuell: 417792  
*stevefuell@j2s.com*  
Philip Penman: 455185  
*PhilipPenman@aol.com*  
Geoff Daniel: 424363  
*Geoff@daniel67.freerve.co.uk*  
Ken Crossett 414168  
*kencrossett@slipend.co.uk*  
Mike McKevitt: 720596  
*mike.mckevitt@mndassociation.org**

*Clerk to the Parish Council - David Haste:  
10 Highwood Grove, Mill Hill, NW7 3LY  
*Davidhaste7@aol.com**

## **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

*Anne Spencer 713267  
*anne@connorspencer.com*  
Philip Penman: 455185  
*PhilipPenman@aol.com*  
Ruth Gammons 738398  
*fairgreen@btopenworld.com**

## **COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

*Richard Stay: 724685  
*Richard.Stay@bedscc.gov.uk**

## **CHURCHES**

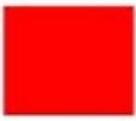
***St Andrew's Church**  
Rev Joy Daniel 01582 424363  
Wardens: David Kingston 416138  
Ken Crossett 414168*

***Aley Green Methodist Church**  
Minister: Rev Julia Dowding 730129  
Senior Steward: Ann Meader 733668*

## **SHOPS & SERVICES**

***Post Office:** At the Crossroads, telephone 401069  
Monday to Friday 6.30 to 21.00  
Saturday 7.00 to 21.00 - Sunday 7.30 to 21.00  
**Garage:** Slip End Garage, Markyate Road, telephone 456888*

**Website: [slipend.co.uk](http://slipend.co.uk)**



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*June is possibly FoSELS busiest month of the year, as this is when we hold our annual Summer Fayre at Slip End Lower School.*

This year was no exception as the committee spent many weeks arranging, what turned out to be a very successful, entertaining afternoon which raised £1800 for the school!

The fun kicked off with a Fancy Dress parade from the Village Hall to the school field, where headmistress Sue Smith judged the wonderful array of costumes. First prize was won by India Freeth who came dressed, appropriately as it turned out, as the sunshine. Second prize went to a colourful Petra Ewington, as Queen Amidala from the Star Wars films. Well done to all the children who took part and top marks all round for creativity.

### ***Formula Fun!***

A new attraction this year was the Cub Carts which are mini go-karts for kids. A circuit was set up on the school field and four karts raced against each other around the mini race track much to the delight of the children. They queued up to take part and enjoy the thrill of racing against their friends.

There were plenty of other attractions to enjoy including a Coconut Shy, Hoopla, Tombola, Lucky Dip, Splat-the-Rat, Face Painting and much more. Some lovely plants were for sale on the very popular plant stall and the barbecue did a roaring trade selling out of tasty hamburgers by the end of the afternoon.

Thanks to donations from parents, a well stocked cake stall did steady business, together with sales of ice cream and lollies on a hot day. Our local fire brigade turned up to show the boys and girls their super fire engine and talk about safety.

### ***Special Sponsors***

A big part of the success of our annual fundraising comes from the support we receive from the local businesses in our small community. Although there only a few companies in the village they always give us the most financial help, and this year they came up trumps again. FoSELS would like to thank the Slip End Garage and Airparks who both donated £150 each and Fantastic Fireworks who as well as giving us £25 donated nearly £200 of tickets to superb firework and music events for our raffle (more next month from the lucky winners). It is these donations that fund the raffle and the refreshments for the day. We spend a lot of time asking businesses large and small to help so special thanks also to Town & Country estate agents, Wilkinsons, Sainsbury, Asda and The Brache who all made donations and Balfour Beatty for selling raffle tickets.

This year's raffle went well with the introduction of a prize for the person who sold the most tickets. This was won by Shane Meleady who managed to sell an amazing £170 worth of tickets!

### ***Wonderful Helpers***

As well as the support of businesses in the area, FoSELS couldn't make any of this happen without the help of so many other people. The parents, families and friends who donate prizes and buy raffle tickets plus those who also come along to run a stall, bake a cake, clear up or just spend their hard earned money! This year we also had volunteers from St Andrews church who pitched in and helped out on the day. Our heartfelt thanks to all of you for your generosity, it is sincerely appreciated. Especially to those who don't



## Slip End School Fete

Just look at all  
these faces  
reflecting a  
happy, relaxed  
day at the School!





*Hagging at the Luck Dip:  
a brood of Bairds with a clutch of Crossetts.*

even have children at the school, and who do it for the benefit of the community. Bless you!  
(Editor: *The pleasure was all ours, Sandra.*)

### **Other News**

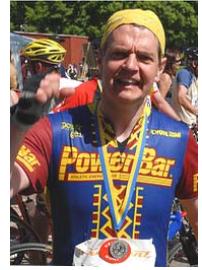
The School Council, which is made up of representatives from each class, organised a World Cup Mufti-Day to raise money in aid of Keech Cottage and the school. Many England football shirts were on display as football fever well and truly gripped the children.

July will see the end of term and year 4 children leaving Slip End Lower to further their education at middle school, but before that, their trip to France will take place and I hope to bring you news of that next time. Also coming up is sports day and the school trip to Woburn so there is a busy time ahead for children and staff.

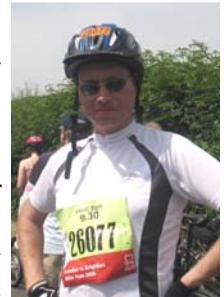
*Sandra Collins*

Two erstwhile Slip End boys, Paul Church and Simon Kingston took part in a couple of cycling events, both attracting many thousands of cyclists.

Paul has ridden in the “Vätternrundan” for some years now and this year over 15000 cyclists entered, young and old, male and female. The 190 mile route around Lake Vättern in Sweden is billed as the “world’s largest recreational bicycle event”. He won a silver medal for taking part five years running in this cycling event. In 2002 it took him just under 15 hours, and he has reduced the time it has taken him each year. In 2006 he set himself a target of less than 10 hours and completed it in 9 hours 47 minutes at an average speed of 19mph! Of course, this isn’t a race, but as you can see from the photo there is a certain amount of satisfaction on achieving a personal goal!



The London to Brighton run is organised in aid of the British Heart Foundation and it too attracted many thousands of cyclists. Simon set off with 27000 others on the 54 mile route. Last year the event raised over £3m and hopes were that this would be beaten in 2006. It is so popular that entries were oversubscribed and thousands were unlucky.



*It is good report Simon’s efforts as fond memories recall earlier days when the late Ted Soar (right) used to do the London to Brighton Cycle Ride with friends from Pepperstock.*



*Services & Events in July*

|                            |         |  |
|----------------------------|---------|--|
| Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>     | 10.30am | Family Service with Informal Communion |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>     | 7.45pm  | Deanery Synod at St Johns, Farley Hill |
| Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>   | 8.00pm  | Footsteps Meet                         |
| Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>     | 10.30am | Morning Praise                         |
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> | 10.30am | Pram Service in the Family Room        |
| Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup>  |         | Slip End Open Gardens Day              |
| Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>    | 10.30am | Holy Communion                         |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>  | 8.00pm  | Footsteps visit to Quasar              |
| Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>    | 9.15am  | Holy Communion at East Hyde            |
| Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>    | 2.30pm  | Woodside Home Service                  |
| Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>    | 10.30am | Morning Praise                         |



Our meeting in June started with the introduction of this year's committee. It was like a case of "buy one get one free"; excuse my pun, as we are all the same as last year. Madame R. Weber gave us her account of this year's A.G.M. and we were reminded that it is on

this day W.I.'s countrywide were outside supermarkets demonstrating against the waste of too much wrapping of goods purchased.

Mrs. Brown was our speaker for the evening telling about her charity 'Babies in Prison'. Her friend married the Holloway Prison chaplain and this is how she became involved. In 1990 the cells were infested with rats, bugs, insects and filth. The pregnant women were taken to Whittington Hospital to deliver their babies, where they were restrained with handcuffs attached to the bed. Twice the Government was approached to change things, to no avail, but as an election came along the new

party in charge changed the law to have a policeman on guard outside the door. As the babies in prison were not allowed to crawl (it was too dirty) their growth suffered. Baby walkers take them outside the prison to get used to traffic noise, animals, crowds, rain and wind and to see the horizon! It certainly makes you think. When they have bonded with their mothers they are taken out of prison at 18 months

The disturbed prisoners were in cells above the babies' level. Taking the babies to the yard for air meant avoiding the rubbish which had been thrown through the bars. The "evening" meal was given at 3pm. as staff had to clear up.

The charity money raised goes towards Christmas presents, clothes, and trying to improve conditions.

We meet 3rd Tues. in the month. Baptist Chapel Hall 7.30 - 10p.m. It would be lovely to see you.

*Patricia Crick*

*The Vegetable Garden July*

Continue to plant out winter greens as you clear ground of early crops, such as dwarf peas, early potatoes, as far as possible, choose showery weather for this work, if July is persistently dry. Push on with the planting and then water freely for a few days. Do not wait until disease attacks potatoes, spray them now with Bordeaux mixture. Spray the leaves top and bottom.

Peas should be gathered as soon as the pods are full or else they toughen. Picking also means a lengthening of the supply by allowing the late forming pods to mature. Pick beans- runner and French- as they become big enough. and so to assure more from the same plants. All root crops need attention for loosening earth, watering, hoeing weeds and digging out weeds that are deep rooted, burn these later.

*Flower & Fruit Garden*

Sow violas, pansies, wallflowers and columbine to give a show next spring. Layer carnations, pinning in with twigs and do not allow to get dry. Examine flowering plants regularly, removing faded blooms. This applies to roses, to early flowering herbaceous plants, bedding plants and annuals. Tulips and hyacinths will have completed growth and may be lifted and cleaned, lay the bulbs in shallow trays and store in a dry, cool, airy place.

Complete the thinning of apples and pears, reduce the fruit to one or two on each spur. Early apples and pears should be ready to pick.

*General Work*

Trim hedges when necessary to keep them neat and tidy, During this month and August when the weather is likely to be hot, it is an excellent plan to remove the grass box from the lawn mower, and let the tiny clippings lie on the lawn,. They will act as a mulch and will protect the roots from scorching.



It was all sparkly shoes and fabulous dressers when the Brownies celebrated the Queen's 80th birthday, together with the Brown Owls and helpers.

After dancing a waltz and other old time dances, they all sat down to sandwiches, cakes and biscuits. The Luton News photographer was on hand, did you see our pictures in the paper? If not, we'll include some on next month's Parish News.

On Wednesday June 14th we visited Dunstable Downs, where Janet, one of the Rangers there, took us on an interesting walk to Five Knoll, which is an ancient burial ground. We set out, each of us having a card with double sided sticky tape on it, to which we were to stick a variety of grasses, flowers and berries. Janet instructed us on where we were to pick these and the names of the varieties, then off we set. It was a lovely evening and after the walk we finished off with a refreshing drink.

Special thanks to Michael, Paula, Hilary and Sandra for providing the transport.

*Brown Owl, Gillian Plummer*



## **ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH**

*Jesus the Lord said " I am the Vine, the one true Vine, for mankind am I."*

The Sunday school anniversary was well attended by children and adults the theme was "Creation".

On July 2<sup>nd</sup> we are holding our Sunday school Church family and friends BBQ. The five Sunday school teachers do most of the work towards this event. The money raised goes towards the running of the Sunday school.

On Saturday July 8th Heathfield School have invited us to have a produce stall at their summer fayre. So pop along and stock up on home made cakes and preserves.

Wednesday July 11th from 7.30: Coffee Evening at the Church. Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup> is NCH Sunday, the Minister will be the Rev. Julia Dowding, the service is at 11am and will include Holy Communion. On July 16<sup>th</sup> there will be a Family Service at 11am lead by Steve Jones, then the Sunday school breaks up for the holidays. There will be a church service with Ms Jo Symons on July 23<sup>rd</sup> 11am. The next Ecumenical Fellowship meeting will be on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July 8pm at our church. Every one is welcome.

Because our church has a small congregation, we felt it unfair to ask our overstretched circuit for a preacher to come in late July and August. So we will be taking the service/fellowship ourselves. We will be having the services at the earlier time of 9:30am they will last about 45 minutes. This way people can come to church and then have the rest of the day to go out etc.

Dates and Worship Leader

July 30<sup>th</sup> 9:30am: Ann Meader

August 6<sup>th</sup> 9:30am: Lorna Martin

August 13<sup>th</sup> 9:30am: Rev Julia Dowding  
(with Holy Communion)

August 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30am: Mike Bull

August 27<sup>th</sup> Church closed at Bank Holiday weekend

Tea and coffee will be served after each act of worship, if you'd like to join us you will be made most welcome. Church and Sunday school re-opens on September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11am.

*When I look at the future, it's so bright, it burns my eyes!*

*Oprah Winfrey*

We hope and pray that if you are going on holiday, that you have a safe journey and return home relaxed and refreshed.

*Yours in Christ, Aley Green Methodist Church.*

*Ann Meader*

### ***Laughter***

On the morning after returning from honeymoon the new husband took his new wife a delicious breakfast in bed. "Have you noticed what I have done?" Allan asked, "Every detail darling" said his delighted wife. "Excellent" her new husband replied "From now on that's how I want my breakfast served every day!"



## ***FOIL APPEAL***

***In aid of Guide Dogs  
for the Blind***

***Please leave at  
67 Five Oaks, Caddington  
or call 480107 to arrange collection.***

As I write this I am looking back on two weeks of glorious sunshine which we thought would never come. Leyton Hewitt has just won the Stella Artois after a lucky(?) victory over Tim Henman. James Blake could not reproduce the form that enabled him to beat Andy Roddick but will make an impression on future Wimbledons.



As you read this we shall be in the middle of Wimbledon fortnight. You will know how things are going but I can only hope that some British players will still be in contention.



Once again the Club received three pairs of tickets to pass on to our members in return for being affiliated to the Bedfordshire LTA. Also several members were lucky in the ticket ballot so that on most days people from Slip End will be or have been at Wimbledon. If you have never been then just join our ballot next March. The Club prides itself that the first pair of tickets should go to members that have not been before. Once you have been you will know that although watching on television is good, the real thing is much better.

Earlier on this year we did have some problems with courts, however through the determination of members we were only without one court for three weeks. Coaching carried on as usual and matches were played. Other Clubs in our leagues are very cooperative as the tennis we play is friendly and sociable although it is good to win. We have played three matches in both the Men's and Mixed leagues at the time of writing. We haven't scored an overall victory but have been collecting useful points.

*Peter Smith*

The Farley Festival has been cancelled this year and Farley Hill Methodists have stepped into the breach with a Grand Fun Day on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 2pm. Tables are available for stalls priced at £5. The event is in aid of the Methodist Romanian Relief Fund.

Telephone 07905 139182 for details.

There will be lots of entertainment ...

*Linda the Jester*  
*Anne Gales School of Dancing*  
*Teas & Refreshments*  
*Barbecue – with two celebrity cooks*

Sadly Betty Trinder is leaving the circuit and Farley Hill to undertake minister training. Her last service is on Sunday July 30<sup>th</sup> to be followed by a lunch.

*Ken Cameron*

### *Letter from the West Country*

Nostalgia is not always a good thing but I must say I greatly enjoyed my visit to St. Andrew's in May. The approach to church, with its avenue, seemed hardly to have changed and the splendid new rooms at the west end are superb. It was good to see that the red tudor rose cushions, which my parents made, on the ministers' seats, which have lasted well and with a few vicars having sat on them I guess. But it is not the furnishings and decor which matter, but the people and I was thrilled to meet some dear friends again after nearly twenty years. It was a great day and I was able to visit Joan Austin in Dunstable afterwards to round off the day. That was a special occasion. Thank you very much for inviting me. Looking back gives an opportunity to pause and reflect, gaining strength to move forward. I am so pleased that you are in good spirits and my prayers are with you.

You occupy a special place in my heart and that memory will not fade.

*Michael Withey*  
*Holy Trinity, Stroud*



### **Beavers go 'Wet and Wild'**

In May, to celebrate 20 years of Beaver scouting, Bedfordshire County Scouts hosted a 'Wet and Wild' activity day at Bromham scout camp. All of Bedfordshire's Beaver Colonies were represented with over 400 boys and girls attending.

As the name implies, the activities were predominately water based such as water slides, mini rafting, bottle rockets etc. I am sure Slip End parents will not forget in a hurry the pile of soaking, mud stained clothes presented to them on their return! Other favourites included archery, metal detecting, a monkey bridge and a treasure hunt.



The day ended with a camp fire sing-song of traditional scouting favourites and a share of the special 20th Anniversary Birthday cake.

### **Games Challenge**

In April, Slip End Cubs hosted the annual Lea Valley Scout District board games challenge. Games such as 4-in-a row, dominoes, draughts, snakes and ladders and Kim's Game were keenly contested by the seven cub packs who attended. Slip End triumphed overall with individual wins by Conor Hoare and Aaron Flemons.

Slip End were presented with the traditional winners totem pole which they hold until the next district challenge.



Also in April, both Cubs and Beavers participated in the annual St. George's day parade which is organised jointly by the three Luton scout districts. They marched through the centre of Luton to the music of the Boys Brigade band before attending a special scouting service at Our Lady Help of Christians church in London Road.

### **Events**

The busy month continued with a very successful fund raising "Race Night" at Slip End Social Club. The Scout Group managed to raise £600. Thanks go to Tish Peters for





*The picture shows Alfie being put through his paces by trainer, Nick.*

organising the event, Ray Hayes for obtaining sponsorship for the individual races and the members of Slip End Social Club who supported the evening so generously. Thanks also to the organisations who sponsored the races and Slip End Social Club for kindly allowing the use of their premises.

Earlier in the year, our Beavers were paid a visit by a Cocker Spaniel called Alfie, his owner Denise and trainer Nick. Alfie is a very special dog as he is trained to be a 'hearing dog for the deaf'. Alfie, who was a rescue dog, went through a year's training in the special skills required to become the 'ears' of his deaf owner. Alfie has been trained to differentiate and respond to different sounds such as the telephone, cooker timer, door bell, fire alarm and smoke alarm etc. He was taught to indicate dangerous noises such as a smoke alarm, by lying flat at the feet of his owner. Benign noises, such as the telephone or a cooker timer, are made known by pawing at his owner's arm.

For more information about scouting in Slip End, please contact me.

*Mike Hockey, Group Scout Leader  
01582-414157, mhp@nildram.co.uk*

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS  
CADDINGTON


**VILLAGE GARDEN DAY**  
**SUNDAY 9 JULY 2006**

11.00am - 4.30pm

THIS YEAR THE THEME WILL BE  
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS  
LOCAL ORGANISATIONS WILL PROVIDE  
PROMOTIONAL STALLS IN SOME OF THE  
GARDENS


**REFRESHMENTS**


**BOOK STALL      CAKE STALL**

**CREAM TEAS      LUNCHES ETC**

**12 GARDENS WILL BE OPEN**  
Combined admission £3.00 on the door  
Pay at First Garden  
[or £2.50 in advance]

For further information  
Contact Terry Oliver 732522 or  
Norman Aubrey 735496  
[charity no 1024907]

***Coronation Gardens***

As you can see the refurbishment of Coronation Gardens at the crossroads is coming along and hope is that it will be completed by the end of the summer. The Council thanks Valerie Church, Karen Casoria and Pauline Smith for taking on such a large project on behalf of us all.

Cllr. Geoff Daniel has taken the Councils brief for this project and we thank him as well and to the contractors, lead by Mark Short, a Slip End resident.

There are various projects being discussed for the Gardens, including flag poles, and name plates etc. If you have any unwanted plants or shrubs, please contact Val Church to see if they are needed.

***Rossway & St Andrews Close***

We have been working hard to get these two roads re-constructed. The problem has been the closure of the road because of the School. After some consultations with BCC we have managed to get agreement to do that work on the 26<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2006. This means that the school will not be disrupted and there will be minimum problems for the residents. I should think that residents will be contacted with a view to removing any parked cars for these dates. We are looking for co-operation from the residents about the parked cars.

***New Parish Clerk***

We have great pleasure in announcing the engagement of our new Clerk. She is Nikki West, and she lives in the village. She officially takes over from David Haste in September. By that time she will have a dedicated phone line and an email address. Watch this space.

***Co-opted Parish Councillor***

By the time you read this we will hopefully have co-opted our seventh and final Parish Councillor. More information to follow.

It is said that a week is a long time in politics. A month can make all the difference in the running of a Parish Council. Following the “enough is enough” outcry within the community and articles which appeared in recent editions of Parish News about crime, vandalism and problem youths, we have been inundated with information from people across the Parish. All of this information has been passed onto the Police who have taken steps to counteract the recent crime-wave here.

We now have all the names of the Slip End Mafia: so ‘Mafiosi’, watch out. We have also been provided with the names of those involved in the crimes perpetrated at the Peter Edwards Playing Fields a couple of months ago. We also know who stole the golf carts and who hot wired and stole the dumper truck. And we know the owner of the White Mercedes van. The van in question has not been seen recently, are the owners on holiday or have they finally gone?

On the 15<sup>th</sup> May Police apprehended two youths stealing parts from cars in the village. They were taken to Dunstable Police Station, and along with another from Hemel Hempstead were remanded on bail pending further investigations. The two that were caught are from the village.

It seems that a lot of these problems were caused by a small band of young men who were ringleaders influencing younger teenagers, a sort of Alumni of crime giving tutorials on mayhem. How pathetic! I don’t know about the rest of you, but when I was nearly 20 and had the means to get out of the village I lived in, you wouldn’t see me for dust hanging around the bus stops and the village hall car parks largeing it with the younger kids.

Finally, a message to SEM: your names are known to us. To the offending young men and women I say: you will be pursued within the bounds of any Civil Laws and made to pay for all the damage you have done.

## ***Village Hall Car Park & Crawley Playground***

Most of you will have read Muriel's article in the last Parish News. Notices have gone up to the effect that the car park at the Village Hall is a private car park and only for use if visiting the Village Hall or accompanying children under 14 years of age using the Crawley Play Ground. The Crawley Playground has a Bye-Law covering usage, which states that no person over the age of 14 can use the playground unless they are accompanying children under that age. The bye laws also prohibit ball games, motor cycles or scooters or dogs and horses.

The cost of upkeep to the playground, rubbish collection and repairs has been borne by us all and steps are required to prevent mis-use of the Children's Playground. From now on, anyone over the age of 14 found in the playground and not complying with the regulations will be prosecuted and billed for any damage that may have occurred during their visit, whether they did it or not. This includes littering, graffiti and damage. We are now acting under Civil Law which as a Parish Council we are entitled to do to protect our interests on behalf of the Council Tax Payer.

It would be good to see more people at Parish Council meetings. With public attending in such small numbers, it is hardly surprising that truth gets distorted and speculation gets out of hand in the local pubs. Local discussion is great, but it would be better if this was done on a more informed basis, so any parishioner is welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings. If enough people are concerned about a specific matter, we are quite willing to move the Agenda around to introduce public discussion earlier on. The Agenda is not set in stone!!

*There is no meeting of the Parish Council in August, so I wish you all a long and hot Summer and will be back in September.*

*Christine Benson  
Chairman, Slip End Parish Council.*

**Editor's note:** There have been two cases in the village of a particular type of car theft in recent months. Criminals have broken into homes to take car keys, then driven off cars left parked in the open.

Here are some suggestions to improve security:

1. Hide all keys indoors, do not leave them in an obvious place.
2. Follow the lead of our Parish Councillors who advocate restoring our garages to their original purpose, i.e. to lock their cars away at night time, reduce road congestion and help roadside verge preservation! Dispose of all that junk piled up in the garage, let's have more "Garage Sales".
3. And philosophically, ask ourselves seriously, "do we really need all these cars?"

***Help reduce crime in our locality.***

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## ***SLIP END & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION***

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Saturday June 3rd, the weather was good to us as two coaches filled with Senior Citizens and a few paying guests left the village for a day trip to Great Yarmouth, arriving there at 12 noon, where they were dropped off by the pier to do what that wanted to do until 4.30pm when we met up at the Beach Restaurant for Fish & Chips or Ham Salad and a choice of sweet and a cup of tea or coffee.

We left at 6.00 for our journey home, arriving back at Slip End at 9.15.

***Nora Flitton***



*Nora would like to thank all her friends, neighbours and family for all the best wishes, cards and gifts she received for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 28<sup>th</sup>. She had a lovely day and is very grateful to everyone for remembering her.*

SLIP END & WOODSIDE

# **OPEN GARDENS DAY**

**TEAS**

**BBQ**

**PLANTS**

**PRODUCE**



**Saturday 15th July  
11am to 5pm**

£2 per Adult - Accompanied Children Free  
Payable at first Garden visited

**Free programmes**  
**from Slip End Post Office from 8th July**  
and from Gardens on the Day

## School's out for Summer but now what do we do?

*The World Cup, Wimbledon and the Tour de France might be inspiring children to get out and get active over the long summer holidays, but if you're like me you could be starting to wilt when your children expect you to provide endless sources of entertainment.*

Activities can be expensive. It is worth looking at for special deals or vouchers (Tesco clubcard points?) to make trips to Legoland or other amusement parks affordable. Tourist information centres and local papers often carry advertisements that include "child free with every paying adult" type deals. If you travel off peak a day out in London needn't be too expensive if you take a picnic rather than trying to eat out. A lot of the London museums have free entry, the Natural History Museum, Science Museum, Imperial War Museum and Museum of London to name but a few. Younger children actually find the train ride itself part of the fun.

Realistically, it is cheaper and less frazzling to try trips closer to home. Both Woodside Wildlife Park and Stockwood Park are within walking distance of the village. As well as its animals, Woodside has fun attractions like the helter-skelter and bouncy castle. It also has an indoor play area.

Parish News has highlighted some of the attractions of Stockwood Park in a previous issue. They are running a Seaside at Stockwood theme over the summer with drop in activity sessions held regularly for a modest fee. There is also a Living History weekend planned for 22 and 23 July where the Sealed Knot will set up camp and re-enact a battle from the Civil War. More information at [www.luton.gov.uk](http://www.luton.gov.uk). The same website will give you information about events at the Library Theatre in Luton which is showing some good plays aimed at children.

At the Wardown Park Museum in Luton an exhibition is running which may be of some

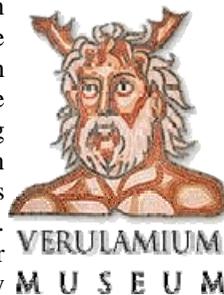
interest to those of us who try to understand the way of life of some of our neighbours. The museum is hosting an exhibition devoted to gypsy and travelling people which runs until August 27th. Also, at Stockwood there is a horse-drawn gypsy caravan on permanent display and, on dates in August, Craft Days will be held there.

Other fairly local places where children can enjoy a walk and a roam around include Ivinghoe Beacon – fantastic views reward the stiff climb to the top and Dunstable Downs – best place for kite flying.

The Priory Gardens and Heritage Centre in Dunstable is well worth a visit. Find out more at [www.dunstable.tv/whatson/Dunstable](http://www.dunstable.tv/whatson/Dunstable) where there is a list of events including bands appearing in the Garden on Sundays (Manshead appear on 9 July).

Other places we've enjoyed include the Walter Rothschild Zoological Museum at Tring, which we call the stuffed animal museum – visit and the reason why becomes clear – and Pitstone Green Museum of Rural Life – only open on 9 July, 13 August, August Bank Holiday and 10 September. More information available at [www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk) and [website.lineone.net/~pitstonemus](http://website.lineone.net/~pitstonemus) respectively.

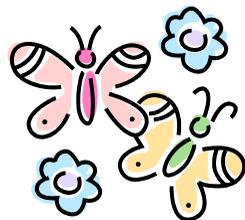
Verulamium Museum in St Albans is a must see for anyone interested in the Romans. They have monthly mosaic making and a talk by a Roman legionary who is alarmingly convincing. Events are planned for National Archaeology weekend on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July. More information may be found at [www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk](http://www.stalbansmuseums.org.uk). The Museum is next to the lovely Verulamium Park which has a lake with ducks, etc. to feed, a playground and a fantastic splash park which is a delight for younger children.



To be honest, I think my children would probably vote for two months of television and computer games. To keep them from turning into couch potatoes I keep a list of activities in a notebook which I delve into when I am feeling desperate. Here are a few of the ideas. Have a day with a theme: say it's space, you could let them make rockets out of old boxes to fly to the moon and make a mobile of planets, etc for their room. You could bake moon cakes (recipe on the BBC Big Cook Little Cook web page if you need one), or cook astronaut's breakfast for tea (That's what my mum called steak, egg and chips, was she just tricking me??)

As well as junk modelling, you could try getting them to build a structure using only rolled up newspaper, or making picture frames from card decorated with pasta and string. The CBBC and CBeebies websites at [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk) have masses of ideas.

Let the children put on a show for family and friends. They can tell jokes, recite a poem, dance or play a musical instrument. It is surprising how much time can be spent on rehearsals, stage design, creating the programme before you even get to the performance for duly appreciative uncles, aunts, grandparents, or anyone else you can bribe to sit through it.



Make the garden more interesting for kids. Send them on a bug trail. They could do this in the park or in the hedgerows too. It is amazing how fascinated a child can

be by a woodlouse! Also, children nowadays are brilliant at research so once they have found things, be it bugs or weeds, let them investigate what it is they've found.

We have also hosted our own highland games in a back garden the size of a pocket hankie. Sports such as 10 yard space hopper bounce, toss the caber (a Smartie tube) and welly-

wanging were hotly fought and medals awarded.



When I was a little girl, Tuesday afternoon was for baking. I have lovely memories of culinary delights which in reality were probably just grey

soggy pastry. Kids can be really creative in the kitchen. Let them use their imagination to decorate a cookie or a cake. If you are not Nigella Lawson yourself the "just add an egg" boxes from the supermarket to make Scooby Snacks or Barbie cakes aren't outrageously expensive. Too unhealthy? Let them make a fruit salad.

If you have children who love to read, or children you wished would read a little more, then local libraries run a reading scheme over the summer where children are rewarded with stickers, a certificate and medal for completing a reading log. This year the theme is a secret mission. It ties in with the Stormbreaker film (based on the Alex Rider stories by Anthony Horowitz) which is released this summer. It is an excellent scheme and even pre-readers can be involved.

Summer holidays can provide golden memories for children. I hope 2006 does for you and yours.

*Julie Taylor*

*Two caterpillars were watching a butterfly. One said to the other, "They'll never get me up in one of those hang gliders."*



### Roses

With my wedding fast approaching, love in the air and 'almost' everything taken care of I came across the following information, which I thought Parish News readers might be interested in. I certainly was not aware that different roses meant different things, were you? Details from the Little Book of Love, published by Marks & Spencer.

*A single rose: I love you; Pure and Simple*

*Thornless rose: I loved you since I first saw you.*

*White roses: I am worthy of you*

*Pink rose: You are graceful and elegant*

*Red rose: Symbolises happy love*

*Deep red rose: Symbolises secret love*

*Cream rose: Your beauty is forever new*

*Blue rose: Meet me by moonlight*

*Orange rose: I am infatuated with you*

*Striped roses: We are at war*

*Wild rose: The joy of losing you is mixed with pain*

*Cabbage rose: Please be my love*

*Rose with 2 rosebuds: Keep our love a secret*

*Single red rose: You are beautiful, prize of my heart*

*Single white rose: Symbolises a pure heart.*

Now no-one has any excuses for sending the wrong kind of rose!!

Finally a short verse for future wedding couples which says everything.

### WEDDING PRAYER

~ By Robert Louis Stevenson ~

*Lord, behold our family here assembled.*

*We thank you for this place in which we dwell,*

*for the love that unites us,*

*for the peace accorded us this day,*

*for the hope with which we expect the morrow,*

*for the health, the work, the food,*

*and the bright skies that make our lives delightful;*

*for our friends in all parts of the earth.*

*Sue Cowell, for the last time  
(it will be Briggs from now on!)*

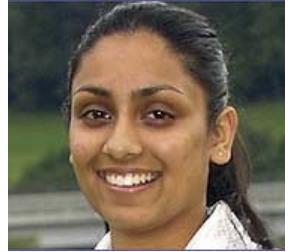
**All our best wishes go Sue & Allan, married last month!**

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**ISA BOWLED OVER  
BY LOCAL CRICKETERS**

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Star of the England Ladies cricket team, Isa Guha, visited South Bedfordshire at the beginning of June to encourage local girls to get involved the sport.



Opening bowler Isa who lives in High Wycombe, met bowlers, batswomen and fielders of the future at Dunstable Cricket Ground, Totternhoe, where she showed them some of her nifty skills. The council's Sports Development Team have teamed up with Dunstable Cricket Club to offer a three-day cricket course for girls and boys in the under nine and under 11 age groups. This will take place from Tuesday 29 to Thursday 31 August.

Sara Stanbridge, Sports Development Officer at the council says girls don't need to have any previous experience to take part in the course, just a willingness to give it a try. "We are really keen to get girls involved in what has traditionally been a male dominated sport. By offering the free training sessions we hope that girls who are interested will be able to develop their skills and maybe go on to be as successful as Isa and her team mates."

Isa added: "It's great to see girls getting so excited about cricket. I really hope they attend the training sessions and take the opportunity to fulfil their talent."

For more details about the cricket course please contact Sara on 01582 474095.



**South Bedfordshire**  
taking pride in our district

## DIARY

*If you would like your event put in the Diary please contact the Editor*

### **July**

- 1st County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon*
- 3rd Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm*
- 9th Caddington Village Garden Day, 11am to 4.30pm*
- 15th Open Gardens at Slip End*
- 18th Caddington WI: "The story of Priory House"*

### **August**

- 5th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon*
- 15th Caddington WI: "Funny Ladies"*

### **September**

- 2nd County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon*
- 4th Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm*
- 9th Craft Fayre at the Village Hall: Call Gill Plummer on 723109*

### **October**

- 2nd Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm*
- 7th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506*
- 7th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon*
- 28th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506*

### **November**

- 4th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon*
- 6th Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm*
- 18th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506*
- 26th Craft Fayre at the Village Hall: Call Gill Plummer on 723109*

### **December**

- 2nd County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon*
- 4th Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm*
- 2nd Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506*
- 31st Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506*

***If you are a new reader and would like a copy of Parish News each month, please contact Brian Church 2 Summer Street 458443, churchbrn2@aol.com.***

*Anything interesting to report about village activities, photos, holiday adventures, etc? Please contact us, letters and e-mails are very much encouraged. Views expressed by our contributors are not the editors own. **Articles should be sent by the 15th of the month before publication to: Sue Cowell at 83 The Crescent, Caddington, email: parishnews@slipend.co.uk or David Kingston 7 Crawley Close, Slip End, davidgoodmankington@hotmail.com.***

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