

SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

JULY 2007

50P
WHERE SOLD



Fancy Dress Winners!
PN roving photographer Matt Ogier was on hand, clicking away at the School Fete last month. His picture captures young Chloe, Angel & Sophie, winners in the Girl's Group Fancy Dress. Chloe & Sohie attend the Foundation Unit at Slip End Lower School and Angel is in the Reception Class.

A fine day was enjoyed at the fete by many children, parents, carers and villagers. Weather had not been good leading up to the event, but we were blessed that afternoon in dry sunshine!

More news next month.

The bad weather last month caused earthwork slippage at the Church Road bridge, closing the road. There had been a deluge over one weekend and Church Road was closed for a day or so. Added to our pains was the fact that the traffic lights packed up too (again ...).





Nick & Lucy Sandle from Front Street were both baptised in June at St Andrew's. Family and friends travelled many miles to join in the celebrations.

Congratulation to Isabel Lyons & Stephen Waring who were married on June 9th at Whipsnade Zoo. We wish them every happiness for the future. Isabel is the daughter of Sue and Steve Lyons from Crawley Close who as you can see, made a very handsome couple at the wedding.



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: 452978
Slip End Assoc: 414796
Mother's Union: 738435
Playgroup: 728865
Toddler Group 405931
Allotments: 736892
FoSELS (PTA):
Tracey Burgess
Women's Institute: 421034
Police: 473412
Aircraft noise: 395382

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Christine Benson: 456200
Christinebenson@bensons-autosupplies.co.uk
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stevefuell@f2s.com
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PhilipPenman@aol.com
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Margaret Moran: 01582 731882
sultanau@parliament.uk

CHURCHES

St Andrew's Church

Rev Joy Daniel 01582 424363
Wardens: Tony Willson 482681
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



***New recycling and refuse service
will reduce landfill***

You may have heard that South Bedfordshire District Council is joining over a third of United Kingdom councils in introducing a changed collection system on September 3rd.

Before the scheme starts you will be provided with an orange-lidded wheeled bin for all your dry recyclables. The bin will be the same size as your black-wheeled bin. Every household will receive a calendar prior to the start of the scheme to confirm your collection day.

The new service will mean that householders will have refuse (black bins) collected during one week and recyclable waste (orange-lidded bins) during the following week. The current fortnightly composting (green bin) collection service will continue as it does now.

Weekly refuse and communal recycling service to blocks of flats and properties on black sack collections will remain unchanged. The council is currently increasing the provision of recycling sites for glass, textiles, cans, paper and card. The new sites will be advertised as soon as they are operational.

Why a new recycling and refuse service?

To massively reduce the amount of waste being placed in landfill. Landfill space is running out and the taxes paid by councils are increasing. In 2007 the cost to tip at landfill is £24 per tonne; by 2010 the cost will double. The system is operated successfully by a number of UK local authorities and is proving to be an effective way of both increasing recycling and reducing waste placed into landfill. Over 190 councils provide collections on a similar basis throughout the nation.

Only a small amount of your council tax is used to provide the refuse and recycling service. In 2005/6 it was £42 per year or 80 pence a week, which covers all waste and recycling collections and disposal.

SBDC is aiming to recycle about half the domestic waste produced in South Bedfordshire. With your help by separating your waste at home, half of the collected waste will be recycled.

The benefits to the environment are:

- ◆ *Reduction of waste sent to landfill.*
- ◆ *Reduction in harmful gaseous emissions released from landfill, a contributing factor to climate change.*
- ◆ *Reduction in pollution to the environment.*
- ◆ *Preservation of valuable resources by re-using and recycling as much as possible.*

“Will pests be attracted to the waste?”

Covering food waste before it is placed in the bin and keeping the bin lid closed at all times minimises the timescale for flies to land on the food and the potential for maggots to grow. Wrapping any food waste before it is placed in the bin will help this further.

Where can I get more information?

During the months leading up to September 2007, households will receive leaflets explaining the scheme. You may also have a visit from our Recycling Support Officers or spot our trailer out and about at one of the many events planned in the District this summer.

The scheme begins on 3 September 2007 and until this date please continue to use your current service.

For further information, waste minimisation tips and a timetable of where South Bedfordshire District Council’s Recycling Officers will be visit www.southbeds.gov.uk

Why is South Beds District Council changing to a new refuse/recycling collection service?

- We can't go on burying our waste in the ground as landfill space is running out.
- Landfill sites can lead to pollution of water, soil, and air.
- In 2005 all Local Authorities were set targets to reduce the amount of biodegradable (rotting material) going to landfill, such as garden waste, food, paper, card and some textiles. Fines will be imposed if we exceed the targets of 75 per cent in 2010, 50 per cent in 2013 and only 35 per cent in 2020 of the biodegradable waste that was put into landfill in 1995.
- These fines are set at £150 per tonne. If we don't do anything now it is likely that the fines will have to be paid as early as 2008/09. These fines will have to be met through taxation.
- Landfill tax is steeply rising and is charged per tonne of waste that we create, again this cost will need to be met by the tax-payer.
- Over 190 councils in the UK have already introduced, or are considering introducing an alternate bin collection service. This method of collection is proving to be the most effective way of increasing recycling and dramatically reducing waste going to landfill.
- From September 3rd, residents can make a real difference by making maximum use of the orange lidded recycling bins, green garden bins and the recycling banks provided within the district. This scheme will greatly reduce the amount of waste going into black bins, enabling the increasing costs of waste collection and disposal to be controlled.
- Results from a resident survey in 2005 indicated the preferred waste collection options in the district to either be a weekly recycling and fortnightly black bin service, or an alternate week refuse and recycling service. Only a small minority of residents were willing to pay more council tax in order to retain a weekly recycling and black bin waste collection service.



When will the new collection service in South Beds begin?

The new scheme will commence on September 3rd 2007. The council wants to ensure a smooth transition to the changed service, residents will be provided with information and support in adapting to the new scheme.

If the council is going to be saving money by introducing a new refuse/recycling collection service, what will happen to that money?

The council is committed to delivering value for money services and ensuring we are efficient and well managed. Any savings made will be considered as part of the overall annual budget process when the council tax is set.

We are constantly reviewing efficiency in order to improve our existing services and meet increasing demands.

Are any other local authorities collecting waste like this?

Over 150 councils in the UK have successfully introduced alternate weekly bin collection services, this method of collection is proving to be the most effective way of increasing recycling and dramatically reducing waste going to landfill.

I pay my council tax and I want all of my rubbish taken away.

Under the new system all rubbish collected must be contained within the bin with the lid firmly closed. Every household will have a collection every week but the council asks you to sort your waste at home. Your recycling will be collected one week and your residual waste the next.

Only a small amount of your council tax received enables us to provide you with a refuse and recycling service. In 2005/6 it was £50 per year, which covers the collections of orange bags.

Doesn't the Council have to collect my waste every week?

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 states that waste collection authorities have a duty to arrange waste collection. However there is no stated or implied frequency. You will still receive a weekly collection but your waste will have to be sorted into separate containers so that we can deal with it on a weekly basis.

It is important to remember that the waste is the householders', not the local authority's. The waste has been generated from within the home and therefore the resident has a responsibility for its separation.

I can't store my orange bags for 2 weeks.

Before September 3rd every household will be provided with a 240 litre orange lidded wheeled bin, the same size as a normal black wheeled rubbish bin. Your orange-lidded recycling bin will be delivered to you in time for the start of the new scheme. The capacity of the bin will be sufficient for most households. Household with 6 or more full time residents will be eligible for extra refuse and recycling capacity.

Why am I being given a wheeled bin?

Every household will receive an orange lidded wheeled bin for dry recyclables. The council has taken the opportunity to provide an option that is more environmentally friendly than disposable bags.

What are the benefits to me?

The improved service will make it easier for residents to do their bit for the environment.

- Recycling will be more convenient.
- Increasing recycling will keep down the cost of waste disposal.
- We will all manage our waste more effectively
- By thinking about the material and packaging we buy we can reduce the amount of waste brought home.

Can I put orange bags out if I don't have enough space in my recycling bin?

The recycling bags are an ongoing cost to the local authority; they are also not a sustainable long-term option. We shall be collecting any unused rolls of orange bags when we deliver the recycling bins, these will be re-issued to households with no storage space. Orange bags will not be collected from any property that has been issued a recycling bin. Recycling must be placed in the bin LOOSE.

There will be advertised collection points for a limited time, where you can dispose of any surplus rolls of orange bags.



Why won't you take any waste put at the side of the bin and why must the bin lid be closed?

Health and safety implications are a consideration for collection crews. Injuries can result from sharp items in bags and manual lifting of bins with open lids. Households will be provided with a bin sufficient for most family's rubbish if maximum use of the orange lidded recycling bins, green garden bins and the recycling banks is made.

What if I accidentally put the wrong material in my recycling bin?

Contaminated bins will not be collected; householders will be made aware of incorrect material. On removal of contamination, the householder should inform the council who will send the contractor to collect the bin.

I have a large family and the black bin is just not large enough. What will you do?

By separating your waste between the three schemes the bins should be sufficient for most families. Households with six or more permanent, full time residents, will be considered for extra refuse capacity if they are recycling all possible material.

My bin will smell and it will be a health hazard after two weeks in the sun, this will attract vermin.

Keeping food waste covered before it is placed in the bin minimises time for flies to land on the food and maggots to grow. If food waste is wrapped before it is placed in your bin and the bin is stored with the lid closed there will be no risk of attracting vermin, which are only attracted to loose food left outside the bin.

Dog and cat faeces can be flushed down the toilet and nappies should be sealed in appropriate bags. Vermin are more likely to be attracted by waste refuse from fast food outlets and food debris in the street.

The council is tackling problems by other measures including the new Envirocrime Unit, which cracks down on littering and fly tipping. We only experience warm conditions that may cause problems for short periods during the summer.

What do you do with it once you have collected the recycling material?

Once recyclables are collected they are delivered to our Material Recycling Facility (MRF) in Elstow, near Bedford. Orange bags are ripped apart by an automatic bag splitter then the contents pass along a conveyor belt to be separated. All the materials are hand sorted and dropped into containers. The materials are 'baled' into separate material blocks before being distributed to the appropriate recycling merchant who will proceed to make new material out of packaging you placed in your orange bag.

What happens to the things we recycle?

All separated materials are sent for reprocessing:

- Plastic bottles are reprocessed and made in to new fleece jumpers, water butts, fencing, CD casing etc
- Steel cans go back into steel production and can be used for anything made out of steel - the possibilities are endless! Bikes, trains, etc
- Aluminium cans are made into new aluminium cans - about 95% of the energy is saved compared to making aluminium cans from raw materials. It only takes 6-8 weeks before a recycled can appears back on the shop shelves.
- Newspapers and magazines are pulped and made into newsprint
- Bottles and jars collected at our bring sites are made into new bottles and jars. Recycled glass can also be used to make sand for filtration units, road surfaces and golf courses.

What happens if I have no storage space for bins?

Households that have no storage space are already on a weekly black sack collection scheme. These households will continue to receive a sack collection service. Three pink sacks will be delivered weekly for non-recyclable waste; this will not be collected in any other sack or container. Orange bags will be issued for recycling, there is no limit to the amount of recycling you can present.



What happens if I do not have enough storage space?

If your property has limited storage space, recycling, black and green bins are available in a smaller size. If a householder wishes to retain a normal sized black bin and only has space for one other then the recycling bin will be offered in place of the green bin. If a householder is adamant that they do not want a recycling bin then sacks will no longer be on offer and no recycling provision will be available. A recycling support officer is on hand to visit households and advise on the options available.

What if I currently receive help with my bins?

Assisted collections are available to households where no one is able to present the bin to the kerbside. If you currently receive this service then you will continue to do so. This service will also be available for the collection of recycling bins.

What if I don't want to do it?

If you do not want to use the recycling bin please inform us and it will be collected within a month. If at a later date the householder requests delivery of a bin, a charge will be incurred.

You cannot be forced to recycle but your non-recyclable (black bin) waste will only be collected the alternate week to your recyclable waste. If you choose not to separate your waste then you will have to minimise the amount of waste generated in your household to fit into the bin. Already the majority of households separate their waste into recyclable materials and non-recyclable refuse and this contributes significantly to reducing the amount going to landfill and helps the environment.

When will residents be given more information about the new service?

Leaflets and calendars will be delivered to all households within the district.

You may also find information in the bi-monthly magazine, Information, the local press and on the South Bedfordshire District Council website. The Recycling Support Officers may be knocking at your door to answer any of your queries or you may see them at events with the South Bedfordshire Recycle Now Campaign.

Who can I contact to get more information?

You can contact Peter Jones, Basil Quinn or Sarah Molloy on 01582 472222 for more information.

ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

*Our life is a book of chapters three,
The past, the present, and the yet-to-be,
The past has gone, it is stowed away
The present we live with every day.
The future is not for us to see,
It is locked away and God holds the key.*

Christian Aid Week

The Christian Aid envelopes left in the church pews raised £35. Thirteen church members joined the Ecumenical Christian Aid Bread & Soup Lunch in Caddington, where they raised over £100. The Aley Green coffee evening and cake sales raised over £100. The July Coffee Evening will be on Wednesday 18th, from 7:30. Pop along for a friendly chat. Sunday July 8th 11am is National Children's Home Sunday and the service will be led by Ms S. Wood. NCH envelopes will be placed in the pews for people's donations.

Sunday July 15th 11am: Family Service with Holy Communion with our own minister Rev Julia Dowding. Soft drinks and biscuits will be served after this service. The Sunday school then breaks up for the school summer holidays.

Because we are such a small church and we don't want to close the church or ask for a preacher or minister to come to Aley Green for five or six of us to worship (when the circuit is already stretched for ministers and preachers over this period) we take our own services during the summer holidays.

On Sunday July 22nd and 29th and August 5th one of us will be leading the service or a fellowship group at the earlier time of 9:30am. The service will last for about 45 minutes. The Rev Julia Dowding will lead Holy Communion on August 12th at 9:30am.

On 18th August at 7pm you are invited to a musical extravaganza in aid of Church funds. Sing along or just enjoy your favourite music. Tickets are £3 for adults and £1.50 for children and this includes a ploughman's supper afterwards. There will be no service the next day (19th August) or on Bank Holiday Sunday (26th August). The church and Sunday school will reopen on Sunday 2nd September 11am.

We at Aley Green hope and pray that you have a relaxing restful summer and if you are able to go away, enjoy the wonders of the world.

Ann Meader



1981

Diana & Charles Wedding Day celebrations in Slip End

Here's a group of mums and youngsters. Can you recognise anyone?

Brownies

Thank you to all who came along and supported our Tea @ Three afternoon last month and to those who gave donations. Not only did everyone enjoy tea, cakes and chat but we raised £115 for the Pasque Charities!



Here are some of the Brownies, serving appetising sandwiches and scrumptious cakes to the punters.

We have a few places at the moment so if any girl from 6½ would like to join us, please have mum call Brown Owl on 723109 and we'll get your name on our list.

*Gillian Plummer
Brown Owl*

County Councillor's Surgery

at Heathfield School, Caddington

Meet Richard Stay
to discuss local matters which are of your
concern or interest.

*First Saturday of each month,
10am to 12 noon
(see Diary Page)*

ALLOTMENTS & GARDEN ASSOCIATION

Vegetable Garden

There is plenty to do right now. Peas should be gathered as soon as pods fill, while they are young and sweet, before they toughen. Picking will prolong supply, allowing late forming peas to mature.

Plant out winter greens and sow winter brassicas now, but remember the rabbits love them too, so take precautions. Root crops need some attention, so keep them watered and loosen the earth around them and keep the hoe on the go. Dig out deep rooted weeds and compost them.



Flower & Fruit Garden

Keep dead-heading those faded and dying flowers. Continue to bud and prune rose stock. Tulips and hyacinths that have completed growth should be lifted, cleaned, placed in shallow trays and stored in a cool dry place, out of the sun.

Summer prune fruit stock and early apples and pears should be ready to pick now.

General Work

Trim hedges and keep the mower on the move: it should be possible to do this without the grass box from now on.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS - CONGRATULATIONS!

Samantha Fitch (right) has been studying at Bath University and the long hours of studying have now paid off. She achieved a first class French, German and European Studies degree with distinction in her French & German oral examinations. Samantha is going to travel for a while before looking for work in France. Mum and Dad, family and friends are all very proud of her and send their congratulations.

Well done Sam!

RUBY WEDDING - CONGRATULATIONS!

On the 9th June, Brian and Susan Davies, who have lived in Markyate Road for many years, celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary with a service of Renewal of Vows and Blessings of Rings at St Andrew's Church. The service was attended by many family members and friends with festivities at the Frog and Rhubarb later. It was a very happy occasion. Brian and Sue .

(Hopefully we will include more news next month with a picture; Brian & Susan dashed away on holiday just after their celebrations.)



Junction 10 Latest: The new roundabout alignment, which was built around the old one above the M1, has been in restricted use for a few weeks, so that demolition of the old bridges can go ahead. The northern bridge was taken out during last Saturday night. The pile of concrete and twisted steel reinforcing bar is what's left of the mangled bridge.





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Friend of Slip End Lower School

By the time this issue of PN lands on your doormat we will have had our annual Summer Fayre. It happened after the deadline for PN so it will be next month before I can give you all the news, pictures and details of how much we raised.

Action packed summer

School life is as busy as ever with a host of activities going on during the Summer term. I'm always impressed by just how many new and exciting things the children get to experience each term. Slip End Lower always organises visitors and visits for the children which broaden their horizons and liven up the whole learning process.

Before half term they visited the new Grove Theatre to watch Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dream-coat. Enjoying a full stage musical was a first for many of the children. The Bedfordshire Music Service visited the school to perform Folk Music and those children who participate in the Irish Dancing Club gave a little performance.

This half term Year 3 and 4 started a 6 week Fencing course, a great success. They really enjoy using the specialist equipment and learning the skills involved in a new sport.

Toward the end of June are Drama workshops and the Year 4 residential trip to France. The trip is a school highlight and comes close to the end of Year 4's last term at Slip End Lower before they move on to middle schools. I am hoping we will have some pictures and a report on the trip from our "overseas correspondent" Emma Peppiatt (Year 1 teacher) who is accompanying the group.

School Trip

This year the whole school will be going to Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes for the annual day out. Previous year's trips have been to Whipsnade and Woburn so I'm sure this will be just as popular.

Nature lovers

In recent articles I have mentioned the new nature garden that is being created around the pond in the school grounds. This is coming on well, with bird boxes and tables to encourage the wildlife, as well as plants and flowers. The teachers and children have been making good use of the area for art and science as well as inspiration for creative writing. They are also growing their own tomatoes and flowers outside the classrooms.

(Thank you, Jackie Evan, for the plants she donated for the nature area, more are always welcome if anyone has some to spare. I am happy to collect them if you can pot or bag them up for us).



Sandra Collins

Sue Martin, our newly elected President opened the meeting in the traditional way with 'Jerusalem'. All in harmony I hasten to add, not a solo by Sue.

Sheila Coleman is Secretary and Lorna Kalisz is Treasurer. The minutes were read and signed and a report was presented from Stopsley W.I. on their attendance at the Royal Albert Hall for the Annual General Meeting.

Our very popular yearly mystery outing, thanks to Sue, is to take place on July 3rd. I will tell you all about it when all has been revealed. A group outing to Brighton will take place on August 12th.

The speaker for the evening Mr Ken Brazier came to tell us about Mercy Ships. In 1978 a retired Ocean Liner was purchased with help from the Union Bank of Switzerland and a new charity had been born. Equipment, beds, medicine etc. was the priority and next a crew to handle it. Three hundred and fifty volunteers came forward, and then medical staff were needed. It is a Christian charity bringing hope and healing to the forgotten poor. Since the beginning Mercy Ships have served more than 150 ports in developing nations around the world. A visit from them enables permanent land centres and programmes to continue long after the ship has sailed. Mr Brazier is to climb one of Africa's highest mountains – Kilimanjaro to add to the much needed funds for the charity.

I am sure you will all join me in saying God Bless you to all the volunteers involved in this fantastic work.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month at Baptist Church Hall, Caddington at 7.30. Come and join us!

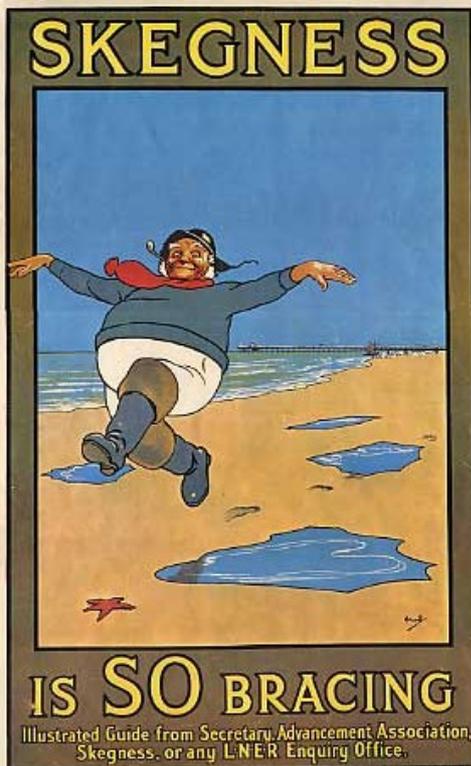


Women's
Institute



June 2nd dawned bright and clear for an early departure for our trip to Skegness. Two coaches set off, full of senior citizens and friends, for a pleasant ride to this east coast resort. This was the first outing for quite a few of our punters and many had never been to Skeggy before.

All agreed it was a lovely place. Then after enjoying the attractions in the town, we were ready for a meal. The fresh fish 'n' chips were great and put us in good shape for the run home to Slip End.



your ministry'. Five minutes later, still trying to come to terms with what had just happened, his wife Gina came to him and said: 'During the sermon, I felt the Lord showing me things about your future, but I am not going to tell you until he shows you.' She also heard God say that he was calling him to full time ministry!

God soon showed Martin that it was evangelism that he was called to. Nearly two years later, he met an American who had a powerful vision that he was to lead a mission in the nearby city of Canterbury. Martin felt this was from God and offered to help. He was immediately appointed UK co-ordinator of the Canterbury mission!

There was no plan for the mission, no money and no local church support, even though the mission was due to start in seven weeks! In prayer, Martin had a picture of a loaf of bread and said 'I think the Lord wants us feed people'. Thus, the barbecue idea was born and local churches agreed to take part. God provided the money in a miraculous way too.

The Canterbury mission was wonderful and many people's lives were changed. Shortly afterwards, Martin gave up his job and, with Gina, started 'On the Move'. Shortly after doing their first mission, Martin felt a very heavy weight coming on his shoulders – a profound experience - and heard God say to him: 'Your vision for the Millennium Year is not big enough'.

From this came the vision to do missions in the biggest cities of England in 2000. God miraculously opened the doors and the missions took place, wonderfully. At the end of 2000, Martin had the very same experience of a heavy weight coming on his shoulders; and this time received the vision for a mission bringing together 30 capital cities in 2005!

In the event, 23 of these remarkable missions happened in all 5 continents, involving groups of churches and an average 140 team members in each city. 'On the Move' remains a faith venture and seeks to follow the Lord wherever he leads.

Come with us?





On Sunday June 24th there was a family gathering around the font at St Andrew's for the Baptism of Nic and Sarah Roach's little son, Toby. The Roach family, who live on the Luton Hoo estate, the God Parents, family and friends and were there to join in the service. Toby handled the occasion very well with just a little hesitation over the font as Rev. Joy Daniel administered the water over the little man's head!



Christmas Gifts for Retired Members of the Community

Each year, Slip End Parish Council gives a small gift to retired people living in Slip End, Pepperstock, Woodside and Aley Green. This is funded by the Parish Council, with generous support from many of our local businesses.

The Parish Council is aware that its distribution list may not be complete and is sorry if anyone has been overlooked in previous years. In order that we can update our records, please let us know if you (or someone you know) is over 60 (ladies) or 65 (gentlemen) and has been resident in the area for 5 years or more. Please contact Nikki West by phone (402312) email parish-clerk@slipend.co.uk or in writing to 43 Summer Street, Slip End LU1 4BL, with the name and address and she will ensure that the list is updated.



Our summer outing this year was a trip to Weymouth and as always we had a lovely warm day. The driver mostly avoided the motorway on the way down, so it was a lovely ride down, took a little bit longer but well worth it. A good time was enjoyed by all.

Pam King

Our aging junior sub-editor remembers, as a small boy, spotting trains running to the quay through the streets of Weymouth. These conveyed passengers for the Channel Island ferry, tomatoes from the Channel Islands and oil was supplied to the CI that way too.

The picture shows one of the London Boat Train waiting at the station on the quay. When all the passengers have left the boat and boarded the train, the little tank engine will haul the train at a crawl along the crowded harbour wall and Weymouth streets, preceded by a couple of railway men, walking and waving their warning flags. The train had to stop quite often while motorists were located and asked to remove their vehicles before the train flattened them.



© Mike Morant

Keen walkers from Markyate have created a set of free circular walking maps for Studham, Flamstead, Kensworth and Aley Green and Woodside. Over forty walkers gathered in the Hicks Road car park late in March to launch the Maps and had a wonderful day trying out some of the maps before meeting up at the Methodist Hall in Markyate for an excellent lunch.

The free maps are available in Markyate from: Ye Old Village News Shop, The Happy Shopper, Post Office, Dr's Surgery, The Village Hall and Y2K Hall. The walks cover approximately five miles and the leaflets contain all the useful information you might need along the way. If you enjoy walking why not give it a try? You might experience some of the pleasures that are readily available on our doorstep.

The maps are available on the Parish Council Website, www.markyateparishcouncil.com

Sue Briggs

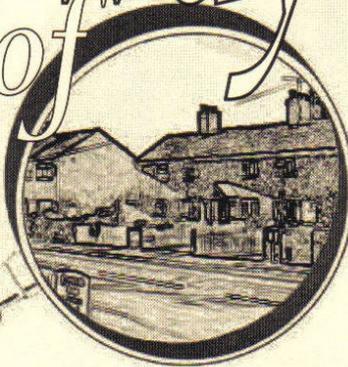
LAUGHTER

A schoolteacher injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. It fitted under his shirt and was not noticeable. On the first day of the term, still with the cast on he found himself assigned to the toughest students in the school. Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom he opened the window widely and busied himself with deskwork. When a strong wind made his tie flap, he took the desk stapler and stapled the tie to his chest. He had no discipline problems with any of his class that term.

It was mealtime on the small airline and the flight attendant asked the passenger if he would like dinner. "What are my choices?" he asked. She replied "Yes or No".



MARKYATE CIRCULAR
Country walks
byway



ALEY GREEN and WOODSIDE

The aim of these walks is to promote healthy living by providing residents and visitors with gentle walking exercise whilst enjoying the countryside around our village and visiting places of special interest in this area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Leaflets sponsored by:
MARKYATE PARISH COUNCIL
with the aid of funding from
CHILTERN'S CONSERVATION BOARD
40TH ANNIVERSARY FUND

Ladies!

**Don't forget the
rummage sale**

It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house.

Bring your husbands

This month we have featured at length the new refuse collection scheme, shortly to be introduced by South Bedfordshire District Council. We have been aware that things are going to change and that we need to adapt to different methods which include another bin and concerns about our waste being collected on a 2 week cycle.



These radical changes may cause some confusion at the outset but Parish News advocates that we hang in there and counter any frustrations, having in mind the benefit to our environment all round and the improved efficiency the new scheme introduces. To help set the ball rolling in advance of further information from SBDC, PN had presented a long list of Q's & A's which may help us get to grips with the changes.

On a domestic note, and this being a time of change at the highest political level, PN has joined in with a re-shuffle of its own which, although not of any national importance, represents significant changes in our organisation.

Following the departure of Sue Horton (she moved away from Slip End last month), Brian Church, who has a way with numbers, has moved into number 11 and takes over at the PN Treasury. Previously, Brian has looked after global PN circulation, moving the printed product from the printers to our local distributors.

We are pleased to report that Alan Buttery has accepted the call and will take over Brian's distributive role.

We are very grateful to Alan and welcome him onto the PN Team. Alan, an avid and long-time PN reader, is an allotment operative whose tips and advice have featured in our columns from time to time.

David Kingston



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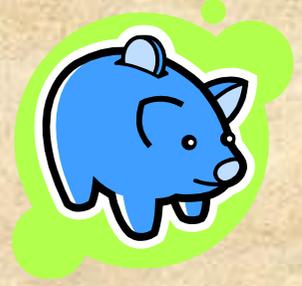
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**MANY THANKS
& HAPPY READING!**

DIARY: *If you would like your events included, please contact the Editor*

July

- 2nd *Parish Council: Village Hall at 8.00pm*
7th *10am to noon: Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington*
17th *Women's Institute: "Photography", speaker Helen Dawkins.*

August *(No Parish Council this month)*

- 4th *10am to noon: Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington*

September

- 1st *10am to noon: Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington*
3rd *Parish Council: Village Hall at 8.00pm*
3rd ***New Bin Scheme Starts!***
16th *Aley Green Methodist Church: Harvest Festival at 11am*
29th *Craft Fayre at the Village Hall*

October

- 1st *Parish Council: Village Hall at 8.00pm*
6th *10am to noon: Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington*
13th *Aley Green Methodist Church: Autumn Fayre at 2.30pm*

25th-26th ***St Andrew's: Holiday Club for 5 to 10 year-olds***

- 27th-28th *Luton Hoo - Pumpkin Arts in Beds & Herts*

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 Editor's own. **Articles should be sent by the 15th of July for the August issue to: Sue Briggs at 83 The Crescent, Caddington, email: cowells83@aol.com or David Kingston 7 Crawley Close, Slip End, davidgoodmankington@hotmail.com.***

We suggest pictures and items are sent in after the events rather than leaving it until the deadline.

Parish News is grateful to our advertisers for their contributions.

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