

An aerial photograph of a parish, showing a mix of residential areas, green fields, and a road. The text is overlaid on the image. The road is a multi-lane highway with a roundabout. The residential areas are dense with houses and buildings. The fields are large and green, some with distinct patterns. The overall scene is a typical rural or semi-rural landscape.

# SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

OCTOBER 2007

50P WHERE SOLD

*This aerial view of the Parish comes courtesy of Google Earth, a view taken a couple of years ago. Spot some differences with how it would appear today! And are there any comments about the localised depressions here and there?*



*These images reflect some of what we are up to in the Parish. There have been quite a few favourable comments about the improving appearance around the village especially in Crawley Close and at Coronation Garden. Children at the school benefit from increasing IT equipment supply, largely funded through FoSEL's efforts. On the downside, verges are continually mangled and speeding traffic remains*



# ***SLIP END PARISH COUNCIL***

## ***Chairman's Annual Report for 2006-7***



*This has been a busy year for the Parish Council which has achieved a number of significant improvements in Slip End, Pepperstock, Aley Green & Woodside.*

The Parish Council is chaired by Councillor Christine Benson, supported by Councillors Steve Fuell, Philip Penman, Ken Crossett, Geoff Daniel, Mike McKevitt and Janet Crawley, who joined us at the start of the year.

Our Clerk David Haste resigned and his role as Parish Clerk was taken on by Nikki West last summer. This means that everyone involved with the Council lives in our area and understands the issues which are important to all our residents.

**Our key aim is to improve the quality of life for everyone in the parish, from our youngest to our oldest members.**

Our focus is wide and we work to ...

- ◆ improve the appearance and character of the area through refurbishment
- ◆ keep residents feeling safe by working closely with our local Police team and investing in CCTV
- ◆ improve infrastructure either by our own improvements or working in conjunction with District & County Councils;
- ◆ take a proactive & informed approach to the major house-building plans which will inevitably impact on our area over the coming years
- ◆ aid local groups and charities and to help them provide support, recreational facilities or other benefits which have a positive impact on so many of our residents.

It gives me pleasure to outline some of this year's achievements and local improvements.

### ***Coronation Gardens***

The refurbishment has been a major project for the Parish Council spanning this year and last. Work was completed in the spring of 2007 and I am sure you will agree that we have a really attractive central focus to Slip End.

Our thanks go to the team responsible for the planning, design and planting which include Karen Casoria, Val Church & Pauline Smith, led by Cllr Daniel. We are delighted that the construction work was carried out by local builder Mark Short of Inkerman Building and Roofing, who has done a great job.

The official opening of the gardens took place on May 19<sup>th</sup> when we formally thanked all the local businesses that have supported this project most generously: Fantastic Fireworks, The Slip End Citroen Garage and Airparks.



### ***Crawley Playground***

Last winter a smart new “Kissing Gate” was installed at the entrance to the playground providing easier access for prams, buggies and wheelchairs. Maintenance work was undertaken on the play equipment and on ground surfaces. We are pleased to see a decline in vandalism when compared to last year. Funds are being accumulated for further investment in the playground in due course.

### ***Envirocrime Team***

In the Spring of 2007 the Parish Council had a presentation from Martin Gregson from South Beds District Council’s Envirocrime Team. The Team deals with a range of issues which impact on our environment such as graffiti, fly-posting, fly-tipping and the dumping of waste, nuisance lighting and noise.

We work with them to reduce dog waste problems especially around Slip End Village where penalties will be enforced. Progress has also been made on the reduction of rubbish around the entrance to the Timberlands site in Pepperstock.

Please bring any problems to the attention of our Clerk who will liaise with the Envirocrime team on your behalf.

### ***Aley Green Cemetery***

Ken Crossett and Geoff Daniel sit on the management committee and with their involvement, much hard work has gone on this year to improve appearance there and in matters relating to its insurance and ownership. The Parish Council has also funded monument safety testing at both Aley Green and in the churchyard at St Andrews.

### ***Safety & Crime Prevention - Policing***

In a “mixed” year, we have developed a good working relationship with local beat Manager PC Louise Howard who, with her colleague PCSO Darrell Saunders-Fern, attends Parish Council meetings. Problems caused by youths hanging around and causing disturbance

reduced noticeably when she introduced more visible policing in the evenings.

Generally, we perceive vandalism to have declined but our crime figures vary quite considerably from month to month. During the year our police team HQ moved from Dunstable to Leighton Buzzard and it remains the Parish Council’s view that this has a negative impact on response times. We continue to challenge this move and its impact on our residents and we continue to request more visible policing.

We work closely with the Police, making full use of our CCTV systems in order to support their criminal investigations. Prominent signage has been put in place in the “black spots”, particularly around parking areas where cars have been targeted by criminals. Car owners must take great care keeping their vehicles secure and valuables out of sight. Overall, increased vigilance all round has proved effective.

### ***“No Cold Calling”***

Signs were put up at strategic points last year but we were disappointed that many were blown down in the wind (possibly with some helping hands) and getting replacements was difficult, eventually being replaced with durable, metal signs. Hope is that this initiative will reduce nuisance callers in the area. Residents have had some difficulties contacting the support team but these have been addressed and service has improved.

### ***CCTV***

A new digital system is under trial at the Playing Field, with a view to a permanent upgrade. CCTV systems throughout are under continuous review and improvement. We have provided the Police with tapes on a number of occasions.

### ***Infrastructure - M1***

The J6-J10 widening project continues to provide dramatic local impact. Residents have suffered considerably increased journey times

due to local road closures. A meeting last year had teams from Balfour Beatty Skanska Joint Venture (BBSJV) and the Highways Agency face local residents. The Village Hall was packed, standing room only at the back. The team fielded many challenging questions from residents who made clear the negative impact of the project on roads, wildlife and general appearance of our local countryside.

The positive outcome of this meeting has been that BBSJV have maintained their commitment and sent representatives to every single Parish Council meeting we have held since, so that any resident can challenge them on any issue. The good news is that, overall, the project is on track to meet for completion at the end of 2008 but latest indication is that the *opening of Pepperstock bridge is further delayed to mid-October*. Public Relations officer Suzy Keeley keeps us updated on road closures and information, via our Clerk, is uploaded to the Slip End website by Peter King. The matter of water tankers draining local water supplies in the Pepperstock area was resolved.

Concerns remain over the condition of the section of Half Moon Lane running down to the A1081 (currently closed) and the damage done to Woodside Lane due to heavy use as a diversion route. The Parish Council, supported by County Councillor Richard Stay, is working hard to ensure that these routes will be returned to good condition.

BBSJV supported Slip End Lower School by providing a large paved area around the school pond, which had been inaccessible for years and is now an attractive and educational feature for the pupils.

Planning is at the consultative stage for the next phase of M1 widening, J10-J13, to the north of the Parish. Gwyn Williams of Costain Carillion Joint Venture (CCJV), who are responsible for the J10-J13 section, has already attended meetings of both the Parish Council and the Playing Field Association and will attend again in the future, when work gets under way..



*Jonathan Haynes (left) attends council meetings on behalf of Balfour Beatty, seen here with Gwyn Williams, Public Liaison Manager with Costain Carillion Joint Venture who are getting involved with the J10-J13 project.*

Thankfully there will be a gap in time between completion of the J6-J10 section and the start of work north of J10-J13 and details of the new project may be obtained from the Clerk.

### ***Traffic Lights***

The traffic lights at the crossroads have operated in a bizarre and unsafe fashion for a considerable period and we know that many residents have reported this to Bedfordshire Highways.

The Parish Council have put pressure on County to resolve this issue and, as I write, belief is that they are now functioning in a predictable sequence. We are thankful that no serious accidents occurred there.

### ***Junction Newlands Road and A1081***

Led by Cllr Fuell and supported by District and County Councillors, pressure was put on to have traffic lights installed at this difficult and dangerous junction. Our application was given serious consideration with all parties, including the police, being involved but it was unsuccessful.

However, we are now getting together a petition for a roundabout and whilst it is early days, we have some confidence that this major investment will be agreed. Work at the A1081 entrance to Luton Hoo has meant that lighting is now installed, an improvement for which we have campaigned, for years.

### ***Half Moon Junction***

We are also petitioning for a mini-roundabout to join the two awkward traffic islands at the junctions of Pepsal End Lane, Half Moon Lane and Front street. We are also pushing for a reduction in the speed limit here down from 60mph to 40mph.

### ***Summer Street***

Double Yellow Lines have been applied for at the junction of Summer Street and Church Road, that will run just 10m along Summer Street. It is hoped that this will prevent inconsiderate parking, particularly by patrons of the Frog and Rhubarb, which can make turning out of Summer Street hazardous. There is large pub car park which, with use, should alleviate these problems.

### ***Speed Activated Sign***

In March a “Slow Down”, speed activated sign was installed on Markyate Road, funded by Parish Partnership Grant money plus some money from Parish resources. The sign is solar powered and we have been assured that it will still function well during the winter months, but if it fails to do its job properly we can add wind-power (or revert to mains power). We hope that this sign will encourage drivers to adhere to the 30mph limit on this busy road.

### ***Drainage***

Problems with drainage on Church Road near the nursing home, were resolved following Council pressure supported by Cllr Stay.

### ***Housing Development Proposals***

Members of the Parish Council have been heavily involved in responding to the threat of major housing development in our area. Slip End has linked up with the parishes of Caddington and Hyde and we are working together to robustly oppose any plans that propose large scale development in our area.

Whilst the Council is willing to consider sustainable and appropriate development which will be of benefit to our local schools and businesses, we will do everything possible

to reject plans that threaten the loss of our village and hamlet boundaries.

We are considering the 10 options which have been put forward in the Draft Core Strategy document. Five of these plans propose significant house building around Slip End and Caddington. Our Parish Council has reserve funds available to enable us to secure professional support to reject these proposals. Our Councillors are attending briefing sessions at District and County level so that we are fully aware of all developments. Not only do we oppose the loss of our semi-rural landscape and the impact upon the greenbelt, we are aware that our current infrastructure (particularly roads and drainage) would be unable to support development of any magnitude.

Parish Council response to the strategy will be submitted at the end of the current consultation phase at the end of October.

### ***Support to Local Groups***

The Parish Council has had pleasure in being able to support a number of local groups and charities over the past twelve months.

These include the Playgroup and the Mums & Toddler groups, both held at the Village Hall and to the Beaver and Cubs groups held at Slip End Lower School. We have also given grants to the Friendship Club and Brickhill Residents Association and the Bedfordshire Road Victim's Trust.

Other donations have been made to the Royal British Legion and the Renaissance Project in Bedford. We continue to provide gifts to the more senior members of our community at Christmas, and appreciate the support we receive from local businesses which enables us to do this. A grant was also given to the Slip End Playing Fields Charity.

The Parish Council has now introduced their own grant application form and all local groups are welcome to apply to us for project funding. Whilst resources remain limited the Council is eager to support local ventures

which are of benefit to any section of our community and applications for 2008-9 need to be submitted before we set our budget in November.

### ***Playing Fields***

Those familiar with the area will have noticed recently that work is underway on the new Tennis Courts, which are being re-sited due to M1 encroachment on the Playing Field. At the moment there is a temporary lull in this work due to some planning permission matters and it is hoped that work will re-commence shortly.

Also, the Playing Fields Management Committee, an independent, volunteer group, have confirmed that financial compensation has been received due to loss of some land to the M1 widening scheme. Compensation funding also covers all costs of the new courts.

With the next phase of M1 widening from junction 10 to junction J13 due to start in 2009-2010, it is expected that further Playing Field land will be compulsorily purchased. The committee are considering how best to respond to this situation to best preserve this valuable recreational facility to the benefit of parish residents.

The Playing Fields provide an excellent recreational resource for our local community's relaxation and enjoyment. With several other local volunteers, Cllrs Philip Penman and Steve Fuell sit on the management committee dealing with all matters relating to the Playing Field and the Peter Edwards Hall. All upkeep and maintenance is funded by booking fees and we hope that residents will continue to support the hall and activities held there, so that this may continue.

### ***Slip End Youth Club***

I would like to thank Janet Crawley, our newest Councillor for all the hard work she has done in a very short time to apply for grant money to set up a Youth Club. If successful, the club will run weekly on a Wednesday evening at Peter Edwards Hall and will provide a very wide range of resources for 10 to 16 year olds.

It will also provide opportunities for local adults to train as Youth Workers for both paid and volunteer roles.

The Parish Council is in full support of this project which will provide our young people with meaningful activities, not just at the club but also on trips and outings during weekends and school holidays.

Additionally, Steve Fuell is looking into the benefits of a permanent "Youth Shelter", a facility which has been a popular addition to Caddington and other local parishes. Grant applications has been put in specifically for a youth shelter and bye-laws relating to the Playground are being reviewed to this end.

### ***... And finally***

I hope the above provides some insight to the range of work achieved by our Councillors over the last twelve months. There have been many other small achievements and I would like to thank all our Councillors for their hard work and commitment. Please don't forget that the Parish Council is wholly funded by you via your Council Tax.

*The agenda for the next meeting is posted on noticeboards dotted around the Parish at the Slip End Post Office, the bus stop on Half Moon Lane and in Woodside on the corner of Manor Road. Parish Council meetings take place in the Village Hall on the first Monday of each month at 8pm, unless notified otherwise. You can ring Nikki West, our Clerk, to check the details of the next meeting. Come along, see local democracy at work and have your say.*

*Christine Benson  
Chairman, Slip End Parish Council*

*On the following pages you will find a number of items from a number of our local councillors, Police officers, M1 contractors, etc which may help fill in some personal backgrounds to augment the Chairman's report.*



**Bedfordshire**  
county council



Funded both directly by you through the Council Tax and by direct grant from central government, Bedfordshire County Council delivers services across the county. In 2007/8, £560 million will be spent on schools, adult and children's social services, trading standards, highway maintenance, static and mobile libraries, cultural and other services. Beds CC is responsible for household waste disposal, collected from your doorstep.

In addition £250 million will be spent on capital investments such as new schools and roads. Much work also goes into strategic planning and working with other public service providers.



*Councillor Richard Stay* has been our elected representative at County Hall for over 10 years. His County Division covers Slip End Caddington, Hyde and Kensworth. Political responsibility for County Council finance goes with his position as Cabinet Member for Finance. Richard is also the County Council Deputy Leader.

'Surgeries' are held monthly, see Parish News Diary page for details. County, District and Parish Councillors and the Police are available to discuss local issues with residents. Go along with matters which you wish to draw to the attention of these authorities. Further contact information on Parish @ Large page, but often, talking face to face is valuable, so for that get along to Heathfield School.

*Councillor Philip Penman* has taken an interest in local government for 16 out of 22 years as a Pepperstock resident. He is a Parish Councillor and, with colleagues Ruth Gammons & Sally Hills, represents Caddington, Hyde & Slip End at the District Council. He leads at Parish

level on planning and financial matters. At District level, he is Portfolio Holder for Resources, financial matters and setting of the District's portion of the Council Tax.

Philip's other areas of responsibility included in his portfolio are Human Resources, Benefits, Council Tax Collection & Audit. Currently working on proposals for the new Unitary Authority to succeed the current District and County Councils, he works full time at his own company in St Albans. In the village, he is also Chairman and a Trustee of Slip End Playing Field, a registered charity.

*Councillor Steve Fuell* has been busy with M1 related traffic diversions and congestion, particularly around A1081 junctions in the area. Ideas about traffic light installations have been fruitless on cost grounds. Intense considerations have been made with an eye to the future, when the Pepperstock bridge reopens, with a revised road layout scheme. Beds CC agree that a roundabout at Newlands Road junction will be installed in the next year or so. Steve has been busy trying to improve other road safety issues such as the installation of yellow lines at the junction of Summer St and Church Road

CCTV matters have kept Steve busy too, with improvements to the security around the Village hall and Church Close.



*Councillors Philip Penman (left) & Steve Fuell*



# Welcome to the Parish of SLIP END



*Cllrs Ken Crossett (left) and Geoff Daniel (below)* have responsibilities for garden areas, cemeteries, monuments and street furniture which includes seats and benches, bus shelters, litter bins, etc. In particular, over the past year Geoff has been active with a group in the refurbishment of Coronation Garden on the crossroads and Ken has been very busy with matters relating to the local cemeteries at Aley Green and the churchyard here in Slip End.

Both councillors are encouraged by some improvement in the appearance of the area and with increased volunteer help, particularly at Coronation Garden but also in Crawley Close.



*Cllrs Mike McKivett* has been on the Parish Council for two years but still consider himself to be the 'new boy' when compared to some of his more experienced colleagues. He has a special interest in Highways and Policing and is particularly concerned about speeding motorist travelling through our village and the frequent failure of our traffic/pedestrian crossing lights at the crossroads. He fears the combination of the two could one day cause a tragedy, particularly as the crossing is used by so many of our children.

Mike is also a member of the emergency planning group which feeds into the County Councils emergency plan. This group makes contingency plans should the very worst

happen on our doorstep from a tanker blaze to an aircraft loss.

Mike has also been active in fundraising for the Coronation Gardens and was successful in securing a private sector contribution towards the cost of the refurbishment.

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*Cllr Janet Crawley* has recently submitted applications on behalf of the Parish Council, for grant funding, seeking to improve what is on offer for the young people of the Parish. Initial funds are being sought for a youth shelter: Steve Fuell has been working on what the shelter will look like and where it might be sited. Hopes are that the shelter will be somewhere near the Village Hall.

The Parish Council is looking for volunteers and paid youth workers or trainee youth workers and would like to hear from anyone in the Parish who is able to help our youngsters. If you have any thoughts in this direction, please contact Janet or Nikki, the Parish Clerk.

Janet is keen to explore more Re-cycling possibilities and reports elsewhere in this issue about ingenious use of kitchen waste.



*Councillors Mike McKivett (left) & Janet Crawley*

## **M1 J6A - J10 WIDENING PROJECT UPDATE**

J10 bridges are now completed, permanent white lines will be going down in early October. Eventually new traffic signals will be installed on the roundabout.

Unfortunately, bad weather this summer delayed work on Pepperstock Bridge. Hopes were to open at the end of September but now plans are for the middle of October. Works on the access tracks are ongoing and the footpaths in Church Road should be open in the middle of September.

The Environmental Barrier is in the process of being erected around the junction 10 and junction 9 areas. Some landscaping such as sowing grass seed has taken place, during the autumn we will commence other planting in areas where the works have been completed.

### **Some interesting facts and figures:**

- ◆ 288,000 tons of concrete will be used
- ◆ 550,000 tons of asphalt will be used
- ◆ 7 kilometres of environmental barrier will be erected
- ◆ 45 kilometres of drainage pipes will be installed
- ◆ 98 kilometres of electrical cabling will be installed for 1700 lighting columns and the highway communication systems
- ◆ over 2 million tons of earth will be moved

- ◆ 32 kilometres of concrete safety barrier will be installed along the central reservation
- ◆ Landscaping will be put in to replace that lost, followed by five years aftercare
- ◆ Archaeological and ecological surveys were done at the outset in order to preserve local wildlife and historical artefacts

### **Charities**

Balfour Beatty & Skanska adopt charities, usually for a period of one or two years at a time. Balfour Beatty are supporting NCH and Groundwork and Skanska supports a hospice.

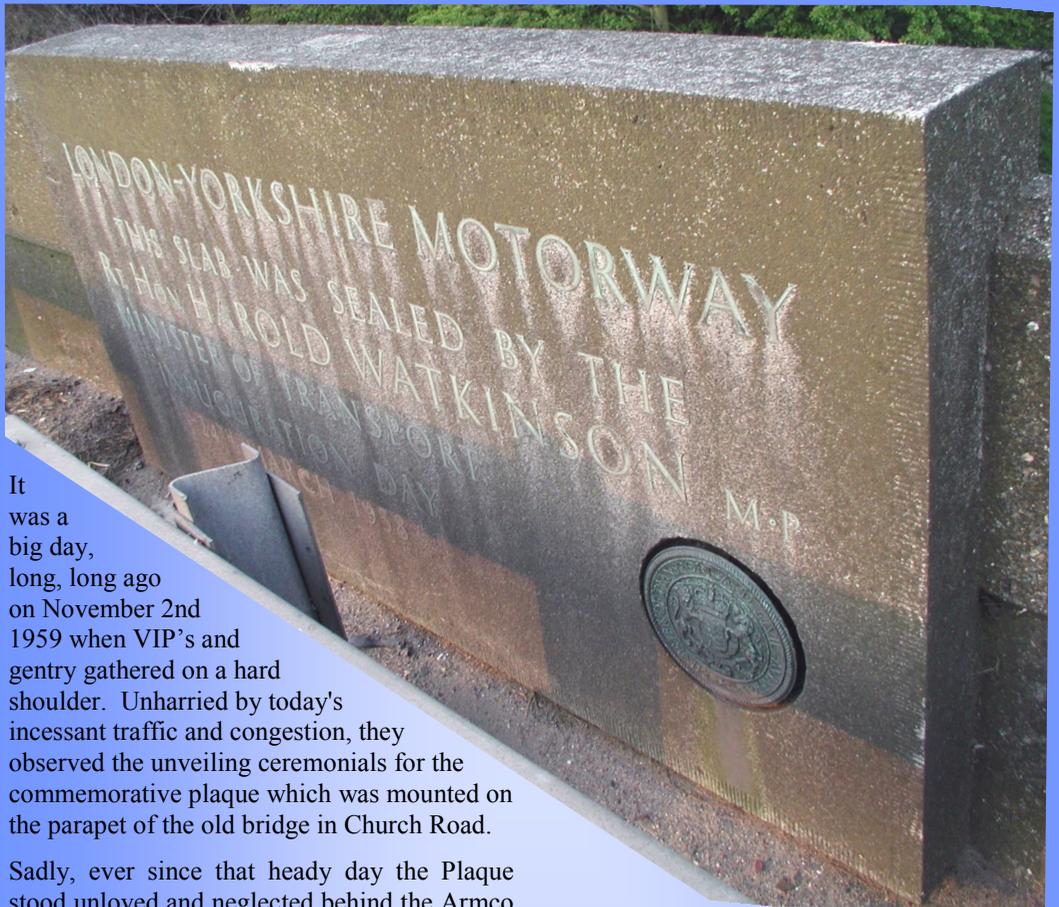
At last year's dinner dance we raised a total of £1750. Half was passed to Skanska for their charities and half to Balfour Beatty towards National Children's Homes.

The J6A-10 project has adopted Air Ambulance as the site charity, donating £500 for the project reaching 500,000 man hours without lost time injury. The grand total paid to them was £1600. We continue to raise money for other charities throughout the year, including Red Nose Day, and Breakthrough for Cancer.

*Suzy Keeley  
Public Relations Officer  
BBSJV*

*Here's one from Mike Plummer's archives: the late J10 Mk 1 pictured during construction in the late '50s.*





It was a big day, long, long ago on November 2nd 1959 when VIP's and gentry gathered on a hard shoulder. Unharried by today's incessant traffic and congestion, they observed the unveiling ceremonials for the commemorative plaque which was mounted on the parapet of the old bridge in Church Road.

Sadly, ever since that heady day the Plaque stood unloved and neglected behind the Armco on J10 north slip, splattered by rubber dust and plastered with grime and spray.

Local hearsay suggests that, with Ministerial and Contractual funding less stringent in those days, Slip Enders were treated to festivities at the Royal Exchange. Will we see the like again? Today's hearsay suggests the Highways Agency might be planning a similar treat at the conclusion of the J6-J10 Project, but first they need a little local advice. Perhaps you could give some thought to this and help?

***Having tenderly removed the plaque from the old bridge, coddled it in a warm storeroom for some months, Balfour Beatty are at a loss as to where its final (?) resting place should be. Do you have any suggestions?***

To set the ball rolling, the Parish News editorial team deliberated and their preference

is that it should be mounted somewhere on the new set-up in Church Road, high up, out of the reach of our local criminals; but what do you think? If you've any ideas or suggestions, Parish News would like to hear them. A lively Parish response to this issue may add cajoling pressure on the authorities to push the boat out a bit, come the Grand re-Unveiling Day on completion of the J6-J10 project. Get those suggestions rolling in!

*David Kingston*





Local contact with the Police may be made by calling the Safer Neighbourhood Team Rural Sergeant 01582 473412/07876 130614)

or with our Community Police Officers Louise Howard and Darrell Saunders-Fern. Louise and Darrell, often around the Parish are keen to make direct contacts with us. If you have any concerns, questions or wish to introduce yourself, you will find them very approachable.

*I joined Bedfordshire Police as a Constable in July 2003 becoming a Beat Manager in March 2006. I cover Slip End, East Hyde, Caddington, Studham, Kensworth and Whipsnade. My work is varied and includes working closely with the partnerships to help solve problems in the community, providing a visible presence, visiting people at home, attending meetings, offering crime prevention advice and lots more, which is why I enjoy this role so much.*



PC 5440 Louise Howard  
01582 473462/07747 006707

Email: [snt.caddington@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:snt.caddington@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

*I joined Bedfordshire Police as a PCSO in September 2005, covering the same area as Louise. I enjoy my role and find it very rewarding working with the community. I aim to develop the role further by getting more involved with local groups and initiatives and build stronger relationships within the community. I can quite often be found patrolling the above villages so please feel free to approach me for a chat.*



PCSO 4335  
Darrell Saunders-Fern  
01582 473408

[snt.caddington@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:snt.caddington@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk)

## **A NOTE FROM THE PARISH CLERK**



I have just completed my first year as Clerk to the Parish Council. I have learnt so much and have been made to feel very welcome by all the Councillors.

Until I took on this job, I had no idea what the Parish Council did or what happened at the meetings. I think many local residents may also be unaware of the kind of decisions and changes that their Parish Council can make. At some meetings we get quite a few members of the public which is really encouraging and it would be great to see more people there. You can sit and listen or take an opportunity to speak if you have a matter you wish to raise.

The police are usually represented by PC Louise Howard, Sergeant Kay Lichfield or PCSO Darrell Saunders-Fern. Additionally we have guest speakers and representatives from Balfour Beatty and Costain Carilion who can answer your questions about the M1 widening.

You can contact me between meetings to ask for an agenda item to be included: the agenda is displayed on noticeboards at the Post Office, in Pepperstock (Half Moon Lane bus stop notice board) and Manor Road, Woodside. The agenda goes up on the notice boards on the Wednesday before each meeting.

If you can't attend any of the meetings but would like to know what kind of things are discussed, you can view the minutes on the Slip End Website or contact me and I can email or post you a copy. I am happy to deal with any queries you may have by phone or email and can advise you if something is a matter for the District or County Council, and put you in touch with the right person.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors for their support, advice and encouragement over the past year.

Nikki West

*Very much in our thoughts these days, Councillor Crawley is going a step further with kitchen waste re-cycling. There is a lot of interesting information on this and related subjects. For a start, take a look at [www.originalorganics.co.uk/wormeries.htm](http://www.originalorganics.co.uk/wormeries.htm)*

Setting up a wormery is how to get rid of all the kitchen waste. Our wormary arrived as a small bin. ("Not another one!" says husband Steve). The bin has a tap in the bottom to drain off the liquid manure which, according to the leaflet, the worms produce in abundance.

The worms are supplied separately, so I have sent off the voucher which came with the wormery and I am eagerly awaiting my wiggly arrivals.

Meanwhile, I have been sorting out bedding, peat mixed with paper from the office shredder. When we have received the worms, I will report under a "Worms that Turned" column in future issues of Parish News and how my kitchen waste is being re-cycled.

*Janet Crawley*



The Club was originally formed as a scale model boat club, with interests in sail, steam and a small nucleus of 'fast electric's', but has over the years grown to include all types of modelling from boats, trains, cars, planes and indoor helicopters.



As a club we are not very competitive. Nevertheless we do hold a number of competition regattas during the summer season. The competitions themselves are light hearted and usually combined with 'public open days' where we encourage the public to participate in our hobby. These events normally culminate in a club barbecue and evening sail.

Sailing is every Sunday morning about 11am at Wardown Park Lake. Club meetings are on the second Thursday of every month held at Warden Hill Community Hall at the rear of the Warden Tavern on the New Bedford Road (A6) in Luton, starting at 8.00pm. Refreshments are available. Also members and guest speakers give regular talks.

If you would like to know more about our club please ring our Secretary Graham Rumble on 01442 255358 or [www.lutonmodelboat.co.uk](http://www.lutonmodelboat.co.uk)

## MAKE OUR ROADS SAFER!

Cllr Steve Fuell is endeavouring to get improved traffic arrangements in the area. To help move the process forward the Parish Council is organising a petition to Bedfordshire County Council, which is responsible for road changes. If you are agreeable, please fill out the petition form below and send it to Slip End Parish Council at any of the following addresses:

Cllr Christine Benson, 15 Claydown Way, Slip End, Beds, LU1 4DU

Cllr Steve Fuel, 1 Crawley Close, Slip End, Beds, LU1 4BT

The Parish Clerk, 'The Limes', 43 Summer Street, Slip End Beds, LU1 4BL



### PETITION TO BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FOR:

**A Roundabout at the NEULANDS ROAD - A1081(Harpenden Road) junction.  
Improvements to New Penny Lane between the A1081 and Pepperstock.  
Improved road layout including a Roundabout at Pepperstock crossroads.**

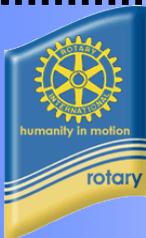
*These road junctions have a very poor accident record, are dangerous and not fit for purpose. There are unacceptable delays at peak times at the two A1081 junctions. Slip End needs urgent action to reduce risks to motorists.*

**We the undersigned demand urgent action by the Highway Authority to reduce the poor accident record at these junctions and to improve traffic flows into and out of the Parish of Slip End.**

Name(s):

Postcode:

Signature(s)



### Christmas Lunch Project

For more than forty years the Members of The Rotary Club of Dunstable have provided and delivered hot Christmas lunches to local people who are unable to leave their homes or who have no family support available. With the continued extension of the holiday period at this time the housebound may have little or no outside contact for up to two weeks.

The visit by the Rotarian who delivers this meal in the middle of winter not only provides some essential nourishment to those in poor health but also gives a chance for them to have a little human contact and conversation. This can be of as much value to them as the meal.

In order to allow time for these contacts, while avoiding any delay in making subsequent calls, each Rotarian will only deliver to a small number, usually two, addresses.

Changes in the structure of the Social Services with devolution of their responsibility has led to difficulties in obtaining details of those who may need our assistance with this project. Any assistance that you can give to allow us to contact those who may benefit from our attention will be most welcome, all information is treated confidentially.

Details can be given to any member of the Rotary Club of Dunstable or sent direct to:

*Owen Pinney  
Community Service Committee Chairman  
19 Elm Grove, Toddington, LU5 6BJ*

# 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  
Water leaks: 0845 7823333

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Christine Benson: 456200  
[Christinebenson@bensons-autosupplies.co.uk](mailto:Christinebenson@bensons-autosupplies.co.uk)  
Stephen Fuell: 417792  
[stevefuell@f2s.com](mailto:stevefuell@f2s.com)  
Philip Penman: 455185  
[PhilipPenman@aol.com](mailto:PhilipPenman@aol.com)  
Geoff Daniel: 424363  
[geoffdaniel@btinternet.com](mailto:geoffdaniel@btinternet.com)  
Ken Crossett 414168  
[kencrossett@slipend.co.uk](mailto:kencrossett@slipend.co.uk)  
Mike McKeivitt: 720596  
[mike.mckeivitt@mndassociation.org](mailto:mike.mckeivitt@mndassociation.org)  
Janet Crawley: 07752 902070  
[crawley\\_janet@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:crawley_janet@yahoo.co.uk)  
CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL  
Nikkie West: 402312  
[parishclerk@slipend.co.uk](mailto:parishclerk@slipend.co.uk)

## DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Sallyann Hills: 721343  
[shills@capitalmanor.co.uk](mailto:shills@capitalmanor.co.uk)  
Philip Penman: 455185  
[PhilipPenman@aol.com](mailto:PhilipPenman@aol.com)  
Ruth Gammons 738398  
[fairgreen@btopenworld.com](mailto:fairgreen@btopenworld.com)

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Richard Stay: 724685  
[Richard.Stay@bedscc.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Stay@bedscc.gov.uk)

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Margaret Moran: 01582 731882  
[sultanau@parliament.uk](mailto: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](http://slipend.co.uk)**

*Vegetable Garden*

After planting as many spring cabbages as possible, be sure to protect them against the local rabbit population as this is a most valuable crop at a thin time of year. As turnips mature, lift a good supply and store in a frost proof place during winter. They keep well in a heap in any dry shed or outhouse, but are all the better for a light covering of dry sand. Any left in the ground should have their tops cut off and these will provide a useful crop in late winter and early spring.

Dig and manure the vegetable plots and turn over any areas dug earlier, removing and burning any couch grass roots. Keep vacant ground clear of rotting and decaying matter as these will harbour pests and diseases if left lying about.

*Our gardening correspondent has spotted a few cauliflowers not yet having a leaf folded over for curd protection: frost will be striking soon, so this is positively your last warning!*

*Flower & Fruit Garden*

Deciduous shrubs can be planted out now or lifted to other quarters; new roses can also be planted, then make the ground around very firm. Take cuttings of shrubs, inserting them



**CAR WASH  
JUST £5!**

Stuart Baird is busy raising funds for his Kenya trip where he will spend some time on Community Projects and enjoy a walk in an elephant reserve!

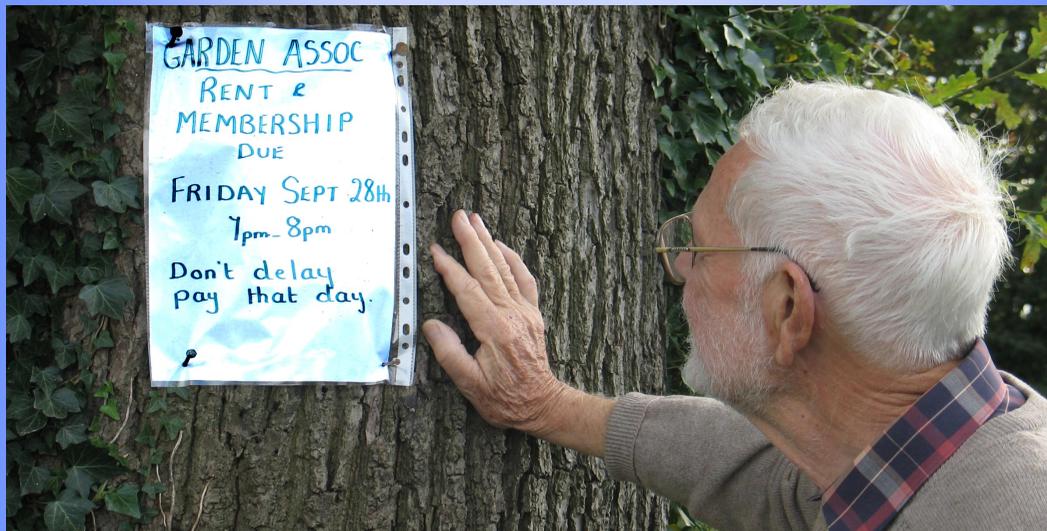
*So if your car needs a wash  
call Stuart on 738205*

firm and deep, with some sand mixed into the soil. Unlike many hardy bulbs, hyacinths benefit from a good drying off and there is nothing to be gained by planting out before late October.

*General Work*

Gather fallen leaves, particularly from the rock garden where, if left lying thickly, may damage or kill off the plants.

Now is the time to repair and turn lawns and when cutting season is over, clean off the mower and think about having it serviced. For motor mowers, try to leave little if any fuel in the tank as this may degrade over winter and give problems in the spring.



## *A Sad Tale of Disappearing Pumpkins*

Every year I grow pumpkins on my allotment for my grandchildren to enjoy at Halloween. This year they won't have any because they have all been cut and every one, except the smallest, taken away. If any Mum or Dad knows of pumpkins recently acquired from a doubtful source, I would be really grateful if they could arrange for them to be returned to me at 2 Summer Street or just return them to my allotment.



Equally sad is that, had they been left for a few weeks longer, they would probably have grown to twice the size!!

*Val Church*

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### ***FRIENDSHIP CLUB***

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Our last outing was to Southend-on-Sea: what a smashing place it is, everything is so lovely and clean. Just 2 hours drive away, it is well worth a trip, a good day out. Those choosing not to walk up the hill to the shops used the recently refurbished cliff lift, up from the sea front.

*We are pleased to report that May King is recovering after her fall last month. In the L&D for two weeks, she is home now back with Hilda and getting out and about again.*

Edie Ham is also suffering now with a broken hip and we wish her a speedy recovery.

*Pam King*



### *10 good reasons to be involved with OCC:*

- ◆ Shoe boxes are simply done and easily organised.
- ◆ Age and lack of experience are not barriers, children especially love being involved.
- ◆ Connect with others to show the true meaning of Christmas.
- ◆ Teach the power of the gospel to children and their families (the Good Samaritan).
- ◆ Churches and community work together.
- ◆ Get hands-on experience: knit scarves, drive vans, check and fill boxes.
- ◆ Reach children overseas, in places where there is very little money for food and clothes, with expressions of love. The joy of receiving a box is indescribable.
- ◆ Discover more about other countries, cultures and Christian mission across the world.
- ◆ Develop skills and confidence by volunteering to present demonstrations in schools and churches.
- ◆ Unite together in thanksgiving at a Shoe Box Sunday celebration or special service.

If you are not involved already please take time to think about Operation Christmas Child, it means so much to a child who has nothing. Satisfaction is guaranteed, whether it is in making up a box, volunteering to help at the warehouse or donating items for the boxes.

*Leaflets will be available at St Andrew's Church in October or contact Teresa (482681) or Sue (733507) for information.*

*Sue Briggs*



***SLIP END TENNIS CLUB***

# **QUIZ NIGHT**

**SATURDAY 13<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER**

**Peter Edwards Hall Slip End Playing Field**

**Teams Maximum of 8 People**

**£6 per person including Supper**

**Bring your knives & forks, Drinks & Glasses**

**(Doors open 7.00pm - 7.30pm start)**

**Call Steve on 414162 for Tickets**





## **FANCY A NATTER WHILE YOU KNIT?**

**THEN COME TO  
KNIT 'N' NATTER CLUB!**

We will be meeting on 11th & 25th October, 1:30 to 2:45. Open to all regardless of ability, bring along any knitting projects you have on the go,, needlework, crochet, etc... Or just drop by for the chat and a cuppa!

Thank you to all who have donated wool: we would be most grateful for more as we will be knitting for the Christmas Child campaign.

*Contact me, Julie Taylor, on  
413912 or e-mail  
duncan.taylor@btinternet.com.*

## **Clown Hand Puppets Pattern**

You need oddments of double knitting wool, including white and colour suitable for hair and 1 pair size 8 (4mm) needles.

Cast on 44 stitches work 6 rows in rib. Change colour and work 24 rows in stocking stitch in various striped wool.



Next row: Change colour wool and cast on 10 stitches. Knit back 32 altogether, turn leaving remaining 22 stitches on a spare needle, cast on 10 sts. K.4 P34 K4.

Continue for a further 6 rows remembering to knit the first and last 4 stitches on purl rows.

Cast off 12 sts. Knit to end of row. Cast off 12sts. Purl to end of row. Slip these stitches onto spare needle, and break off wool. Rejoin wool to 22 sts on first spare needle, and work to match. On last row purl across the stitches left on the second needle giving total of 36.

Join on white wool for the face and K 18 sts. Join on colour for hair and K further 18 sts. (Taking care to twist two yarns together at join.)

Work 10 more rows in stocking stitch twisting yarns each time to avoid a hole. Join on first colour for hat.

Work 2 rows garter stitch. Next Row S.1.K.1. p.s.s.o. K14 K2 tog. S.1.K.1.p.s.s.o. K14 K2 tog. Knit to end Next Row Purl.. Repeat these last two rows until 2 sts remain. (The middle number of K's will decrease each time.) Cast off. Embroider facial details on white piece of knitting. Sew up.

(Your imagination could come up with many variations, e.g. Father Christmas)

*Thank you so much for your time, and please rest assured that these little puppets will be treasured for years!*

We're supporting **National  
Knitting  
Week**

13-21 OCTOBER 2007

**are you?**

[www.knittinginstitute.co.uk](http://www.knittinginstitute.co.uk)

*In support of National Knitting Week & the Christmas Child Campaign, why not have a go at this Hand Puppet from OCC, ideal for dropping into those shoe boxes. (A pair will serve as mitts.) It won't take long and might encourage you to get those needles tapping, then call by our fortnightly sessions?*

# Brownies

We still have a few places for any girl over 6½ years old, as we will be losing a few of the older girls who hopefully will be going to Guides. If you are interested call Gillian on 01582 723109.



Gillian Plummer,  
Brown Owl.

*Below: An "ex-Pats" edition special. It was Harvest Supper-time in the Village Hall again here last Friday. Here's a shot from an earlier HS: Dulcie Bailey & Michael Withy doing their thing sometime in the '80s.*

## FANCY A TWIRL?

Did you know that regular Dances are held in the Village Hall?

On Saturdays evenings listed below, there's a lively session including a live band.



Dates will also be posted on the Diary page of Parish News. We dance to a live band, all styles included to suit everyone. Cost is just £5, which includes a plated buffet! B-Y-O drinks for an enjoyable night out.

October 27th  
November 17th  
December 8th  
New Years Eve

*Call Shirley Knapton on 412506 beforehand so that catering arrangements can be made.*



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## **ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH**

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Thanks to everyone who left fruit, jars and vegetables on my doorstep. The preserve teams have been at work restocking shelves for the Autumn Fayre, after two successful stalls; at Houghton Regis and at the Caddington Show.

The October Coffee Evening will be on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7.30. Pat will be selling all sorts of cards and calendars. Money raised will go to Cancer Research. Our Autumn Fayret will start at mid-day on the 13<sup>m</sup> October. We will be serving lunches as well as afternoon teas and all the usual stalls will be there. Please pop along and join the fun.

On October 14<sup>m</sup> at 11am there will be an all age worship led by Steve Joans, everyone is welcome to come, coffee will be served afterwards. October 21<sup>st</sup> there is a Holy Communion service with Rev Julia Dowding.

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October we will have a stall at the Houghton Regis Craft Market. Sunday November 4<sup>th</sup> 11am is our Junior Missions for All service led by Jo Prowse. Our children have collected £691 this year and smashed all our previous records (it is £241 up on last year) Well done to all the children! And the Harvest Auction raised £230 for Water Aid, thanks to all who attended.

*Ann Meader*



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## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

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**Women's  
Institute**

We celebrated our 52nd Birthday with Studham, Totternhoe and Dunstable members as our guests. After our business formalities, we all joined together singing Jerusalem, we sat down to our birthday meal. By the remarks I heard this was thoroughly enjoyed by all. With full tummys we relaxed back to be entertained by the outstanding antics of 'Razzle Dazzle'. We all wished we had their energy. Lorna Kalisz baked the birthday cake; I wish we had a birthday every meeting, lovely Lorna!

We meet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday in the monthly at Baptist Church Hall from 7.30: see Diary Page for more information.

***You will be so welcome!***

*Patricia Crick*

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## **FARLEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH**

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It was packed at Farley Hill Methodists for the Anniversary Lunch last month. Reverend Betty Trinder, former Pastor, came from Yarmouth to be the Guest of Honour. Following the welcome by Ken Cameron (FHM), David Davies (St John the Baptist) said grace, then an excellent meal prepared by Iris Butcher and Judy Harper, was served. Harry Sullivan (World Wide Church of God) proposed the Toast to Reverend Trinder, commenting on the work she had put in to found the Lunch Club. Reverend Betty said how delighted she was to find the Club in a most healthy state and congratulated all concerned. "The happy smiley faces are a pleasure to see."

The October Lunch takes place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup>, two courses with tea at £2.50. Members of FHM attended the World Wide Church of God Ladies day on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September for a day of hymns, prayers and speakers.

*Ken Cameron*

*Celebrate the growing and decoration of pumpkins, at "Pumpkin Arts in Beds & Herts" during 27th & 28th October at the historic Luton Hoo Walled Garden*



You are invited to submit entries for the best painted or decorated pumpkin, the largest, weirdest or most wonderful. Enjoy local crafts and customs displayed in original buildings of the 18th century walled garden, which is being painstakingly restored by volunteers.

Schoolchildren from the youngest upwards are especially welcome to submit entries in classes for every age designed to bring out their ingenuity and artistic skills in pumpkin painting and sculpture.

Gardening and art clubs, pubs and teams of company employees are encouraged to participate.

To book tickets or receive a free Pumpkin Grower's Fact Sheet by e-mail, or take part in the many fascinating activities of the walled garden project, call Charlotte Phillips: 01582 721443; e-mail: [Lutonhooestate@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Lutonhooestate@tiscali.co.uk).

## **FAMILY HALLOWEEN PARTY**



**Friday 26th October  
7:30pm until late  
At Slip End Village Hall**

*Proceeds in aid of the  
Cystic Fibrosis Trust*

**Quality Raffle Prizes  
£5 per family ticket (max 5 people)  
£1.50 per single ticket**

Children under 16 to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Entry by ticket only.

**Pumpkin competition  
Children & Adult  
Fancy Dress Competition**

*Enquiries to Shirley: 07866215453  
or Philippa: 07961958404*



*It was good to see Anna & Peter deLange back amongst us last month, when they dropped by Slip End for a brief visit. Only picture of Peter in the archive illustrates his party trick, "The Amazing Imploding Plastic Bottle" stunt. Sadly no longer in his repertoire: his optician suggested that, impressive as this trick was, it was beginning to cause a little eye damage!*

**Services & Events in October**

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

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Pram Service in the Family Room
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Rothesay Road Nursery visit to St Andrews
	2.15pm	Village School Harvest Festival
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Harvest Service with Informal Communion
	6.15pm	3:16 meet in the Family Room
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	9.00am	Packing and distribution of Harvest Produce
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Holiday Club planning meeting in Church
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise
	10.00am	Confirmation Service at St Hughs Lewsey
		<i>No St Andrews Ramblers this month</i>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Prayer Ministry Team meeting in the Family Room
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Pram Service in the Family Room
	7.30pm	Holiday Club training in Church
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion
	6.15pm	3:16 meet in the Family Room
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>		Holiday Club meeting
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>		Holiday Club in Church
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>		Holiday Club in Church
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	9.15am	Holy Communion at East Hyde
	10.30am	Morning Praise
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Pram Service in the Family Room
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	2.30pm	Woodside Home Service



*Joyce Barker (above), who lives in Claydown Way has come up with some interesting history about passports and their origin. Incidentally, congratulations to Joyce and the rest of Clan Barker on*

*the birth of little Joshua to Georgina & Michael. Too late for this issue, there will be pictures next month.*

**Passports**

**The** French *passepport* became an English word in the 15th century, but the idea is at least as old as 445 BC when the prophet, Nehemiah, wanted to travel home to Judah. His employer, the Persian King Artaxerxes, agreed and gave him a letter for "the governors of the country beyond the river" requesting safe passage (Nehemiah, 2:7). British passports are first mentioned during the reign of Henry V in 1414. Known as "Safe Conducts", they were bits of paper personally signed by the king or queen, asking for the bearer to travel freely.

Until 1772, British passports were written in Latin or English, and from 1772 to 1858 they were written in French, as passage in and out of Britain was mostly via the Channel ports.

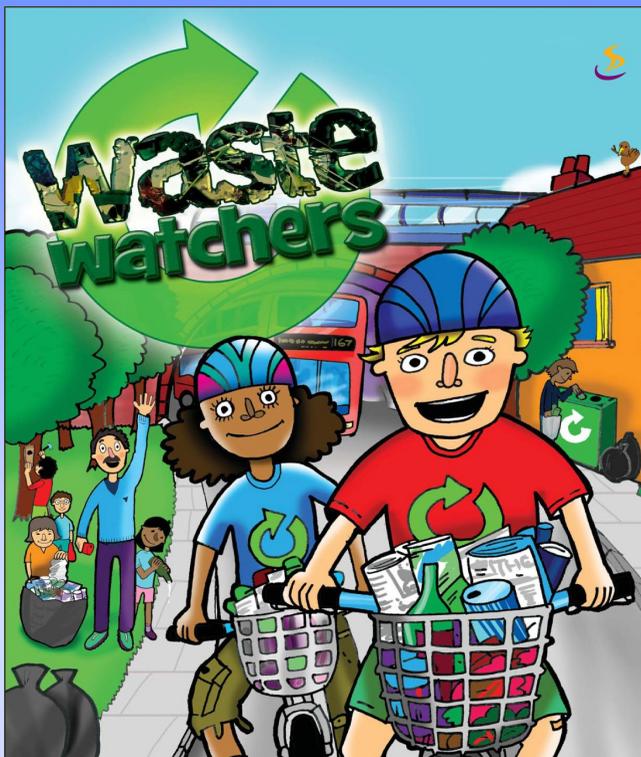
## What's this all about?

On Thursday 25th and Friday 26th October, during the half term break, we will be holding a Holiday Club at St Andrews for children in school years 1 to 6. There will be lots of Fun & Games, Singing & Dancing with Drama, Puppets, Crafts, Games and more!

*Theme is 'Wastewatchers' and there will be stories from St John's Gospel and lots about Re-cycling in a fun way.*

For more information, contact Mary on 738435, Jill on 452539 or Joy 424363 or talk to any of our 'Kidztime' Leaders, then fill out a registration form see below, one for each child) and drop it into Jill Sanders' home at:

19 St Andrew's Close,  
Slip End.



**WASTEWATCHERS REGISTRATION FORM** *(Please use a separate form for each child)*  
*Wastewatchers will take place at St Andrew's Church on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> & Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October.*

Child's full name:

Sex: M/F

Date of birth:

School:

**Please register my child for Wastewatchers.**

Parent's/Guardian's signature:

Parent's/Guardian's full name:

Address:

Phone number:

**I give permission for my child's and my details to be entered on the church database:** Yes/No

**I give permission for my child to appear on group photographs:** Yes/No

This month 'Parish News' is sponsored for distribution throughout the Parish by the Slip End & District Parish Council.

***Do you see the magazine regularly each month?***

If not and you would like to have it delivered to your home, please complete the slip below and send it with the £4 annual subscription to Brian Church, 2 Summer Street, Slip End (458443)

If you live outside the village, the subscription for postal delivery (11 issues per year) is at present £6. All other subscriptions through your regular distributor please.

✂ .....

I would like to receive Parish News regularly.  
I enclose the annual subscription £4 or £6 for postal delivery.  
Please make cheques payable to Slip End & District Parish News

Name .....

Address .....



# **THE PLOUGH**

**UPPER WOODSIDE**

**☎ 01582 720923**

**TRADITIONAL FOOD**

**BLACKBOARD SPECIALS**

**DINING ROOM, GARDEN & MARQUEE AVAILABLE FOR ALL TYPES OF PARTIES**

**BREAKFASTS, LUNCHES & BAR SNACKS**

**AFTERNOON TEAS & EVENING MEALS**

**WE TAKE BOOKINGS FOR LARGE PARTIES SO FOOD IS PREPARED JUST FOR YOU.**

**CAR PARKING, DISABLED FACILITIES & BABY CHANGING FOR MALES AND FEMALES**

**BAR OPEN:**

**MONDAYS TO WEDNESDAYS: 9AM TO 10PM**

**THURSDAYS TO SATURDAYS: 9AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT**

**SUNDAYS: 11AM TO 10PM**



# SLIP END PLAYGROUP

## NEARLY NEW SALE

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**2PM TO 3:30PM**

**AT SLIP END VILLAGE HALL**

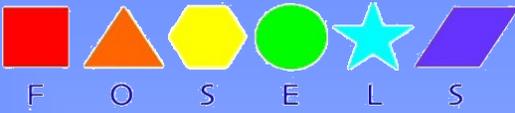
**Clothing, equipment and toys for children aged 2 to 12 years,  
baby equipment and toys, maternity-wear and ladies clothing.**

Items to be labeled clearly with name, size and price (include 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 noon and 1p.m. on Saturday to Slip End Village Hall, side entrance.

Further Enquiries Phone: 01582 724888 or 01582 728865

Please return for your goods at 16:00hrs.

*We will not be responsible for any goods left after 4.30pm.*



Welcome to the start of the Autumn term at Slip End Lower School and all the latest news from the school and the parent - teacher association (FoSELS).

### ***New School Year***

The children are now settling into their new classes as the new school year gets underway. This year the classes have changed around and been named after jewels rather than birds.

So we now have:

Foundation unit:	Ruby
Year 1 & 2:	Topaz
Year 3:	Diamond
Year 4:	Amber

Due to lower numbers, years 1 and 2 have been combined and are being taught by Miss Peppiatt. Mrs Gordon is in charge of year 3 with a new teacher, Miss Helen Parry, having joined to teach year 4.

### **Computers for Schools**



Thanks to everyone who collected the Tesco vouchers for the school. These have now all been counted up and an order placed for some new kit, including 2 fantastic digital microscopes which take snapshots, video and time-lapse movies.

The children will be able to

manipulate images with drawing and painting tools as well as experiment with their creations using special effects and sound.

Those who shop at Tesco will have noticed a new batch of vouchers, this time for sports equipment, now being given away. Please can I ask you to collect them up, even if you don't have children, and donate them to the school. Just pop them in at the office as they really make a difference to the children. It means the school budget can go that little bit further.

### **Upcoming Events**

There are lots of exciting events coming up in the school diary:

Harvest Festival: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Half term: 22<sup>nd</sup> October – 29<sup>th</sup> October (inclusive, 29<sup>th</sup> is a teacher training day)

The Nutcracker: the children will get to see this theatre production on the 16<sup>th</sup> November.

*An important FoSELS date, is the Christmas Fair which takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> December.*

We hope you'll all come along to support our fundraising efforts.

### **FoSELS**

At the end of last term we sent out some questionnaires to gauge what events parents would like FoSELS to organise and, importantly, would support this year. Based on the feedback received we are hoping to arrange the following in the future:

- Saturday Morning Cinema Club
- Children's Christmas Fun Event
- Gardening club
- Spring Family Cmp-out
- Car Boot Bale

We'll publish news about each event as we decide when they will take place so keep on the look out for dates and news in PN and on the school website ([www.slipend.beds.sch.uk](http://www.slipend.beds.sch.uk)).

You can always catch up with pictures and news on the school website, plus check any upcoming diary dates. So add it to your favourites list on your computer. That's all the news for now, see you next month.

*Sandra Collins*

## **PLAYGROUP & TODDLER GROUP**

We are very active, welcoming new 2½ year old children every term. They stay with us for about 12 months before moving on to the Foundation Units of the local schools.

Last term we grew butterflies from tiny caterpillars and released them into the wild. We held our sponsored Fun Run around the playground and took children and parents to Woodside Animal Park at the end of term.

We recently welcomed 10 new children to the group. The children will be in a colour group: red, blue, green or yellow, according to who their key-worker is. This makes it easier for everyone to keep up to date with each other. With an Autumn theme this term, we are doing some activities based on Harvest. Last year, with Church Road closed for M1 work, we were not able to have our annual autumn walk in Stockwood Park, but we will be off there again, as usual, some time this term.

Both Groups were recently pleased to receive grants for from the Parish Council. Playgroup spent theirs on much needed new crash mats to put round the climbing frame or trampoline. The Toddlers group are purchasing new baby toys with theirs. Thank you, PC!

We are busy raising funds and by the time you read this we will have held a race-night in Caddington. As I write the tickets for this are selling really fast. Our Nearly New Sale will be in the Village Hall on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October. The committee have decided not to have baby clothes, clothes will be for 2 year olds upwards. Ladies clothes will be included as well.

We also have a Children's Book Sale on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October. This will be from 12 noon, at the end of Playgroup, until about 2.30.

At the start of November both groups will have a photographer visit: the pictures of the children will be ready for Christmas.

The Toddler Group meets every Tuesday in term time, 1.30 to 3.00 in the Village Hall.

This is a drop-in session for anyone with small children. (Use the Hall back entrance.)

We provide refreshments for adults and children and are thankful to Sue Horton and Lyn. Sue has now moved out of the area and the Toddler group is looking for someone else to help Lyn. Perhaps you could help out on a Tuesday afternoon for an hour or so? It would suit anyone of any age who would like the company of mothers, grandmothers and small children. If you can help, please phone the Toddler leader Julie on 01582 724888.

*Jill Acton*



## **Car Boot Sale**

**Slip End Lower School**  
**Sunday October 21st**

**Noon to 3pm**  
*Set up from 10am*

Pre-book at £5 per pitch,  
£7.50 per pitch on the day.

Entrance 20p

For details or to pre-book call  
Michelle on 01582 731 869  
or Penny on 07966 048449

### ***Welcome to Autumn***

*The summer may be over  
and winter drawing near;  
But now it's time for meetings,  
for friendship, warmth and cheer.  
There's purple on the mountains  
and beauty all around,  
With here and there a summer rose  
still waiting to be found.  
Its time for reminiscing  
recalling summer day,  
For sharing hope and happy thoughts'  
in many quiet ways.  
A time of relaxation  
of fellowship and joy,  
Creating Autumn memories,  
that winter can't destroy.*

*Isis Hesselden*

***A Musical Evening  
At St Andrew's Church***

# ***Clarinet Cameos***

***Saturday 24th November  
Commencing 7:30pm***

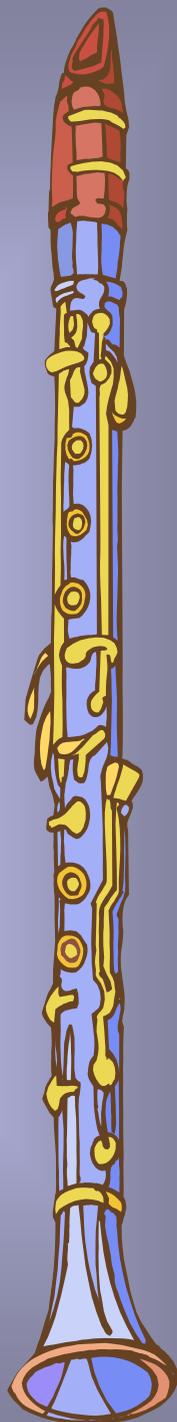
**A mix of favourite classical,  
a little Jazz  
&  
Music from West End Shows**

**Peter R. Scrivener (Clarinet)  
Assisted by Marc Watson (Library & Audio)**

**Tickets £6  
including Refreshments**

**from the Vicar ☎(01582) 424363  
or Peter Scrivener ☎(01582) 726126**

**All proceeds to St Andrew's Church Fund**



## SHAW'S CORNER

Recently I enjoyed a visit to the late George Bernard Shaw's home at Ayot St Lawrence, not far from Wheathampstead.

This is close enough to Slip End to enjoy a late summers afternoon looking at the grounds and the house.

The house remains as it was when he died in 1950. The atmospheric rooms in the house evoke feelings that GBS had just popped out for the afternoon. The house was built in 1902 and George and his wife Charlotte lived there, enjoying the tranquillity of the village.

There are certain things to look out for in the house; Shaw's Oscar which he won for Best Screenplay for Pygmalion in 1938; a collection of some of his famous hats, the study (complete with his actual typewriter, glass, pens etc..) and a collection of Shaw memorabilia. You can relax in the 3½ acre garden which is complete with an orchard, flower meadow, rose dell and richly planted herbaceous and shrubbery beds, all of which were planted before 1950. At the back of the house is an area housing a large selection of books that have been donated, these are sold at very reasonable prices to pay for renovations.

The ashes of Shaw and his wife Charlotte are scattered throughout the garden and around the 6ft square-revolving hut where most of his famous works were written. The late playwright was well known for his comments, viewpoints and his famous quips and is one of the most quoted people in the English Language. For more information log on to [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shawscorner](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/shawscorner)



### *Some GBS quotations ...*

*Which painting in the National Gallery would I save if there was a fire?*

*The one nearest the door of course!*

*Those who can do, those who can't teach.*

*Only Lawyers and mental defectives are automatically exempt for jury duty.*

*England and America are two countries divided by a common language.*

*My reputation grows with every failure.*

*When a stupid man does something of which he is ashamed, he always declares that it is his duty.*

*Lack of money is the root of all evil.*

*Find enough clever things to say and you're a Prime Minister; write them down and you're a Shakespeare.*

*I enjoy convalescence. It is the part that makes the illness worth while.*



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

## **October**

- 1st Parish Council: Village Hall at 8.00pm  
5th Slip End School: Harvest Festival  
6th 10am to noon: Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington  
7th St Andrew's: Harvest Festival  
9th Brownies: Table-Top Sale at the Village Hall  
11th Knit & Natter: 1.30 to 2.45 at Julie Taylor's home  
13th Aley Green Methodist Church: Autumn Fayre at 2.30pm  
13th Slip End Tennis Club: **QUIZ NIGHT at the PE Hall 7pm,**  
16th Women's Institute: "Royal connections", speaker Mrs. A Parsons  
21st FoSELS: Car Boot Sale at the School  
25th Knit & Natter: 1.30 to 2.45 at Julie Taylor's home

## **25th-**

## **26th**

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

- 26th Family Halloween Party at the Village Hall  
27th- Luton Hoo - Pumpkin Arts in Beds & Herts  
28th  
27th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506

# **BINGO**

at the Village Hall  
Thursdays at Eight

Slip End & District Association

## **November**

- 3rd 10am to noon: Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington  
5th Parish Council: Village Hall at 8.00pm - should go with a Bang!  
17th Dance at the Village Hall: Call Shirley on 412506  
20th Women's Institute: Entertainment & Patchwork Evening  
24th St Andrew's: "Clarinet Cameos" concert by Peter Scrivener  
25th Craft Fayre at the Village Hall

If you are a new reader and would like a copy of Parish News each month, please contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way on 724527 or [alanjan@buttery400.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:alanjan@buttery400.fsnet.co.uk).

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 the preceding month to: Sue**

**Briggs at 83 The Crescent, Caddington, email: [cowells83@aol.com](mailto:cowells83@aol.com) or David Kingston 7 Crawley Close, Slip End, [davidgoodmankington@hotmail.com](mailto:davidgoodmankington@hotmail.com).**

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

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**BIN DAYS - OCTOBER 2007**

M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

Fridays highlighted are those when only Black Bins are to be put out. Other Fridays put out Green & Orange Bins, not Black Bins. See stickers for what is to be put into each Bin.