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SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

MARCH 2006



Wilf Fleckney

Sadly, Wilf died in January and Slip End loses another big character! This picture shows him with his typical grin apparently very happy to be on the footplate of a steam locomotive. There's more about him inside

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Friendship Club Party Time

Thirty Friendship members were in full party mode when they joined with around 1000 others for the Senior Citizens Celebration in Harrow last month. This vast event is organised annually by Lions International, who put on a great show. We are very grateful to the Lions for inviting them and for a splendid afternoon out in chilly February. Cyril is seen (left) in awe at the Fairy mounted precariously on her(?) monocyde and below, demonstrating their renowned singing talent, the Friendship Club in full cry!



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: 733156
Cricket: 414157*

HALLS

*Village Hall: 723109
Peter Edwards Hall: 455185*

COMMUNITY

*Brownies: 723109
Beavers: 725297
Cubs: 414168
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.mcpherson@btinternet.com
Women's Institute: 421034
Police: 471212*

PARISH COUNCILLORS

*Christine Benson: 456200
Christinebenson@bensons-autosupplies.co.uk
Stephen Fuell: 417792
stevefuell@f2s.com
Philip Penman: 455185
PhilipPenman@aol.com
Geoff Daniel: 424363
Geoff@daniel67.freeserve.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@btpenworld.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*

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Website: slipend.co.uk

Dear Gardener,

Slip End hosted our second 'Open Gardens' day in 2004. This again proved to be a very popular event and was enjoyed by over 100 visitors from the village area and wider a-field.

This year we are planning a similar event on Saturday, 15th July (please note change of date). We are again looking for 10 to 12 gardens, big or small. This is not a competition and your garden does not have to be anything special. We just want you to be enthusiastic about it.

Any money raised will go towards the cost of re-designing and replanting the Coronation Garden and to the St Andrew's church roof appeal.

If you live in the Parish and would be interested in taking part or for further information, please fill in the accompanying form and return it to me by the end of February. Several people expressed an interest in 'opening' their gardens after the last event, so if you are one of them please fill in the form or send me an e-mail.

Val Church



OPEN GARDENS 2006 ENTRY FORM

If you would like to take part in the Open Gardens Day on Saturday 15th July 2006, please complete the form below and return it by the end of March to: Valerie Church, The Old Bakery, 2 Summer Street, Slip End or e-mail to valchurch@slipend.fsworld.co.uk

I would like to 'open my garden' on 15th July 2006

I need more information

Name

Address

Telephone number

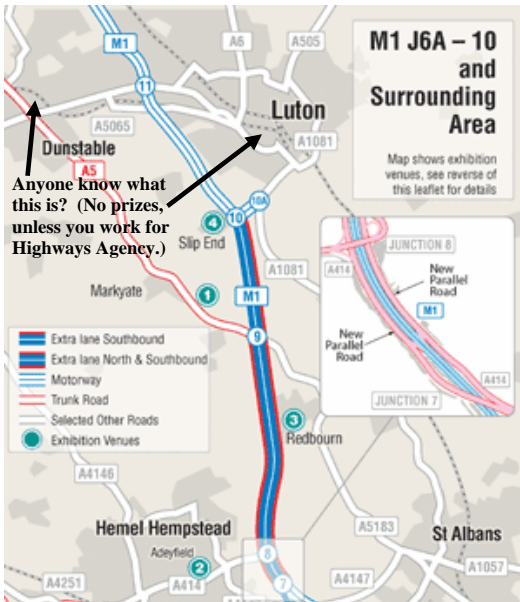
e-mail address

M1 - THE MONSTER STIRS

The monster has been benignly alongside us for many years, but we are now becoming aware of the invasive nature of how increased road traffic wrecks our country side. Reference to the Highways Agency website:

www.highways.gov.uk/roadsprojects/4478.aspx

will reveal positive spin but little reality and even less detailed information about how the immense widening project is affecting us on the ground. The map posted on the site cannot be any less vague and it is impossible to relate to the way our countryside is being ripped apart in the horrendous area around junction 10.



The project has been in the planning stages for many months, perhaps years. I can recall very little in terms of information forthcoming from government, Highways Agency, contractors or anybody, over that time. We knew, but vaguely, that the wretched road was to be widened in our area. Sadly, we have come to expect little or no consultation where such major developments are just imposed on those unfortunate to be in the way. However, this does not excuse the “zero information” policy which pervades.

Was it made known to us that such a mess would be made during construction? How much worse will it things get when construction really gets underway, especially in the Pepperstock and Church Road areas? Why is it that only now we are told that Church Road is to be closed *for six months when this imposition must have been known to the authorities for months, perhaps years???*

At this belated stage, the Highways Agency is putting its head over the parapet and will be holding presentations for our information: surely these should have been made ages ago. In these days of free speech, democracy and civil liberties, far be it that we should or could object or have any say on what is done to us, but some information would help swallow the bitter pill! Locally and belatedly, these presentations will take place:

Friday 24 February, 2 - 9pm at the Holiday Inn, London Road, Markyate. (*Information came much too late to include this in the last issue.*)

Friday 10 March, 2 - 9pm at Peter Edwards Hall, Slip End.

(Notice of this could hardly be shorter and unless you have Internet or spot the ads tucked away towards the back of a local paper or two, you would have been unaware of these dates and venues.)

It is understood here at Parish News that Church Road will be closed from the beginning of March for 6 months with added threats that further closures may be made later.

Diversions will be sign-posted around the lanes and rat runs. We hope that our fears of congestion and worse do not become reality. and that in the long term, the dust will settle and the monster becomes its benign self again.

We hope that it will be worth it, although past experience of M25 widening suggests that traffic very soon increases to fill up the space. *God knows where is all this getting us*

David Kingston

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General Work

The good gardener will certainly have completed all his digging and trenching by this time, but some may still have some work to do, the quicker it is finished the better. Ground that was turned over earlier in the winter and left rough should be broken down to a fine tilth.

Choose a day when the surface is fairly dry. You will do more harm than good if you walk about on beds that are soaking wet. Still, the right day often turns up several times during this month and may be looked for after a period of steady east winds. The lawn site should also be prepared now for turfing or sowing.

Vegetable Garden

A most important sowing for this first week in March, if the weather is reasonably kind, is that of main crop onions. Sow in drills 1 inch deep 9 inches to 1 foot apart. Culinary peas can also be sown now outdoors, 9 inches apart and no more than 3 inches deep.

Cauliflowers raised in frames can now be planted out, lift the plants with as much soil as possible, and plant with a trowel on really good well dug soil, Allow 2.5 feet between the rows and at least 18 inches between plants in rows. Get in early potatoes and broad beans,

Flowers & Fruit

Plant rose trees, make ground very firm, trim up herbaceous border, pinching out weak new growth from perennials. Gladioli bulbs can now be planted, and also sweet peas,

Strawberry runners should be laid for sprouting ends to root. cut off runners that show no new leaf, Raspberries that fruit in late summer should now be cut down to 6 inches. leaving a couple of buds, fresh shoots will grow in good time. canes planted in autumn will not fruit till following year.

**And don't forget the Open Gardens Day,
later this year in July!**

We have had two gentlemen visit us recently. The first was Mike Jarman, who is involved in Scouting, who showed us some designs can be made by using knots. Each girl then had a try at making a bracelet. This was enjoyed by all.

The next was Paul Hunt, whose wife is a Guider. He talked to us about the Brownies and how it all started. He brought along different uniforms worn from 1914 to present day. The girls had fun trying them on. Shirley showed us the uniform she wore when she was a Brownies quite a few years ago!

We invite anyone to come and join us for a Film & Slide show and talk on Wednesday March 1st, by Janet Munro from Dunstable Downs. She will be telling us about the new centre being built on the Downs. There will be a small charge of 50p adult 25p children.

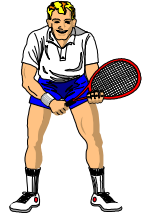
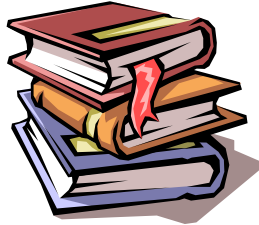
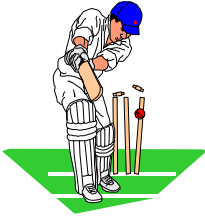
Gillian Plummer, Brown Ov

UNLOCK WALK NO 23

This year the Unlock Walk is visiting Churches in North Greenwich, Charlton, Blackheath and Lewisham. It takes place on Saturday 29th April. Several walkers from St Andrews Church family will be going along. The walk is a chance to see some of the work that is done in the inner city churches by Unlock. In a world of constant changes, regeneration is at the heart of the Gospel. As well as enjoying the walk and raising sponsorship money you can pause to learn about how the churches you visit are working to bring new life into the local community. It should be a very interesting day and for those who never get the chance to visit London a real insight, as we pass by the Greenwich Peninsular, The Thames Barrier and the Millennium Dome. If you cannot go but would like to sponsor the team from St Andrews please contact the Church for more details or the Editor.

SLIP END TENNIS CLUB

QUIZ NIGHT



Saturday 4th March
Peter Edwards Hall I
Slip End Playing Field

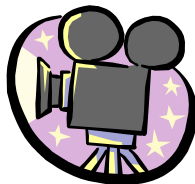
Teams maximum of 8 People

£6 per person including Supper

Bring your knives & forks, drinks & glasses

Doors open 7.30pm for 8.0pm start

Contact Steve for tickets on 414162



From last issue:
What species is this?



As far as the editor recalls, it's a Grey Tit (I think) ...



The aim of The Freecycle Network™ is to reduce waste that goes into landfill by offering it to your local community for *free*.

Post your unwanted item on <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/FreecycleLuton/> and an email is sent to all members who then make contact to arrange collection. Everything *must be free*, preferably local: although most

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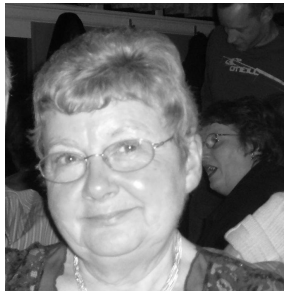
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On January 14th we said a very Happy 60th Birthday to Liz Higgins in the Village Hall. Many of Liz's friends from the village went along, besides family, friends and work colleagues. Liz has played the organ, run the Themes music group and orchestra and helped with Footsteps, at St Andrew's and also taught hundreds of children to learn a musical instrument. We wish Liz every happiness in her retirement in the summer—may you enjoy many happy years of 'leisure time'.

Some important people had birthdays in January who deserve to be mentioned here.



Janet Buttery—who worked tirelessly as a governor of Slip End School for over 18 years. Her birthday was on January 13th.

Also, Steve Lyons who has joined the Parish News Committee and arranges all the advertising celebrated his birthday on January 17th.



Happy Birthday to you all and thank you for all the contributions you make to our village.

A big man left us recently: Wilfred Douglas Fleckney passed away on 4th January.

At the age of six Wilf, as we all came to know him, moved with his family from Hitchin to Aley Green. At school here in Slip End he met Eileen and they became friends at an early age, friendship turned to endearment and later on they were to marry. Wilf and Eileen had four children, Linda, Brian, Judy and Tony.



Vauxhall Motors was back then the big employer in the area and Wilf's entire working life was spent there. Outside work, he took part in village activities, being on the Village Hall Committee and he was one of the founder members of the Bowling Club as well as being keen on the dances in the Village Hall. Wilf was ideally suited as a local Father Christmas and he took part in the seasonal fund raising, when he went round the local pubs to raise money for senior citizens, an activity which others take part in to this day (see below).

A keen gardener, Wilf had an allotment for many years. Alan Buttery, who took on the allotment when Wilf's health slowed him down a year or two ago, says that his cropping successes are largely down to the hard work Wilf put in before him! As several keen gardeners are aware, our allotments are conveniently close to the ("Working Men's") Social Club and Wilf was a frequent visitor, often sneaking out in the evening for a pint, still in his slippers!

He loved his holiday trips and he was particularly fond of visiting Egypt, especially enjoying cruising down the River Nile with Eileen. He was also mad about steam trains and in the picture on the front cover Wilf is seen on the footplate of a steam locomotive when, for a 76th birthday treat, Linda took him off to the Chinnor Steam Railway centre.

St Andrew's was full to standing for his funeral, where Joy Daniel spoke very warmly of Wilf and his outgoing friendship. Parish News passes condolences to Eileen and to the family: we will miss Wilf, a man big in heart and character!

MESSAGE FROM A SANTA OR THREE!

Picking up on Wilf's acting as one of father Christmas' local reps in time gone by, the fund raising still goes on! Peter Ray has been in touch ...

How good it was to have two new helpers for to Santa's collection: well done and thank you, Shaun. And a big thank you to Pat Nelson who stepped in at the last moment for Michael Plummer who was ill: Pat being the only other registered Sleigh Driver in the area. Thanks Pat, your name has been added to our list!



The collection raised £225 which goes to local charities. Many thanks to the kind people in the local pubs and at the Social Club who so generously contributed.

Peter Ray

I am beginning to research my family tree and so far have found that my great grand father was a James Perry born in Pepperstock in 1825. In 1868 he married an Amy Ironmonger (?). They had three children: William, Ellen and Amy all born in Slip End as was Amy senior. In the 1881 census, James was 56, Amy senior 44, William 11, Ellen 8 and Amy junior 7.

In 1881 they were living in Gib Cottage in Luton. Family legend has it that James was a gardener at Luton Hoo Estate. Our section of the family immigrated to Australia in 1949.

Do the people associated with your web site have any knowledge of a James Perry and know of any connections with Luton Hoo Estate? This is a long shot, but I thought worth a try.

*Andrew Perry
East Malvern
Australia*

If you can help, log into the thread on slipend.co.uk forum or contact PN editor.

Another request for any details that villagers may be able to help with. Linda Chapman is also trying to trace her family tree. Her mother and father, Marjorie and Albert Chapman lived in Summer Street and Albert was the oldest son of Edwin Chapman who ran the Bakery there. Sadly her mother died in December (see details later in Parish News) and she is desperate to trace relatives who may be able to assist her. If anyone remembers or can help Linda please contact : linda_chapman4@btinternet.com

Or let Parish News know.



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Services & Events in March

Midweek Communion take place monthly at two venues in Slip End, details from Joy.

Wednesday 1 st	7.30pm	Ash Wednesday: Holy Communion
Thursday 2 nd	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 5 th	10.30am	Family Communion. Sermon: "The Chronicles of Narnia"
Monday 6 th	7.45pm	Deanery Synod
Wednesday 8 th	10.30am	Pram Service in the Family Room
Sunday 12 th	10.30am	Morning Praise: <i>Mary Bolster will visit to sell signed copies of her book in aid of Karenaid</i>
	2.00pm	St Andrew's Ramblers meet at the church
	6.15pm	3;16 meet in the Family Room
Thursday 16 th	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 19 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 22 nd	10.30am	Pram Service in the Family Room
Friday 24 th	2:30pm	Woodside Home service
Sunday 26 th	9.15am	Holy Communion & AGM at East Hyde
	10.30am	Morning Praise for Mothering Sunday
	6.15pm	3:16 meet in the Family Room
Monday 27 th	7.30pm	PCC meet in the Family Room
Thursday 30 th		Footsteps meet (Quasar) Hemel Hempstead
Friday 31 st	2.30pm	Village School, Spring Concert

Coming soon at St Andrews ...

Hot Potatoes!

No, we don't serve them, our hot potatoes will be in the services over the next few weeks.

Come and hear about issues raised in Dan Brown's best seller, "The Da Vinci Code" at 10.30am on Sunday February 26th. Then hear the real message behind "The Chronicles of Narnia - the lion, the witch and the wardrobe" on Sunday March 5th at 10.30am.

So no hot potatoes really, although we do serve hot tea and coffee after our services!



On Sunday 5th February we were invited by the Lions of Harpenden to a lovely afternoon of fun at the Harrow Leisure Centre. We joined with around 1000 others for a huge Party with everything laid on including tea, sandwiches, cakes and a glass of wine. There was also lots of good music for our age plus Bingo and a Raffle!

Thanks to the Grace Cooke we enjoyed the pleasant run down to Harrow on a bright winter's afternoon. Theobolds put on one of their new coaches, so we rode in style. It was also good to see Ken again for this trip "out of season".

So many thanks to the Lions for organising a great event and to David who looked after arrangements at our end.

Don't forget: from March 2nd we are back to our weekly Club gatherings in the Village Hall on Thursday afternoons.

Pam King

Especially for those who are trying to give up smoking!!

Sitting in a café, the electrician was feeling very proud of himself because he had given up smoking. He ordered coffee and put all thoughts of cigarettes out of his mind. Just then a stranger approached him and asked how long it was since he had stopped smoking. "One week", he answered, "But how did you know?" The stranger replied, "Because, you just stubbed a biscuit out in the ashtray."

.....

The young woman felt like a million dollars in her new flowered silk dress she had bought to wear to her brother-in-laws wedding. Many people admired the outfit and told her how elegant she looked. A week later she saw her dress in the window of the shop she had bought it from. The sign read, "Nightgowns, bargain, half price!"



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Slip End Village Hall

Thursday evenings at Eight

Slip End & District Association

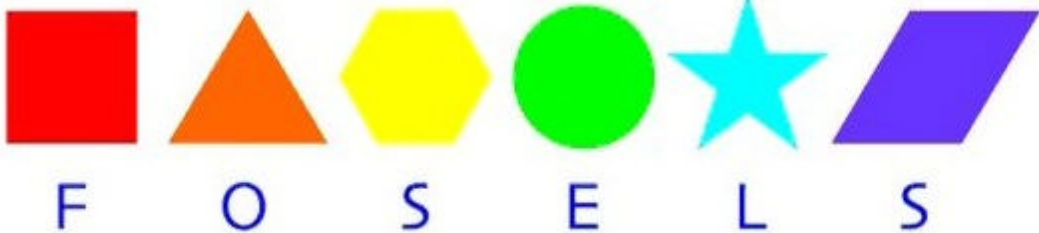
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February has been a busy month for FoSELS with plenty of planning for the coming year's fund raising activities.

St Valentine's Day

To get the year off to a good start and to give the children a chance to have some fun, FoSELS arranged a very special Tuck shop just before half term. Cakes and biscuits were on offer all with a Valentine's theme and children could decorate heart shaped biscuits, kindly baked by the school cook, with their own designs. Year 4 ran their own card stall selling beautiful cards they'd designed and made. The sale raised £56 for the school.

To add to the fun there was also a mufti day where everyone paid £1 to come to school dressed as something or someone they love. There was a big turn out of superheroes, footballers, princesses and many more creative costumes. A special parade at assembly gave everyone the chance to check out the colourful array of outfits. This all boosted the total raised by the cake sale by a further £79.

Local Election—New Council Elected!

Included in the school's development plan for this year was the formation of a School Council to enable the children to become more involved in the school community. Its aim is to both encourage an interest in how the school is run and take responsibility for their learning environment. Class elections were held and two members elected from each of the classes from years 1 to 4. The Council plan to be fully operational during March so watch this space for information on how the children are helping to make their school a better place.

NSPCC visit

In an assembly during February, the children heard from the NSPCC who came along to explain the work of the charity and talk about some of the issues faced by young children, such as cruelty and bullying. To help them feel involved and raise money for the organisation, there were some fund raising activities for the children to get involved with.

Dates for your Diary

The next events planned by FoSELS include a repeat of the very successful Pamper evening held back in 2004. On March 25th, just in time for Mother's Day, there will be a super evening of relaxation and treats for ladies in the school hall. From 7pm you will be able to meet the various therapists and book a mini treatment session. A glass of wine, chocolates and a foot spa are included in the £5 admission fee but as this is a ticket only event, you'll need to book early. There will be a range of stalls selling crystals, gifts, oils and other treats. Another date to note is our Summer Fair which will take place on the 17th June 2006 at the school. There will be a wide range of stalls, fun activities and of course a super barbeque. Make sure you bring all the family.

Once again Sainsbury's are handing out school vouchers so please remember to collect them and pass to us at the school office or your local school.. For more information about the campaign check out - Sainsbury's Active Kids on the internet.

That's all for now, but watch this space for more news next month.

Sandra Collins

The meal at SPICE in the village was thoroughly enjoyed by all the participants, a very good start to the New Year. The speaker for the evening Mrs J Corless came to tell us about pantomime, being one of the P.A.s she has theatre at her fingertips and I would guess what she doesn't know isn't worth knowing. Milton Keynes is her theatre and we were told £200,000 was spent on costumes for 'Snow White' and Cinderella is the treat for 2006. Apparently the Ancient Greeks loved performing in theatre and the Romans followed, changing it to their level. After they invaded Britain we adapted it again to teach people about God. If the Actor entered stage right they came from heaven, stage left they came from hell. Characters began to appear, acrobats and dancers and in 1700 Scaramouch was performed. The first pantomime to be staged was Robinson Crusoe in 1817. How it all came about that a female played the principal boy was to enable the dirty ol' men (excuse my language) to see lovely legs otherwise denied in that age. In 1886 Dan Dino was Dame Trot at Drury Lane Theatre and due to illness would camouflage the smell it left with lavender. It is said that if you go backstage today you can still smell the aroma.

Charlie Chaplin started his career in pantomime as the front of a horse!

To finish the talk we were shown a dame's outfit, the principal boys, the fairy etc. It's a different world. (Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!)

Forthcoming Dates:

21st Feb Stranded in September –
Speaker Mr C Fisher

21st March Members Night

1st April L&D N.H.S Foundation Night –
Speaker Brigid Stacey, Project Director

We meet 3rd Tuesday in the month, Baptist
Church Hall 7.30 – 10pm

See you there, Patricia Crick

We had our Church Council meeting last Monday and put in our fundraising dates for the year. I hope none of them clash with what you are doing

Sat March 11th 2.30pm Good as New

Sat April 22nd 2.30pm Spring Fayre

Sat May 13th 2.30pm Good as New

Sat May 20th 9am Cake Stall

Sun 11th June 11am Sunday School Anniv.

Sun 2nd July Church BBQ

Sat 16th Sep Preserve Stall - Caddington
Village Show

Sat 7th Oct Autumn Fayre

Sat 9th / Sun 10th Christmas 'Charatree'
Festival

March 2007 Mothering Sunday Weekend
- Flower Festival

March coffee evening is on 22nd at 7.30pm

The coffee evenings in January and February were well attended. In January alone we raised £195-47 from our homemade cake and preserve sales. We used 84lb of sugar restocking after Christmas (Thank you to everyone who leaves jars and sugar on my door-step). Lorraine Law gave her first 'Preserve Talk' to a ladies group in Watford. Afterwards she sold £71 of our preserves. If you'd like her to talk to your group, please ring her on 484719.

The works on the outside of the Church is now finished. Now we need heating in the lower schoolroom and a new toilet! The Good as new sale is on 11th March 2.30pm. Jackets, suits and coats £1 each, everything else (clothes wise) 40p each Or 3 for £1. We also have furnishings, household items, gifts and books for sale. Afternoon teas, homemade cakes and preserves will be sold in the school room. Pop in and pick up a bargain or two.

Yours In Christ, Aley Green Church,
Ann Meader

SLIP END WEBSITE UPDATE

The Slip End website has taken something of a facelift, and is looking to increase it's use by the villagers of Slip End. The website now boasts a new look and feel and is presently trying to update as much information about the village as possible. Although parts of the website have been continually updated over the 5 years that the site has been in existence, there are many areas that have remained untouched for most of that time!!

The Slip End Forum.

The website now has an improved forum where you can express your feelings and thoughts about the village. You will need to register yourself with a username and password, but then you can set the system to send you emails of replies and listings. The calendar section will be regularly updated, giving details of which events are happening in and around the village. Those who wish to leave additions for the calendar can be added to the group of users who can make those additions. If you wish to add your name to their number then contact the webmaster from the website.

Your website needs you!

Can you help! If you are on the Internet please take a look at the website at www.slipend.co.uk. The main areas that need updating are in the "Associations" and "Information" areas of the site. If you can furnish us with any information that would help complete any part of the site, it would be gratefully received. There is a form on the main page of the Associations area of the site, which can be used to conveniently send that information to us. If you notice any organisations that are not represented on the website, then we would very much like to hear about them too.

Your own webspace...

If you are involved with a club or organisation within Slip End and would like to use some of

our webspace for you club, you would be most welcome. Obviously we would want to link those pages into the Slip End website, but you would be able to update the web pages yourself and you would be given associated email addresses with that space as well if required. This service would be provided free to local groups, and a small charge would be made to businesses (pubs etc.)

you@slipend.co.uk

We now have an unlimited number of email boxes that can be set up with our website address. If you wish to have your own slipend.co.uk address, then just send an email to the webmaster@slipend.co.uk.

Help always welcome!

If you are able and willing to write some of the WebPages that are needed for our site, then we would be very pleased to hear from you. Depending on the area of the site you are working on, we maybe able to give you uploading rights directly onto the website, otherwise you would need to send the html pages to the webmaster for inclusion.

Watch that space

But what ever, take a look at the website at www.slipend.co.uk and keep an eye on the developments there. Make as much use of the site as you can, and get involved in the forums. Watch out for future developments, which will include a photo gallery where you will be able to upload your pictures onto the site as well.

Hope to see you online!

Peter King. (webmaster)



Time for a reminder that the Playgroup is for children from 2 years and 3 months until 3 or 4 years old when they go to school. Playgroup takes place in the village hall on Monday, Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9.30 to 12.30 during school term time. The cost is £5 per session. The group has toys and activities which are both suitable and fun for the age group, and is run by staff qualified in childcare. For further details Phone Jill on 01582 728865 or Pauline on 01582 416201.

The Toddler Group is for babies and toddlers accompanied by an adult who can be parent, grandparent, or carer and is open on Tuesday afternoons from 1.30 to 3.00 also in term time. This group has similar toys and activities as well as a 'baby - corner'. It gives adults and children from the village a good chance to meet and get to know each other. There is always a cup of tea or coffee for the adults and drinks and light refreshments for the children. For details of this group call Julie on 01582 724888.

During this half term the playgroup has a spring theme, which involves the colours of the season and also includes Mothers day and Easter. Before half term we made Valentine cards for our mums or dads or someone else we love. We also made heart shaped biscuits but I suspect the children ate those themselves.

The two groups are having joint fund-raising events this term. Both groups, in particular the Toddler group, are in need of funds to replenish and up-date their equipment and toys. So we are holding a Nearly New Sale on Saturday 18th March in the village hall and also a Spring Raffle which will be drawn at the Sale. Please look out for adverts for the sale and for raffle tickets and support us in this joint venture.



I sadly have to report that Mrs Marjorie Chapman died on 15th December 2005 after a short illness, at the home of her daughter in Rushden, Northants.

For many years Marjorie lived in Summer Street, next to Chapman's Bakery. Her husband Albert was the eldest son of the owner of the Bakery, Mr Edwin Chapman, and worked with his father for many years. Albert died in 1977 and for a few years Marjorie continued to live on her own until 15 years ago she moved to her daughters to be nearer her very beloved family. For many years Marj worked at the farms belonging to the Spears family, where she knew three generation. When talking about them it was always very obvious that she held them all very close to her heart and had many happy memories of her time spent with them.

She played an active part in village life going on many outings with the over 60's club (Friendship Club), which was then affectionately known as the Merry Widows Club.

She will be very sadly missed by her children Roy and Linda, daughter in law Lin and her 6 grandchildren.

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Call Val on 01582 456748.

EDITORS COLUMN

Entries from 'Church Bulletins'

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.....

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been cancelled due to a conflict.....

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.....

Weight watchers will meet at 7pm at the First Presbyterian Church. Please use large double door at the side entrance.....

One of my little poems from Francis Gray....

If yesterday things seemed all wrong,
and you were much distressed;
if nothing seemed to work out right
although you tried your best;
do not lose heart, but bravely march
along the hard, rough way,
for yesterday's dark road may lead—
to sunny skies today.

*And finally don't forget its Mothering Sunday
on March 26th—a little tribute to them all
by Pam Brown*

Take in the laundry. Collect the mended shoes
Reading tests and driving tests and interviews
Telephone and train times. P.T.A.

Bacon, cheese and crackers and
bunny rabbit hay.

Computers and portfolios, manuscripts
and mice.

Transatlantic telex and long-grained rice.
Measles spots and mergers, the ballet
school display

And the BBC are asking for an
interview today.

Till receipts, sea cadets, sandwiches and soap.
Mother—tell me, mother—how the
hell you cope?

Finally have a good month—Spring is just
around the corner. From all at Parish News

SLIP END PLAYGROUP

NEARLY NEW SALE

Saturday 18th March

**Clothing, equipment and toys
for children aged 0 to 12 years plus
maternity-wear**

Items to be labelled clearly with name, size
and price (inc 25% for Playgroup)

Labels to be pinned on with safety pins or
sticky labels to be used.

Items to be provided on hangers if possible

Deliver goods to be sold between midday
and 1pm on Saturday to
Slip End Village Hall

Enquiries—Phone: 01582 724888
01582 728865

Please return for your goods at 16:00hrs.

**WE ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR
ANY GOODS LEFT AFTER 4.30 pm**



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Andrea Gregory 
PROFESSIONAL INSTRUCTOR

Parish News would like to thank all the advertisers who support us by placing their adverts with us. With their continued help we are able to bring you all the local news, colour issues and lots of interesting facts from your village.

If anyone would like to use this space and is interested in finding a way to reach local people please contact Steve Lyons, our advertising agent on 01582 414162 or email - SteveSueLyons@aol.com



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

March

- 4th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon
- 4th Tennis Club Quiz Night - Peter Edwards Hall 7.30 for 8pm.
- 6th Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm

Highways Agency

10th

M1 roadworks presentation at the Peter Edwards Hall 2-9pm

- 11th Good as New Sale: Aley Green Methodist Church
- 11th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506
- 18th Nearly New sale—Slip End Playgroup
- 20th Slip End Village Hall - Annual General Meeting at 8pm
- 22nd Aley Green Church Coffee evening—7.30pm
- 25th Craft for Easter Fayre at the Village Hall 11—3: Call Gill Plummer on 723109
- 25th FoSELS: Pamper Evening, 7pm

April

- 1st County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon
- 1st Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506
- 4th Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm
- 22nd Aley Green Methodist Church Spring Fayre
- 29th London Unlock Walk No 23 to Greenwich & Lewisham

May

- 1st Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm
- 6th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon
- 6th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506

June

- 3rd County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon
- 5th Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm
- 10th Craft Fayre at the Village Hall: Call Gill Plummer on 723109

17th

FoSELS: Summer Fair at the School

July

- 1st County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington 10am-12noon
- 3rd Slip End Parish Council - Village Hall 8pm
- 15th Open Gardens

Anything interesting to report about village activities, photos, holiday adventures, etc? Please contact us. Articles should be sent by the 15th of the month before publication to: Sue Cowell 83 The Crescent,

Caddington; parishnews@slipend.co.uk or David Kingston 7 Crawley Close, Slip End; email to davidgoodmankingston@hotmail.com. Delivery enquiries to Brian Church 2 Summer Street on 458443.

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