

SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

AUGUST 2008
50P WHERE SOLD



**Central Bedfordshire Council
will go “fully operational” on
April 1st 2009!**



**Bedfordshire
county council**



South Bedfordshire
Taking pride in our district



MID•BEDS
DISTRICT COUNCIL



Parish News has received a lengthy Newsletter from the Shadow Central Bedfordshire Council and here are a few edited extracts. Too large to include here you may wish to look at the complete document at www.centralbeds.gov.uk where many other details of what is in store are presented. (If you do not have internet access at home, remember that facilities are provided at Luton Library.)

Government has approved the creation of Central Bedfordshire and a unitary Bedford Borough Council. Central Bedfordshire brings together all the services provided by Mid and South Bedfordshire District Councils and those County Council services delivered within their areas.

A Central Bedfordshire “Shadow” Council has set up with an Executive, made up of councillors from the merging councils. Tricia Turner is the appointed Leader of the Council and Chairman of the Shadow Executive. Philip Penman is the appointed Deputy Leader. Statutory officers are Jaki Salisbury interim Chief Executive, Jon Ruddick as Deputy, David Sutherland as Interim Chief Financial Officer and Barbara Morris as Interim Monitoring Officer.

Transitional Task Forces (TTFs) are in place to help design the new council’s services, each working with an Officer Service Group (OSG). Central Bedfordshire’s Implementation Team includes Chief Executives from the four councils, Police, Fire Service, voluntary sector, the Association of Town and Parish Councils representatives and other major partners within the county.

Bedfordshire County Council is sharing transitional information to enable Service Plans to be developed and considering how County services, resources and assets will be divided between the two new unitary authorities. (The Implementation Plan appears on www.centralbeds.gov.uk.)

Here at Parish News we hope that these major changes to our local government will be seamless and straightforward, leading to improved local government service for our community.

At present, operation within the organisation is seen as “visionary” including the principle “...that people living, working and thriving in Central Bedfordshire will benefit from sustainable growth and improved quality of life”.

*An item of mathematical philosophy
submitted by Prof. (the Mrs) S. Collins:*

1 To find a woman you need Time and
Money therefore:

$$\text{Woman} = \text{Time} \times \text{Money}$$

2 "Time is money" so

$$\text{Time} = \text{Money}$$

3 Therefore

$$\text{Woman} = \text{Money} \times \text{Money}$$

$$\text{Woman} = (\text{Money})^2$$

4 "Money is the root of all problems"

$$\text{Money} = \sqrt{\text{Problems}}$$

5 Therefore

$$\text{Woman} = (\sqrt{\text{Problems}})^2$$

$$\text{Woman} = \text{Problems}$$

(A+)

LUTON MALE VOICE CHOIR

Following a busy and enjoyable tour of Worthing and Horsham during the last weekend of June it was back to business for LMVC with a concert on Saturday 20th July.

Our Autumn-Winter season commences at Farley Hill Methodists on September 13th 7pm start where the final concert of the season is being held. On Saturday 20th LMVC will be performing at Wesley Church Markyate.

The social side is not being neglected the Friends of LMVC are planning trip down the canal on Sunday September 7th: perhaps the lads will serenade their wives!

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

HOSPICE AT HOME VOLUNTEERS

We are here to help those people in Dunstable, Houghton Regis and surrounding villages who are confined to their homes with a life limiting illness and their carers. This applies to all age groups.

Our volunteers are friendly, caring people who may have experienced the need for help themselves and understand the need for discretion and privacy.

They are carefully selected, trained and supported by the Volunteer Coordinators who are the first point of contact with our service and who will make an initial visit to assess the needs of the patient and their carer. Volunteers are then available to visit, give practical help where required, talk or just become a friend during the illness.

There is no time limit on this service which is totally FREE.

We have been in existence since 1986 and the word Hospice is used to reflect the help, support, love and friendship which is found in all Hospices. The Coordinators liaise with other caring professionals in the community and attend regular multi-disciplinary meetings.

How can you help?

We obviously need funds so a simple way of helping is to make a donation and send it to our office at Poynters House, Poynters Road, Dunstable, LU5 4TP.

Become a volunteer

Become a Trustee
(They meet 6 times a year)

Become a minute taker for
the Trustee meetings

If you are interested in any way please contact the office on 01582 666996 (24 hour answering service) or Roger Sharp, Deputy Chairman, on 01582 606405

Roger Sharp

SLIP END LOWER SCHOOL SPORTS DAY

Our photo editor, Matt, leads an exciting life! Following a recent commission for Team McClaren covering their recent triumph at Silverstone, his next assignment was more momentous for us locally: the School Sports Day! The school was split into 4 teams, Malta, Jamaica, Tonga, Madagascar across the 5 years, Reception, Years 1,2,3 & 4 mixing age and ability. Each child competed in a very varied range of events and fun, including sprint, hurdles, throwing a beanbag into a hoop, hitting a ball with a racket, hockey slalom, football dribbling, basket ball dribbling and sack race.



Natasha Russell celebrates her team (Malta) winning the sports day events.



*Time out between events
Natasha Russell, Joe Ladley, Angel Garner*



Angel Garner Sprints for the line



Craig Dibley wins the Dad's race by a whisker



Shirley Garner winning the Mums Race



Natasha Russell - Hurdles

LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS

*Buried in the depths of
www.southbeds.gov.uk ...*

Bear with me, try this: at the homepage,
click *Council and Democracy*
then: *Decision making council - Committees*
then: *Committee Timetable 2008*

If you are still with me (do I hear tut-tutting
from you non-geeks out there?),
scroll down to:
July 2008
then click on:
30th June 2008 -

And lo, before you will appear items relating
to options of the “Core Strategy” preferred by
the Joint SBDC/LBC committee.

There is quite a lot of it, divided into meal-
sized chunks for your consumption at length.
The “Key Diagram” (shown on the page
opposite) is there, with lots of explanation
about many aspects of the Core Strategy, not
limited just to housing developments. We will
not delve much deeper here, digest it for
yourselves, except to refer to a couple of items
which relate to our parochial area.

Housing Development

Ten options were listed in the Core Strategy
last year and around half of them presented
large-scale developments, infilling between
Slip End and Caddington. *None of those
options affecting our area are now preferred
by the Joint Committee.* Preferences are to
develop areas north and east of Luton, north of
Dunstable and other areas around Leighton
Buzzard. This is not the final decision, but a
step forward to the next consultative stages
and firm signs of local authorities’ (as they
exist at present) intents.

Inevitably, a large collective sigh of relief will
go up from many parishioners here but Parish
News urges some caution. *We surely need
some developments!* ... but in the right ways.
Looking at infrastructure here and now, we
have cracking water pipes, crumbling

roadways, oozing sewage, no doctor, no
chemist, (no post office?), etc, etc.... The
Parish Council is, within its remit, doing its
bit but large scale improvements, for which
higher authorities are responsible, are slow to
appear. With middle tier local government
“focussed” on reorganisational “vision”, will
the Slip End area be the butt of April Foolery
next year with no prospects on the wider
horizon of essential local improvement
projects? Perception is that local
improvements would come, as housing, jobs
and other developments go in. With the large
scale options appearing less likely, what
smaller developments will there be and how
will these provide wider community benefits
for the future?

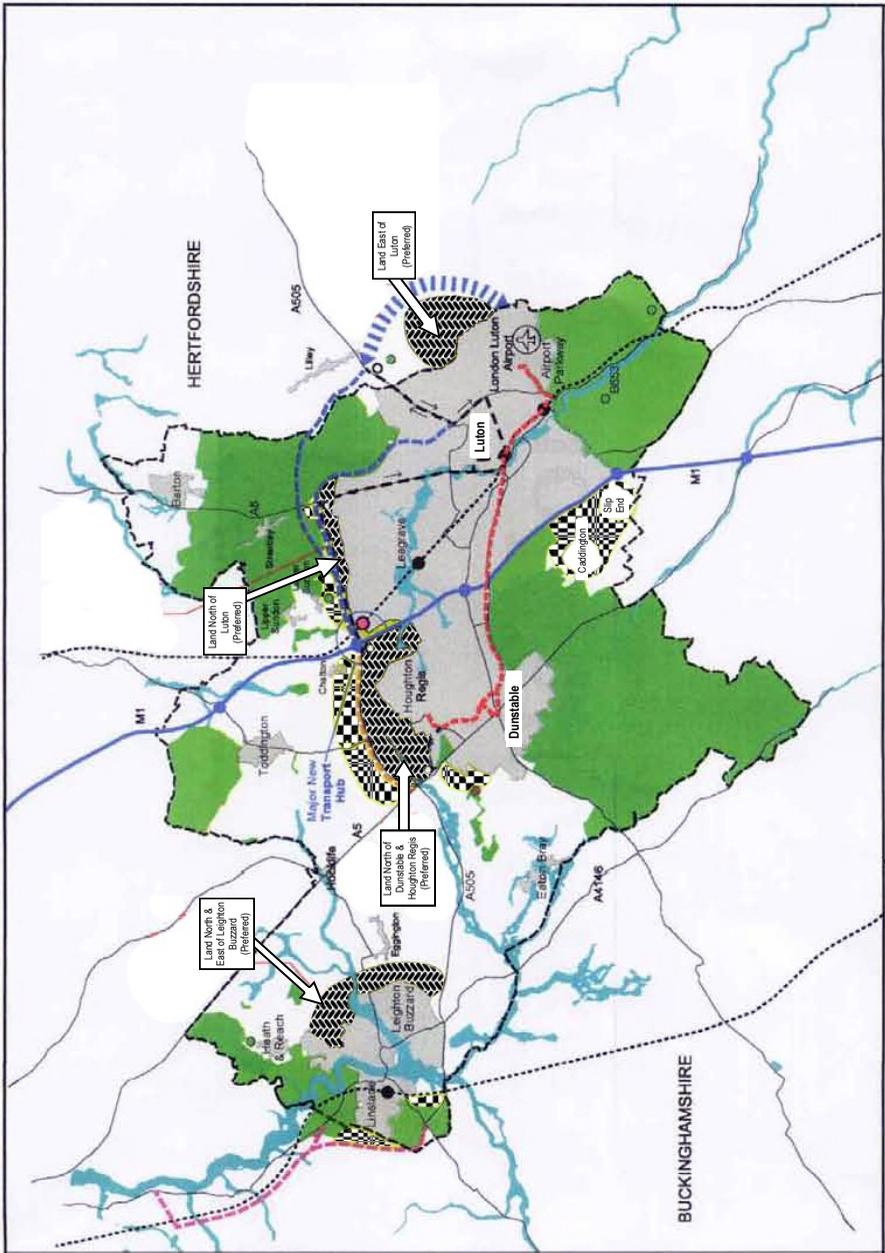
Anyone strolled around Milton Keynes
recently? Not the glitzy shopping mall and
high-tech entertainment centres, although they
surely are very important. No, I mean the
housing communities. While probably not
idyllic throughout, many areas including quite
a few small villages like ours have been
developed from within and around. There are
vast areas of parkland and waterside walks and
small neighbourhood shopping and community
centres. *There’s even space to park the MPV,
caravan, SUV, boat, the convertible, the wife’s
runabout and kid’s mini, without which
survival today would be untenable.* (And no
“Chesil Beaches”!)

The old MK TV ad., though perhaps romantic
is not far from representing the true situation:
go and take a look for yourselves.

LTFC

I read somewhere in section 7 that Junction 10
is still the policy favourite for a new stadium,
in the heads of SBDC and LBC. This is
believed to be deadlocked at higher
government, but that *could* change. The LBC/
SBDC Joint Committee hedges its bets by
mentioning that a planning application is in for
J12 and is under “consideration”.

David Kingston



DRAFT PREFERRED OPTIONS CORE STRATEGY - KEY DIAGRAM

- Preferred Options**
- Potential Urban extensions - not preferred
- Proposed road scheme (funding committed)
- Proposed road schemes - 2 options (no funding committed)
- Potential road scheme (subject to listing)
- Luton - Dunstable Guided Bus Way
- Potential 'on-road' bus priority routes
- Potential extensions to guided busway
- Park & Ride
- New rail station
- COMPLETED SCHEMES**
- Lindade's western bypass
- COMMITTED SCHEMES**
- Road scheme under construction.
- CONSTRAINTS**
- Area of Great Landscape Value
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Flood Plain
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Historic Parks & Gardens
- OTHER**
- Town Centres
- Luton & South Bedfordshire District Boundary

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Date: 26/June/2008
 Scale: 1:120000

Last month our community lost a fine lady and here at Parish News we share the sadness and grief felt by Pauline's family and friends around the parish.

We are so thankful for what she did around the place during her time here, sadly foreshortened. Partnership is a popular buzzword these days but comes to mind when we think of Pauline and what she did for us all. Pauline gave of her talents in excess, enjoying the hard work she took on. We are sure she gained a great sense of satisfaction in making things more beautiful in many areas around the village and at the J.S. Crawley churchyard around St Andrew's church.

She was often seen beavering away, energetically shoving her mower, just getting on with the job!

It has been suggested that the flower beds, which the Parish Council is having constructed at the Rossway/Markyate Road junction, has Pauline's name attached to it. We at Parish News feel that this would be a good sentiment. We understand that Pauline was informed and advised about this scheme and it is fitting that work is now in hand as she leaves us.

Some of us came to know Pauline with her involvement in the Coronation Garden project. We remember her quiet encouragements and we were thankful that she put her views and suggestions forward, reflecting her expertise and local experience.

There is an increasing wish around the Parish to see improvements in general appearance and we are sure that Pauline was pleased to see that movement beginning to happen. We are grateful that others, including many ladies, are coming forward to help maintain standards which Pauline shared.

Thank you, Pauline.

Hard at it before the Holidays

Brownies



The Brownies have been working very hard and have attained more badges this term: Agility, World Guides Association Olympic Gold, Finding your Way and Out and About. The Olympic badge was really good fun and I think they learned a lot along the way. The term ended with a party and some Chinese snacks and fortune cookies went down very well!

Next on the horizon is the Village Day, on the 26th, at which the Brownies will have a stall with some activities and games. We are looking forward to singing and also taking part in the Tug of War with our honorary Brownie as anchor! Can Wise Owl please sort him out a uniform?

Congratulations Emma!

I spotted on "Facebook" the other day that Emma Kingston, one of our ex-Brownies has had a little girl. Emma and family live in Front Street now, so we will be looking forward to welcoming Milly Grace to Brownies a bit later!

See you all in September, have a good summer.

PETS CORNER

We have received a request that Parish News should include a Pet's Corner item from time to time so we invite the young and not so young to send in their pictures with some information, particularly if your pet gets up to anything odd.

To get the ball rolling, meet Martha, an ageing resident of Crawley Close. Like it's owners, Martha is getting on and likes to take it easy in the garden these days. Usually stretched out on the garden table, where she can keep an eye on what is going on in the kitchen, the cat also is often seen relaxing in one of the plant pots as shown here.



A gardening tip.

Having a cat lying like this does keep the weeds down, although the clematis may feel rather pushed out!

News from Caddington and District SNT



PC Louise Howard



PCSO Claire Young



PCSO Paul Clark

Tel: 01582 473462

e-mail: SNT.Caddington@Bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Neighbourhood Priorities

- Anti Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Vehicle Crime
- Parking

These are the priorities that have been identified through consultations with members of your local neighbourhood.

Crime Overview

The majority of the crimes for this month seem to revolve around theft, burglaries and crimes to vehicles. Now that the lighter and warmer nights are upon us, please ensure that all belongings from vehicles are removed and be more conscious about securing doors, windows and sheds on your property.

We have also seen a rise in anti-social behaviour in Slip End, and ask that if you can identify anyone to please let us know.

Meetings and Events

Monday 21st July 19.30pm, Sports and Social Club, Manor Road, Caddington.

Saturday 26th July 11.00am – 16.00pm, Slip End Village Day.

Netball Team

The PCSO for the area has been trying to set up a local netball team; if anyone is interested they should contact PCSO Claire Young.



Priority Targets

Once again we have been receiving numerous calls from residents in Chaul End, Slip End, Caddington and Markyate Road, about off road bikes and mini moto's. Residents are advised to contact us and give as much information as possible about the riders of these vehicles. If a patrol officer is not available to attend in the first instance all of the details will then be passed onto your SNT team to carry out further enquiries.

You will be pleased to hear that we have again issued more Section 59 warnings. Warnings are issued to a riders, who if caught again, will have their vehicle seized and there is a possibility that the vehicle maybe crushed.

A proactive policing operation was conducted on Friday nights in Caddington and Slip End to combat anti-social behaviour. Extra police officers were brought in and we were assisted by the Envirocrime Unit. Youths were dispersed from Caddington using the Section 27 of Violent Crime Reduction Act, alcohol was seized and home visits were made to local youths. As a result of these operations, there has been a significant reduction in reports of ASB. We will continue to tackle nuisance behaviour and we are currently seeking an injunction against one youth.

Operation Lead is as ever ongoing and has been in operation in Caddington on Friday nights. The areas which we concentrate on are Manor Road, Elm Avenue, and Rushmore Park. We have now been getting more and more calls and concerns about the behaviour of a number of youths in Slip End by the Village Hall and posters are being put up asking for any information leading to identification of these youths. There has been a significant amount of criminal damage caused in this area with broken glass left on the seats of the swings in the playground. Any youth who is identified as a persistent offender will be brought to the attention of the ASB Reduction Officer for South Beds District Council and the ASB Officer for South Beds. This may then result in them receiving an Acceptable Behaviour Contract.

As in previous Newsletters, we are continuously asking people not to leave valuable items in unattended vehicles, as most vehicle crime reported is as a result of these items being visible. PCSO's are still patrolling all of the crime hotspots and beauty areas and if any valuables are on display, letters will be sent out to the registered owners of the vehicle stating the date, time and the valuables seen.

Complaints are still being received regarding vehicles that are parked in an inconsiderate manner. Notices have been placed around various areas advising motorists of where they can park responsibly. Schools still seem to be an issue in Caddington and Slip End and there will be regular patrols around these areas. Any vehicles parked causing an obstruction will receive a ticket. Any vehicle left in a dangerous position will be removed, so please be more considerate when parking your car.

SCARECROW FESTIVAL

FLAMSTEAD

15TH - 16TH - 17TH AUGUST 2008

**HELP CHOOSE THE BEST OF
THESE SUPER SCARECROWS**

**VOTING FORMS & SCARECROW TRAIL (£2 EACH)
FROM FREE CAR PARKS AND FLAMSTEAD VILLAGE**

FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST	2:00 - 5:00
SATURDAY 16TH AUGUST	10:00 - 6:00
SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST	10:30 - 5:00

**CREAM TEAS, HOME MADE CAKES, HOG ROAST, BBQ,
BEER FESTIVAL, TRAIN RIDES, PUNCH & JUDY SHOW,
FACE PAINTING, BRASS BAND, FOLK DANCING,
BELL RINGING DEMONSTRATION, FREE CAR PARKING**

See www.flamstead-herts.co.uk for more details.

Please use the free car parks provided.

Flamstead is not a large village, it will take only a couple of hours to see all the Scarecrows.



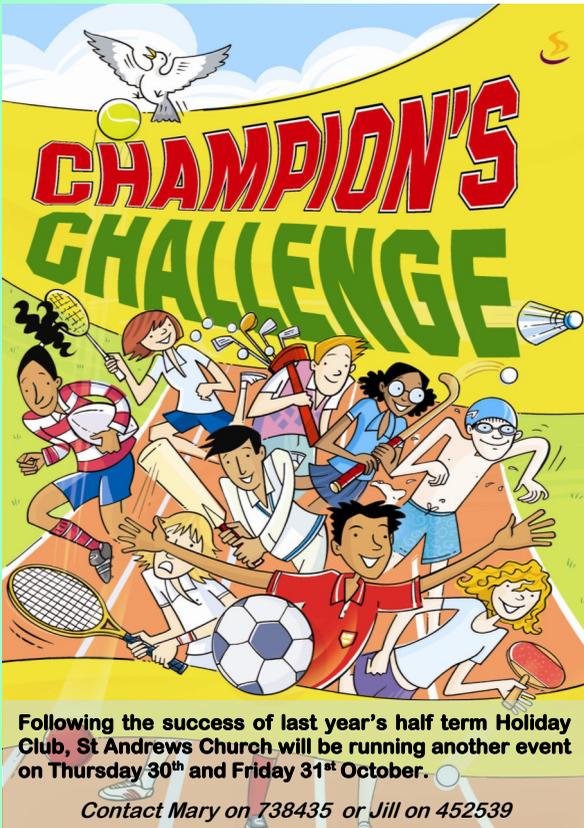
**FESTIVAL IN AID OF
THE FRIENDS OF ST. LEONARD'S, FLAMSTEAD
&
THE HERTFORDSHIRE
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS THERAPY CENTRE**



Services & Events in August

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

Sunday 3 rd	10.30am	Family Communion
Wednesday 6 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Sunday 10 th	10.30am	Morning Praise
Wednesday 13 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Saturday 16 th	2.00pm	Marriage of Elliot Weedon & Claire Wright
Sunday 17 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 20 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Sunday 24 th	9.15am 10.30am	Holy Communion East Hyde Morning Praise
Wednesday 27 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Friday 29 th	2.30pm	Woodside Home Service
Sunday 31 st	10.30am	Morning Praise



AUTUMN HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

This will again involve lot of fun activities, with “Champion’s Challenge” sporting theme. With thanks to those who have already responded, we need more help:

- ◆ To decorate the church in a sports theme, we would welcome donations/loans of sporting items for display.
- ◆ We need volunteers to knit scarves in the team colours which are:
 - Orange with black
 - Red with white
 - Black with white
 - Royal Blue with white.
- ◆ Alternatively, donations of wool in these colours would be most welcome.

If you can help in any of these areas please bring items to St Andrew's Church or alternatively contact Julie Taylor on 413912.

Following the success of last year's half term Holiday Club, St Andrews Church will be running another event on Thursday 30th and Friday 31st October.

Contact Mary on 738435 or Jill on 452539



**OPEN
GARDENS
12th July 2008**

5

4



OPEN GARDENS

OPEN GARDENS

Saturday 12th July

Once again this event was a huge success with a profit of over £1000 being made. The money will be divided equally between the St Andrew's Roof Repair fund and projects for the Enhancement of the Village.

This time we had 5 fantastic 'new' gardens as well as 5 that had opened in previous years. One of the new ones was spectacular in that it had been a 'field' less than a year ago. The other 4 were all small, different, but perfect in their own way. From tree ferns to ponds, bamboos to hot lip Salvias, beans in the flower beds to stunning patios and fantastic lighting. If you didn't see them you missed a treat.

The committee would like to thank all those who opened their gardens, those who came, and also those who helped to make the event such a success in many different ways. In particular we would like to thank Anil Mittal at Slip End Post Office, for once again allowing us to put our programmes in his shop.

Look out next May for our bi-annual plant sale, and start to think if you would like to join us by opening *your* garden in 2010!

"Plant People"

Val Church Joan Duncombe
 Rosemary Wickens
 Steve Lyons David Kingston



Rev Joy Daniel takes time to sit and reflect in Joan's garden.

"Where to next? Perhaps a burger, maybe another Pimms...."

Details of the gardens and owners featured on the inside cover pages with further insight to the gardens by Sue Briggs. (New gardens are listed below with an asterisk.)

1. Steve and Sue in their pleasantly mature garden in Crawley Close.

An interesting garden with lots of nooks and crannies with some very unusual plants, lots of colour and an impressive raised rock miniature garden.

2* Fiona delighting in her wonderful new garden in The Oaks

I loved the way the sleepers edged the garden in a beautiful curved effect. The brick built pond above ground level was a very attractive feature; also beautiful shrubs.



3. Steve and helper Dawn Clark at the BBQ in Front Street.

Some beautiful flower beds with a lovely centre-piece Rock garden complete with garden animals!



Lily from the Rising Sun with an admirer or was it something to do with the BBQ food?

4* Helen and Jim in their brand new garden in Front Street

What a transformation here – lovely lawn, flower beds and pot plants. This garden is really beginning to take shape with attractive borders and seating area overlooking fields.

5. Joan beside her mini pond in Summer Street

Plants galore for sale here!

Alan Buttery searches for some of the unusual ones on sale with wallet to hand! What a delightful garden Joan has made with sections



of the garden depicting different types of plants.

6* Kerrie and Peter in their plantsmans paradise in Prebendal Drive

A delightful garden with a small bridge over the pebbled brook and many attractive features in the beautiful borders. The garden is very well maintained..

7. Val with Teresa Willson at the produce stall in Summer Street



The Old Bakery offers a wonderful insight to many beautiful plants with hidden treasures all around and shows just what can be done with a cottage garden. Val deserves a medal.



8. Liz and Shane with their new Log Cabin in Summer Street and ten year old Acer they had when they first moved there.

A lovely long garden, well maintained with some beautiful hanging baskets making a delightful corner by the house.

9* Gary by the pond in his magical garden in Crawley Close



What a surprise here – grapes, lemons and bougainvillea and continental plants adjoining the house and broad beans and vegetables in with the flowers. Some beautiful Calla lilies by the pond.

10* Linda in her lovely ‘Mediterranean Garden’ in Prebendal Drive

Some unusual plants and a nice secluded setting with a large Palm tree in the middle.

SAFETY GROUP - SHELTER GOES IN

At last the youth shelter sits proudly in the Crawley Playground where, with its green cover, it blends in with the surrounding shrubbery.

It faces the direction it does to minimise noise and disturbance to the surrounding properties. Hopefully the youngsters who have often huddled around the back of the village hall will take to gathering in it instead. We have tended to call this a “youth shelter” but all are welcome to sit in it and while away the time, especially to take some shade in the glorious sunshine that existed during its construction.

The construction team members who put up the shelter were amazed when they came back the second morning to find no foot prints or messages in the concrete, which is the first time for all the units they have erected across the country. Thanks goes to Felix McDaid

who provided secure parking for their trucks and digger overnight.

We can look forward to the Official Opening one Wednesday evening in September when hopefully children, youths and villagers will gather for a BBQ and refreshments.



We started our July Meeting by singing Jerusalem. Sallie then read the Minutes from our last meeting. Sue gave a report on our AGM in Liverpool. Our Mystery Trip in June was very successful. The Darts Team won their match against Milton Bryan – well done ladies!

Pat read her story, which she has written for the Baker Brothers Competition, and kept us all bemused awaiting its mysterious ending!

Lorna has sent her own design for 'The Back Garden' at WI House. Good luck to both of you with these projects.

Our speaker for July was Mr. Gordon Abbott who gave us a very interesting talk with photographs all about My Little Evacuee. This was the story of the evacuation of children and adults during the Second World War. 3½ million people were evacuated. 'Operation Pied Piper' was the name of the evacuation. This was kept quite secret until the last minute. Gordon told us of the plight the evacuees had with leaving behind their families (and also the families sending their children away) to go to no running water, electricity and very basic essentials, particularly on the farms. Some of our members were themselves evacuated, some also fostered the children.

On 17th July we are going to a Group Outing to Camden Market. From there we can either browse around or go shopping. We are then going on the Canal for a trip round the local area. Should be a good day out.

On 14th August a trip is arranged to visit Althorpe Park in Northamptonshire.

We meet 3rd Tuesday in the month at the Baptist Church Hall 7.30 pm. until 10.00 pm

Come and Join us for an entertaining evening. You may visit to start with - you will be made very welcome.

Linda Bartlett

- ♦ Poetry is a deal of joy and pain and wonder, with a dash of the dictionary
- ♦ Genius is but a robin's song at the beginning of a slow spring.
- ♦ We live only to discover beauty. All else is a form of waiting.
- ♦ Friendship is always a sweet responsibility, never an opportunity.
- ♦ If you do not understand your friend under all conditions you will never understand him.
- ♦ You cannot laugh and be unkind at the same time.
- ♦ Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need.
- ♦ You may forget the one with whom you have laughed, but never the one with whom you have wept.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

On the 7th July 40 members from the Friendship Club went off on our day trip to Southend-on-Sea. It rained all the way there, but after an hour it cleared so the afternoon wasn't too bad. Unfortunately at 4p.m. it started raining again ending in a storm but it was good to have a day out with friends despite the weather. Hopefully our next trip on the 8th September to Walton-on-the-Naze will bring some sunshine.

Pam King

*Frowns make wrinkles on your face,
smiles put crinkles in their place;
There's not much difference
between the two,
but laughter lines are better for you.
So if you have wrinkles smooth them
out with a smile,
you'll find that a crinkle is more
worthwhile!*



SLIP END YOUTH CLUB

I was invited along to the Slip End Youth Club a few weeks ago and was pleased to see so many children and teenagers having fun and playing together. It is a real tribute to Janet and her team of volunteers that the Youth Club has been so successful and great things are planned for the future; namely Golfing evenings, a sleepover at the Science Museum in October and a climbing and skiing evening. On 9th July some visitors from Luton Airport came along to check out the Youth Club and had some good news for them. Simon Earles, General Manager of Planning & Corporate Social Responsibility and Adam Diveney, Community Relations Executive of London Luton Airport Operations Ltd were very impressed with the set-up and have agreed to the following actions:-

- We will supply 2 x return tickets anywhere on the easyJet network (up to a value of £250) for the raffle at your forthcoming village event on the 26th July.
- We will also look to organise an airport visit for the youth club later in the year.
- We will supply contacts for Judy Oliver, MD of Local News TV, who may be able to assist with a film-making event for the youth club.
- We will confirm the level of financial support for 2008 from LLAOL

This is excellent news for the future of the Youth Club and lets hope it leads to more offers of assistance from other companies in the area to help guarantee its growth and continuance.

It was Leanne's birthday from the Youth Club on the 9th July and she celebrated her 14th birthday with a large chocolate cake and lots of her friends around to help her eat it. Leanne's mum is one of the helpers who give up much of their own time to help out.



Leanne cuts her birthday cake



Simon Earles and Adam Diveney with Janet Crawley at Peter Edwards Hall

The picture on the front cover shows some of the happy children from the Youth Club at their Disco and Games evening on 9th July.

Details of some of the forthcoming activities:

*Wednesday 6th August
Free time and Craft night
Wednesday 13th August
Arrival of new equipment!
Family BBQ night*

Also a Science Museum sleepover with a climbing and skiing evening being planned. Not forgetting swimming in the holidays too.

Sue Briggs.

STOCKWOOD DISCOVERY CENTRE

Luton's Stockwood Park Museum has undergone a £6m transformation thanks to a £3.7m cash injection from the Heritage Lottery Fund along with the recent award of £1.2m objective 2 European funding and funding from other external supporters.

Stockwood Discovery Centre, a free museum and visitor attraction that includes:-

Fascinating interactive displays about the history of the area including the former Stockwood House

New gardens to complement the current period gardens. These will include sensory, world and medicinal gardens .

Visitor centre with a brand-new shop & café. An outdoor children's discovery area .

Exciting changing exhibitions .

Attractive new corporate entertainment/meeting room facilities for hire

Report from Alison Wilson

Having been regular visitors to Stockwood Park and the museum since moving in to Slip End over 20 years ago, we were interested to see how it would change after the work that has been done to improve it. It has always been somewhere that we favoured for a Sunday afternoon stroll with family or visitors. We attended the preview evening on 10th July, just before it opened at the weekend.

The main entrance is now a short walk from where it used to be at the other side of the site and takes you through a beautiful new visitor centre and shop into a newly opened section of the walled gardens with a bandstand, a children's play area and a new cafe. The bees, which my children used to like to watch when they were younger, have been given a new home in a long glasshouse. The period gardens and craft courtyard are still there as is the "Dig for Victory" garden.

The main part of the evening was inside the improved hall housing the Mossman Collection. The carriages are on show and we saw lots of new displays and exhibitions

including some hands on displays for the children. A space for special exhibitions is currently showing some impressive patchwork and needlework. We were offered champagne, wine or soft drinks and listened to speeches from various local dignitaries including our MP Margaret Moran. Many organisations including local schools and local people have been involved in providing funds and helping to set up the displays and some of these people spoke about their involvement. We were very impressed by how much has been done to make it a more appealing and interesting place for people to visit.

There was not really enough time to see it all in one short evening. The opening weekend was apparently extremely busy so I am looking forward to a return visit soon when there is more time to look around at leisure. I would recommend it to anyone as a good place to visit!



Some of the views of the new gardens





On Sunday 13th July many friends and family joined the Walker family for the service of Thanksgiving & Blessing for the gift of Zoe, at St Andrew's Church. The photo shows Zoe with her sponsors Lucy, Ben & Kate with parents Clare and Steve on the left of the picture.

Across the gap made by our English hinds,
Amidst the Roman's handiwork,
behold far off the long-roofed church;
the shepherd binds
the withy round the hurdles of his fold.
Down in the foss the river fed of old,
that through long lapse of time
has grown to be
the little grassy valley that you see.
Rest here awhile, not yet the eve is still,
the bees are wandering yet,
and you may hear
the barley mowers on the trenched hill,
the sheep-bells
and the restless changing weir.
All little sounds made musical and clear.
Beneath the sky that burning August gives,
while yet the thought
of glorious Summer lives.

GARDEN ASSOCIATION

Flower & Fruit Garden

Plant early bulbs for next year. Continue to bud fruit and rose stock throughout the month and remove all faded flowers and runners.

Watch out for American blight on apple trees, go over them with methylated spirits (no smoking!) During this month and next apples will become ripe enough to pick and enjoy

Vegetable Garden

When you come to the end of the first early potatoes, make a start on the second early or mid season crops. Lift a few roots at a time, as required in the kitchen. Ripen off onions which may be hastened by bending the stems over just above the neck of each bulb.

Finally, it is time to start bending a leaf or two over the cauliflower heads to help whitening now and, doing it later on in the year, will help protect the curds.

WHAT'S ON IN AUGUST

***A Midsummer Night's Dream
on Dunstable Downs***

Come and be enchanted by Quantum Theatre's fun, pacy and accessible new production of Shakespeare's classic comedy designed to appeal to the whole family. Tickets: Adult £10, Child £7, Concessions. £8, Family £28. Box Office: 0845 450 5157.

Stockwood Discovery Centre

Hand puppets, painting, lace making, Chinese fans, masks, toddler times, bird & bat watching, etc.. Too much going on here to fit on this page, events happen on most days in August. Call in at the new Discovery Centre and pick up the What's On guides.

*Stockwood Discovery Centre
Open Monday-Friday from 10 to 4
Saturday & Sunday 11 to 4
Telephone: 738714*

Well—we did it along with over 4000 other ladies. The day was rather unsettled to start with but we arrived at Verulamium in plenty of time for the start and joined in with the thousands of other participants watching the events unfold on the Chiltern Radio Stage. Guest speakers, three male cheer leaders and an instructor giving us warm-up exercises. By the time we finally managed to get to the start it was running about half an hour late! However the course was over Verulamium Park and the last part of the course was around the picturesque lake so we had some nice countryside to look at during the race. Many thanks to all the friends and family who sponsored us. We all felt it was a great achievement for us and hopefully our total fund-raising will benefit Cancer Research



Jill, Lyn and Sue with their medals.

WYEVALE GARDEN NURSERY

On 20th July, the Wyevale Garden Centre in Caddington was completely destroyed when a large fire ripped through the buildings.

The staff were arriving for work when they noticed smoke coming from inside the shop. Six fire engines and a water carrier. The fire raged for nearly six hours, closing the road. Fortunately no-one was injured but an investigation is now on to find the cause.

Well what a busy month it has been, what with the Open Gardens, charity fund raising, a brand new grand-daughter for David and Marian Kingston (more news next month) and the brilliant Fun Day attended by many local villagers.

For once the weather was kind to us and there was just a brief shower on Open Gardens Day.

The sun shone all day for the Fun Day and what a treat that was. It was good to see many local folk out and about and joining in the fun. We will report more on that in the next issue but well done to the organisers, Jan Crawley, Nikki West and Tracey Burgess. Is the playing field booked for the same time next year or will this be bi-annual to allow wounds to heal? Occuring on the 26th July, the Fun Day was just too late in the month to feature in this issue, so make sure you order PN for a bumper local issue in September.

It just shows that you don't have to go far to enjoy yourself and to make the most of what is happening in your local village.

HOME

Home is where you hang your hat, and should show 'welcome' on the mat.

Home is where you harbour dreams
nurture hopes, consider schemes.

Be it palace, shack or flat, home is
that special habitat.

No matter where you care to roam,
memories will bring you home.



WOODSIDE SHOPPING VILLAGE FUNDAY

On 19th July the Black Thunder team from Chiltern Radio went along to Woodside Shopping Village at Slip End to help some of the organisations celebrate their first anniversary and to see the other shops.

The Food Halls Delicatessen has settled in well after its first year of opening for business and offers some fabulous foods made locally, fresh bread from a local mill at Redbourn; meats from Woburn; home range of superb meals from Harpers and a mouth-watering array of cheese, olives and much more. Real pies made locally a real speciality! Visit the Deli for a tasty treat of local foods, real foods and deli foods



Shuba, Satwant and staff from the shop

The self-service Dogwash also celebrated with its first year and the Chiltern team demonstrated how to wash a dog! Dogs washed that day received a free doggie goodie bag and some birthday cake.



Tiny Riders had its grand opening that day. Go along there and meet Michelle who runs it for clothing, gifts, equipment and accessories for children and ponies! There was champagne for the adults and balloons for the children, a local farrier gave horseshoe making demonstrations and there was a raffle in aid of the of the Borneo Orang-utan Foundation.



Also in the village is Waggnbone's Dog Day care centre, where they provide lots of educational play and cuddles for your dog. Puppy socialization courses, dog's parties hosted and accessories are all available.

A real necessity in the Village is Jakes Café which Andy runs. They offer a range of quality fresh ground coffee, teas, cold drinks and superb snacks all at realistic prices. (Andy's wife runs the Dogwash Centre).

A good time was had by all with lots of fun and games to keep the children busy. Entry to the Shopping Village is free so don't forget to call in next time you are nearby.

Sue Briggs





Did anyone see the report in the Sun recently about Matthew? We featured him in the Parish News a few months ago and on Wednesday 23rd July he was beginning his four day challenge to Paris. The following report was taken from The Sun and we look forward to hearing how Matthew has got on and hopefully some pictures in Paris.

‘Cycling from London to Paris may not seem like the best way to look after your hips when you have already had TWO replacement joints fitted. But that’s what 38-year-old Matthew Callow aims to do to raise money for charity.

The businessman, from Slip End, also wants to highlight how false hip joints can transform lives.

The 300-mile, four-day challenge, takes place this month on behalf of Action Medical Research, one of the charities that first funded studies on hip replacements in the Sixties.’

For the rest of the story go to
<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/woman/health/article1372691.ece>

or use an Internet search engines
 to find details.



I visited Edie Ham of Crawley Close recently to see how she was getting along. I am pleased to report she is making a slow but gradual recovery from her fall many months ago now.

She wants to thank through Parish News all her friends for the help and kindness she has been given. Also for all the gifts, cards and visitors she has had, which has helped her to feel not so isolated. She feels sure that without all the friendship and help she would not be able to continue living in her lovely little home so thank you again to everyone and keep up the good work.

Sue Briggs

Give me

*The sun in the morning to brighten my day.
 The moon at night to lighten my way.
 A word with a friend, a smile from a stranger
 God’s guiding hand to keep me from danger.*

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

August

2nd County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington. 10 - 12 noon

6th Slip End Youth Club: Free Time & Craft Night

13th Slip End Youth Club: Family BBQ Night & arrival of new equipment!

19th Women's Institute: "Derbyshire Well-Dresser": A. Doody.

September

6th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington. 10 - 12 noon

7th Aley Green Methodist Church: Sunday School recommences

8th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 8.00pm

9th Knit & Natter at Julie Taylor's home: 1:30 - 2:45

13th St. Andrews: Open 10am to 6om for Historic Churches Trust Day

16th Women's Institute: Our 53rd Birthday Party

23rd Knit & Natter at Julie Taylor's home: 1:30 - 2:45

October

4th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington. 10 - 12 noon

6th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 8.00pm

*30-
31st Half Term Holiday Club at St Andrew's*

If you would like a copy of Parish News each month, contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way on 724527, alanjan@buttery400.fsnet.co.uk. Anything interesting to report about village activities, photos, holiday adventures, etc? Please contact us, letters and e-mails are encouraged. Views expressed by our contributors are not the Editor's own. Articles should be sent by the 15th of the preceding month to: parishnews@slipend.co.uk or Sue Briggs, 4 The Oaks, Slip End, or David Kingston davidgoodmankingston@gmail.com.

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BIN DAYS - August 2008

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4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

Put out Black Bins only on Fridays highlighted above. On other Fridays, put out Green and Orange Bins, not Black Bins.