

May 2008

Slip End & District Parish News

50p
where sold



Wally and Muriel Allsop will be celebrating their Diamond Wedding in June! News inside ...



Above: Many friends and family members were present at St Andrew's on April 11th for the Blessing of and Thanksgiving for Amelia Elizabeth Rachel Fitzgerald, seen here with her parents Rachel and James. A joyous occasion for all.

Above right: Dorrie Strong back with her friends at St Andrew's after an absence of several months due to illness. Welcome back Dorrie and 'keep taking the medicine', you have been sorely missed. *Right:* Teresa and Tony Willson with new twin grandchildren born on 31st March, Gabriel Benjamin (8lbs 13oz) and Amber Gayle (7lbs). Parents Claire and Simon Osborne and big sister Lily are thrilled to have them home in Cardiff, safe and well. *Below:* Another new arrival, the youngest on this page at just 90 seconds! The PN photographer was up early to catch the arrival of this addition to Felix McDaid's flock. Unlike human counterparts, brothers, sisters, nieces, nephews and aunts take little interest in the latest lamb, but mum gets on with the cleaning job!



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 07767731187
Women's Institute: 421034
Police: 473462
Aircraft noise: 395382
Water leaks: 0845 7823333

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Christine Benson: 456200
Christinebenson@bensons-autosupplies.co.uk
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Richard Stay: 724685
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Margaret Moran: 01582 731882
info@margaretmoran.org

CHURCHES

St Andrew's Church

Rev Joy Daniel 01582 424363
Warden: Tony Willson 482681

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



Women's
Institute

At our April meeting we had a most enjoyable speaker, Maggie Taylor from Harpenden, who told us about her donkeys and the Donkey Sanctuary in Exeter. The hours she puts into her love for these animals is mind-boggling. The sanctuary is open with free admittance every day of the year and the restaurant serves

home made food. A donkey will bond to another donkey for life and if they are separated they only take five days to pine away. Did you know that there is a law now, that if you are over 8 stone or taller than 4feet 6 inches you are not allowed to ride a donkey? Looking after their welfare started forty years ago and the funding proved a big problem. It was with great joy they learned of a legacy being left to them until it was revealed that this legacy was 204 more donkeys to add to the number!



In social time after refreshments we worked out how many words we could make from the letters in "Donkey Sanctuary". Jean Stow found 73, beat that! Well done Jean.

Our forthcoming dates are listed on the Diary page in this issue of Parish News. We would be pleased to welcome you! We have an extra event on Tuesday May 13th when the Dunstable Ladies Choir will entertain. £3.50 at the door, refreshments included. All welcome. Our regular meetings are held at 7.30pm on the third Tuesday of each month at the Baptist Hall in Caddington.

Patricia Crick

For more information about the Donkey Sanctuary, visit their excellent website: www.thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk

Early Warning! Summer Fayre Slip End School Saturday 21st June

*Why not have your own stall
and help raise funds
at the same time?
You could have your own
produce/crafts or goods stall*

£10 to hire a stall
Please contact

Tracey Burgess - Tel 07767731187
tracey_burgess88@hotmail.com

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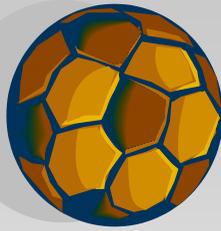
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**SLIP END
FOOTBALL CLUB**

The football team has suffered a very frustrating run of fixtures this month. With games being on and off due to ridiculously bad weather, only a handful of fixtures were completed. Continued victories in the league, building upon the early season's efforts have left the side in an enviable position coming up to the final few games. However, defeat in the semi final of the cup, a game in which the team dominated all proceedings has left everyone shocked and stunned.

With future games coming thick and fast as the league deadline of April 27th approaches, the team has to get that defeat out of it's system in order to have the chance to win some silverware in the cup.

Ian Brodie



POEMS BY FRANCIS GAY

There was a very careful man
And much too careful, he;
He couldn't give a child a treat;
He drank unsweetened tea.

He skimped and scraped
and when he died,
the money he had got
Went to a nephew,
who said "Whew!"
And promptly blew the lot!

The moral's plain,
though thrift is good,
We're meant to drain life's cup,
Lest in a self-made wilderness
Our soul is shrivelled up!

*Whenever your road is rough and steep,
And your step somehow seems slow,
It won't do a scrap of good to grouse,
That never can help, you know.*

*If you tramp along and sing a song
And your heart is gallant, too,
Then the long, rough road
will seem somehow
Oh, a friendly road to you.*

LAUGHTER

A middle-aged man works as an examiner at a driving test centre. Recently one of his colleagues returned from a test, looking extremely pale. Shaking, he explained that his student had hit a dog while driving through a housing estate. "Oh that place is terrible for dogs running about," the examiner sympathised. "It should have been on a lead." His colleague replied, "It was!"



The note on the drinks machine in the coffee area warned, "Diet coke isn't working." Beneath that, someone else had written: "Try exercise and a low-carbohydrate diet."

Revolutionary Method of Dog Training!

**Any Breed
Any Age
Any Problem!**

Does your Dog:

- ◆ pull on the lead?
- ◆ jump up at visitors?
- ◆ not come back when called?
- ◆ destroy your home while you are out?

Are you prepared to give your dog the time and patience required?

Go into this with an open mind and work together as a household to make this work?

If so contact me, Rita. I can help!

Phone: 01582 418014 Mobile: 07752 819374
rtims@btconnect.com

**CADDINGTON
DOGLISTENERS**



talking your dog's language



F



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S

Friends of Slip End Lower School

CAR BOOT SALE

Monday 5th May 2008

11am till 2pm

**at Slip End Lower
School**

**Do you want a clear out?
How about booking a pitch
at our Car Boot Sale?**

**Pitches cost £5 in advance or £7.50 on the day.
To pre-book call Penny on 07966 048449**

**Set up from 9.30am
Come along
and see what bargains can be had.....**

**BBQ REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE
BOUNCY CASTLE AND SLIDE FOR KIDS
(SMALL CHARGE)**

20P ENTRANCE

Vegetable Garden

Once again there will be a number of sowings to be made during the month to provide a succession of vegetables after those raised from earlier sowings. You should make a couple of sowings of main crop peas to give you a chance of continuing the crop well into the autumn. Successional batches of culinary peas will be growing freely during the month and these must be staked as soon as they are a couple of inches high. Dwarf peas should have small bushy twigs to keep them erect. Runner beans can now be sown, putting in stakes at the same time.

As the earlier crops of potatoes push their shoots through the ground draw more soil around them to protect from frost.

Winter green crops from early sowings and particularly cauliflowers and Brussels sprouts should now be planted out. It is better to plant using a trowel rather than a dibber.

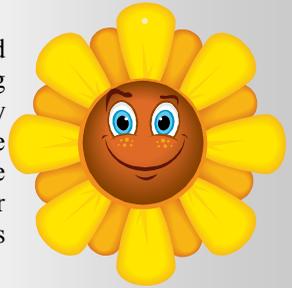
Flower & Fruit Garden

The flower garden now demands close attention if fine plants are to develop. All annuals will be in vigorous growth so any weaklings can be sacrificed; allow plenty of space for growing.

Mulch fruit trees, spread a fairly thick layer of well rotted farmyard or stable manure around fruit trees and bushes of all types: do not use hop manure as this contains chemicals. Spray all fruit bearing trees and shrubs.

Lawns

May is a good month for using lawn sand on weedy lawns or one of the more effective methods sold under various trade names in liquid form.



RACE OR WALK FOR LIFE

Together we will beat Cancer!

Race for Life events will be taking place in Luton on the 22nd June and in St Albans on the 20th July. Taking part in Race for Life is not the only way you can support our events. There are many things you can do to help make Race for Life a success and support Cancer Research UK:

Volunteer to help to make these incredible events what they are. We have a variety of volunteering opportunities from pre-event preparation to helping out on the event day itself. It's the ideal way to get the men in your life involved in your Race for Life event!

In 2007 we brought together 665,000 women to walk, jog or run 5k to raise £40 million pounds for Cancer Research UK – the world's leading independent organisation dedicated to cancer research.

To find out more information check the website www.raceforlife.org.



Services & Events in May

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

Friday 2 nd	Noon	“On the Move!” in Luton town centre
Saturday 3 rd	Noon	“On the Move!” in Luton town centre
Sunday 4 th	10.30am	Family Communion
Wednesday 7 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Thursday 8 th	8.00pm	Footsteps in the Family Room
Sunday 11 th	10.30am	Morning Praise (Whit Sunday)
	6.15pm	3;16 Meet in the Family Room
	6.30pm	Pentecost Praise at the COGIC Centre, Luton
Wednesday 14 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Sunday 18 th	10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 21 st	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room (to be recorded by Three Counties Radio)
Thursday 22 nd	8.00pm	Footsteps meet Slip End Playing Field
Sunday 25 th	9.15am	Holy Communion at East Hyde
	10.30am	Morning Praise
Wednesday 28 th	10.30am	Little Stars in the Family Room
Friday 30 th	2.30pm	Woodside Home Service



We will be having a couple of visits by 3CR to record “Little Stars” on 21st May and our Family Communion service on 4th.

“Kidz Time”

We “Kidz Time” leaders have got together finally and decided to have a “Holiday Club” Barbeque on Saturday 24th May, noon to 3pm in the Vicarage garden or in church if wet. There will be fun and games including football, planting, cooking and collage. Please make a £1 donation per child in advance to cover catering. Please contact Jill on 452539 (house near back school gate) or Mary on 738435. All lower school and years 5 and 6 children welcome. You may like to bring a waterproof rug to sit on. Help! I'm looking especially for a barbeque operator!

Mary Barker

St Andrew's churchyard

Thank you to all who tend graves so faithfully and lovingly. May we draw your attention to the fact that the regulations which govern the use of the churchyard do not allow for the use of artificial flowers.

Thank you for your co-operation. *Rev'd Joy Daniel*

On a technical note, it is hoped that the Three Counties Radio recording equipment is able to attenuate the happy sounds at “Little Stars” to sub-saturation levels!

Ian Pearce is coming to St Andrew's to record the service on Sunday May 4th. This will be transmitted on Sunday 11th in his “Melting Pot” show, which goes out between 6 and 9am: press the record button if that's a bit early for you. ***Stan Drew's Band will be featured*** and if you haven't joined in with their worship, come along it's great. Ian will also be recording a chat or two with some locals, so if you cannot get along to the service take a listen on 11th. Better still, come along *and* listen the following week!

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

11th March was our 43rd Birthday so we took 34 members out to a public house in Broom. We had a lovely cream tea and everyone enjoyed it. Viv Porter is the only member left who was there when the club started in 1965. She was a very young forty years at the time.

Anyone who wishes to join us on a Thursday afternoon at the Village Hall is very welcome; its Bingo, tea and biscuits plus a raffle. I know this is a little late but we would like to thank the Brownies for their lovely Tea Party, where they gave everyone a really good time.

Pam King



Keep your eyes on the ball! Parish News has campaigned from day one of the current M1 tart-up project for the original plaque to be remounted in the area. This stood for years in the Parish on the old Church Road bridge and word from BB-Skanska is that that they will mount it on their splendid new bridge at Pepperstock, with appropriate festivities at the completion of their project later this year. Rumour is that Councillors

parochial, district and county as well as our MP will attend, with a great bunfight for local populace to include refreshments. Bravo, can't wait! PN is already plotting strategy for the official opening of the following phase, being mindful that, as far as M1 is concerned, we in the Parish have been in the thick of it since 1959, when the boys and girls in current construction teams were toddlers and we in Slip End were coming to terms in a brave new world with a thing called M1. ***Be assured that the Parish News Teams will mobilise to cover all events!***

Did you know?

Slip End Lower School has:

- Places available for 3½ to 9yr olds
- 100% SAT results in all subjects
- Highest overall average point score for Key Stage 1 results in the Dunstable area for 2007
- Small class sizes
- Results well above the national average
- A beautiful countryside setting



Slip End Lower school offers an excellent education in a caring environment to children from across the Luton & Dunstable area. If you'd like to see for yourself call us on 01582 720152 to arrange a visit.



Visitors are always welcome

"This a caring school in which adults work hard to support all pupils"
"The school offers pupils a rich and varied curriculum and a good level of care." **Ofsted Report, Dec 2006**

**Visit www.slipend.beds.sch.uk & read the full
Ofsted report & find out more about SELS**

**Slip End Lower School, Ross Way, Slip End, Beds LU1 4DD
tel no: 01582 720152**

A VIEW OVER THE BACK HEDGE

Following interest in our item last month about the “Black Pitch” field, which lies between Pepperstock and Crawley Close, Parish News reporter dropped by to see Felix McDaid, the new owner.

Those of us who live backing onto the field have been charmed by the arrival of the sheep to be followed by their lambs and the occasional sounds of their bleats add a very pleasant rural touch. Felix’s sheep are of the unusual Wiltshire Horn breed. Thoughts that the lambs would eventually disappear towards the knacker’s yard were quickly dispelled.

“They will be sold on for breeding to maintain the stock. Some will be moved on to our other field in Silsoe soon.” Felix says. His family are experienced farmers in Ireland and he to wants to maintain and develop that interest.

Felix’s “day job” is running his Screeding Services business which is currently based in High Town. “We want to move our small office out of town and we are working with the local planning authority to convert the old chapel building by the Half Moon into office space. As soon as planning is complete the conversion work will start and that corner will be a big improvement.”

Meantime, with the help of Seamus who works with the machinery on Black Pitch field, the agricultural work progresses. “Seamus has been busy ploughing and grading the field at the Pepperstock end and we’ll be seeding soon. This will allow further grazing for the sheep and we’ll get on with seeding at the Slip End end!”

Our reporter told Felix how much interest there has been over the past few months, particularly from those of us who overlook the field. Many, including our reporter, have regularly counted the number of lambs which have appeared. Generally, on getting up early in the morning,



the PN man wanders into the upstairs room to see how the sheep are faring. The daily recount is non productive, as his tendency is to drop off again

A senior resident was also up early recently and captured the photograph of a new born lamb, not two minutes old! PN has no regrets on printing his photograph, a forgivable repetition perhaps, following the picture published on the inside back cover last month!



The Wiltshire Horn is one of the world's oldest breeds and does not need shearing as it sheds its wool.

SLIP END YOUTH CLUB

DID YOU KNOW THERE IS A FANTASTIC NEW YOUTH CLUB IN SLIP END?

**EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING
FROM 7-9PM**

@ PETER EDWARDS' HALL

(NEXT TO ST ANDREW'S CHURCH)

NINTENDO WII
POOL TABLE
TABLE TENNIS
TABLE FOOTBALL
AIR HOCKEY
ARTS & CRAFTS
VOLLEYBALL

BASKETBALL
BADMINTON
PLAY STATIONS
DVD'S
DJ / KARAOKE & DANCE MATS
BOARD GAMES
(HILL OUT AREA)

ALL FOR JUST £1 A WEEK!!!

ALSO TRIPS TO...

**XSCAPE SNOWDOME
LASERQUEST
SWIMMING**

AND MUCH MUCH MORE....

TUCK SHOP

WITH SWEETS, CRISPS, COOKIES AND HOT + COLD DRINKS
SO DON'T FORGET YOUR POCKET MONEY

SO IF YOU ARE BETWEEN 10 AND 16 YEARS OLD
THERE'S NO NEED TO BOOK - JUST TURN UP ON THE NIGHT

And if you're over 16 and interested in becoming a volunteer, come along too and meet us.



Amazing - but True!

Weeds forcing through the tarmac on the footpath in Church Road. New tarmac was laid recently following M1 work when the project appeared to be getting overspent with an obviously cheap deal being struck, presumably using itinerant labour with a pile of warm tarmac on their truck. Hopefully, work on the M1 carriageway (lovely word) was to a higher standard, but PN reporter will watch for weeds in the fast lane and report back. Hopes are that only Slip End Parish was short-changed and that the Highways authority had a better job done



THE PLOUGH

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BREAKFASTS, LUNCHES & BAR SNACKS

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

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BAR OPEN:

MONDAYS TO WEDNESDAYS: 9AM TO 10PM

THURSDAYS TO SATURDAYS: 9AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT

SUNDAYS: 11AM TO 10PM

UNLOCK WALK 2008

A miserable start to our day in London, with cloudy skies and rain forecast, didn't dampen spirits as we set off early one Saturday morning last month. We arrived at the Chelsea Community Church before doors had opened but were lucky to park there, as there is no street parking! We were welcomed with a hot brew and biscuits and took a quick tour of the small, friendly church. The World's End Estate nearby was built in the early 70's and the seven towers are home to 5000 people representing 100 nationalities and 50 languages.



We crossed Battersea Bridge to reach St Mary's Church, famous for its art and literary connections. William Blake was married there and William Turner painted the River Thames viewed from a vestry window. Around the ceiling were plaques thanking benefactors for their assistance in bygone years. Here, we met up with Mary and David Bolster, the previous vicar of St Andrew's and it was good to catch up with their news. David is vicar of St Aldhelms in Edmonton and his parish is facing its own problems at the moment with the violence that is happening on the streets around them.



We met many walkers travelling in the opposite direction: you can start the walk anywhere along the route and go which way you wish. Battersea Park was busy with youngsters playing football and children out on their mini go-karts with their parents.



Youngsters in Battersea Park

The Shaftesbury Centre seemed a strange place at first, with several rooms for hire alongside the church. Support groups, clubs and counselling run alongside Bible study and prayer groups and lunch clubs.



David & Mary Bolster with friends from their church

Walking on through several estates, we reached Battersea Chapel, the oldest non-conformist church in Battersea. In 1672 Thomas Horrocks was granted a licence to preach by King Charles and after small groups meeting in houses the first meeting house was built in 1736.



Lunch time at Battersea Chapel

After a short walk and across Wandsworth Bridge we came to St Matthew's in Fulham where the Unlock Team was present to answer any questions and meet and greet the walkers. This was a very modern day church; having only been built in 2000 after it was funded through legacies, savings and selling land to a housing association.

It is a very lively church and used nearly every day for community or church events.



Jack the little dog had a great day.

The final church of the day was The Church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help that was built on a rubbish tip! In 1914 a local lady lost her son in action in the 1st World War. She bought the tip and on it built the church in his memory.



Steve, Brian & Paul take a well earned break



After a tiring day, we finally reached our first church again for a hot drink before setting off home, having had insights to some of the issues which Unlock addresses. For further information on Unlock, check out their website www.unlock-urban.org.uk

Sue Briggs

THE UNLOCK LONDON WALK NO.25



Unlocking real life stories of urban people
Revealing Good News of the Down to Earth Christ
Releasing life changing skills & confidence

SATURDAY 19th APRIL 2008 9AM to 5PM Chelsea, the Thames, East Fulham & Battersea



***Senior Citizens Outing
Saturday June 7th***

FREE if you live in Slip End, Pepperstock, Woodside. Phone 01582 723109, leave your name and telephone number.

The Value of Time

To realise the value of ten years:
ask a newly divorced couple.

To realise the value of four years:
ask a graduate.

To realise the value of one year:
ask a student who has failed a final exam.

To realise the value of nine months:
ask a mother who gave birth to a stillborn.

To realise the value of one month:
ask a mother who has given birth
to a premature baby.

To realise the value of one week:
ask an editor of a weekly newspaper.

To realise the value of one minute:
Ask a person who has missed a train.

To realise the value of one second:
ask a person who has survived an accident.

Time waits for no one.

Treasure every moment you have.

You will treasure it even more when
you can share it with someone special.



**FANCY A NATTER
WHILE YOU KNIT?**

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

We will be meeting on May 13th & 27th 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.**



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.*

**TABLE TOP
AND
CAR BOOT SALE**

SLIP END VILLAGE HALL
SATURDAY MAY 17th 10am to 1pm

Stalls or pitch £5

Call 01582 723109

Leave your name and telephone number

In aid of the Pasque Hospice
and local charities

Plans are well in hand and about 10 intrepid gardeners have signed up, many for the first time in support of this “bi-ennial” event in the Village. Put the date in your diary, the weather is always fine for us!

At a recent meeting of “Plant People” who look after the organisation, Joan Duncombe mentioned The National Garden Scheme. There are a number of gardens in the area which open on one or two days in the summer and a few are listed below. For an informative leaflet, contact Mike & Pat Sutcliffe, Valley Forge, 213 Castle Hill Road, Totternhoe, LU6 2DA (01582 221676) or look on www.ngs.org.uk, from whence the following was gleaned!

The National Gardens Scheme Since 1927, over 80 years of fine gardens



Every year NGS gardens across England and Wales welcome over half a million visitors. Our tradition of opening gardens of quality, character and interest is supported by our Patron, HRH Prince of Wales. Few people realise that through this we raise £2 million each year for nursing, caring and gardening charities. Since 1927 we have raised over £30 million (£15 million in the last 10 years). Our office is small so most of the money goes straight to the charities we support.

Most of the 3,500 gardens are privately owned. Some open as part of a group which gets the whole community involved. All the gardens are enjoyed by the garden owners and their visitors, funding charities to help people who are ill or under stress.

The Hyde Walled Garden, East Hyde, Luton. **Contact:** D J J Hambro Will Trust

Walled garden adjoins the grounds of The Hyde (house not open). Extends to 1 acre and features rose garden, seasonal beds and herbaceous borders, imaginatively interspersed with hidden areas of formal lawn. An interesting group of Victorian greenhouses, coldframes and cucumber house are serviced from the potting shed in the adjoining vegetable garden.

OPENING DATES AND TIMES:

Sat 10 May; Sun 29 June (2-5). Adm £3, children free. Home-made teas.

Ragged Hall, Gaddesden Row nr Hemel Hempstead **Contact:** Mr & Mrs Anthony Vincent

LOCATION: HP2 6HJ 4m N of Hemel Hempstead. Take A4146 to Water End. Turn R up hill for 2m, turn R at T-junction. House is 3rd L past Chequers PH

Garden of 1½ acres. Lovely spring garden. Mixed borders. Some unusual plants. Pond garden and cutting garden. Potager with vegetables and flowers. Tulips in May

OPENING DATES AND TIMES:

Sun 4 May (2-5.30), Adm £3.50, children free. Home-made teas.

High Elms Gardens, Harpenden

9 High Elms & The Spinney

LOCATION: AL5 2JU. On B487 Redbourn Lane off A1081 St Albans to Harpenden Rd

OPENING DATES AND TIMES:

Sun 18 May (2-6). Combined adm £5, children free. Home-made teas at The Spinney.

MURIEL & WALLY ALLSOP

On the 5th June Muriel and Wally will celebrate their Diamond Anniversary and we wish them many congratulations and a wonderful time with their family and friends at the celebrations!

Muriel and Wally have lived in the village for almost 50 years, moving here from Farley Hill all those years ago. When the family moved to Slip End, Wally started to employ some of the village lads to work for him, which increased in later years to a staff of over twenty. Allsop's Builders was first formed in New Town Street in Luton and the only transport available at that time was a bicycle! Later the bike was changed for a motorbike with a sidecar and finally a van was the method of transport. Muriel would serve in the Grocer's shop that they also ran which in later years was sold to Jeans of Luton, which is where the florist shops of Luton first begun. Allsop's built the Vicarage at St Andrews when Dennis Cooper was the vicar here and later went on to build several more vicarages, one at Eaton Bray and one at Kensworth. Wally now leaves the work at the building firm to his sons whilst he takes his well-earned ease.

Wally became Treasurer of the Slip End Village Hall committee in 1961 and was helped by Muriel especially in the later years when they both contributed much time to the welfare and upkeep of the Village Hall. Muriel and Wally have five children, four boys and one girl and now have fourteen grandchildren and seven great grandchildren plus another four from their extended stepfamily. They are lucky enough to have all their children living fairly nearby with the exception of Robert who lives in Norfolk.

The village owes a debt of gratitude to Wally and Muriel who with other "seniors" around the village, worked tirelessly to develop the local setup back in those earlier days. Again, we wish them a happy and enjoyable Diamond Wedding anniversary in June.



What a great picture ...

Mr and Mrs W. H. Allsop (it seems appropriate to be respectfully formal, just for once) pictured outside Biscot church in 1948 after their wedding service. Post-war austerities cannot disguise the radiance from their faces as they pose happy and proud for the camera. That bouquet of Muriel's looks fantastic, even in b&w and isn't she beautiful? What about Wally? His bearing reflects recent demob from the services, perhaps that suit does too? Immaculate creases are superb, as are his gloves: but really Wally, a *jersey*? And don't you love those faces, girls peeking over the fences, wondering when their turns will come to stand arm in arm with a new husband.

Congratulations!

ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

Services & Diary Dates for May

Sunday 4th

9.30am Ascensiontide Praise
led by Church Members
9.30am Sunday School

Sunday 11th

11am Sunday School &
Morning Service with Communion
Rev Julia Dowding

Saturday 17th

12 noon Good as new sale with Lunches
In aid of Christian Aid.

Sunday 18th

11am Sunday School & Morning Service
Mr R Clarke

Wednesday 21st

7.30pm Coffee Evening
in aid of Christian Aid

Sunday 25th

11am Wesley Praise
led by Church Members

Saturday 31st 10am to 3pm

Friends of Caddington Allotments
Plant and Produce Sale



*I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
Speak the peace you long to hear.
I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through.*

Two verses from 'Brother Sister Let Me Serve You' by Richard Gillard, sung in our service on the 13th April, very fitting for our congregation that morning.

A big **thank you** to everyone who popped along to our Spring Fayre. It was lovely to welcome so many friends and supporters. We raised £806 towards the running of our church.

We hope to see you all again on Saturday 17th when we open our doors for the Good as New Sale. Lunches, bread & cheese, soup and jacket potatoes with fillings, will be available. There will be no set price but we will ask you to give a donation to Christian Aid.

*God has no hands but our hands
to help his people.*

God Bless you from all at Aley Green Methodist Church!

Ann Meader



Brownies



Brownies have a theme for this term, we are working towards the gold Olympia badge to coincide with the Beijing Olympics. The Brownies will be learning about people in China, the Olympic sports, the athletes' preparation and peace and companionship between countries that the Olympic Games promote. Each athlete is doing their best, a concept that is familiar to all Brownies!

We will also be holding a mini-olympics of our own throughout the term. So far we have had a Tangram competition, designed stamps, coins and banknotes, and held a relay race, all of which will go towards their final Olympic result. We are hoping to use this theme as an excuse to take the Brownies out for a Chinese meal at the end of term! Wednesday 23rd April brought St George visiting the Brownies and taking part in our final song, although some people may think he was only there to sample the cakes the girls had been decorating!

Towards the end of the Spring term the Brownies took part in the Children with Leukaemia Marathon Challenge. They have each done 26 good turns in return for sponsorship from family and friends. We are pleased to announce that we managed to raise £120 for Children with Leukaemia and £120 towards Brownie funds.

Now we have done all this fund raising we are hoping to invest in some new outdoor equipment and have also planned a trip to a roller rink.

Finally we are very pleased to tell you that we have gained 3 new brownies this term. Welcome to Natasha, Alyssa and Sophie!



CALLING ALL GIRLS!

Are you aged between 6½ and 10?
Do you want to come & join us having
fun on a Wednesday evening? Then
come and have a look at what we get
up to - visitors welcome!
6pm to 7:30 pm

- games -
- crafts - cooking -
- outings - sports - camping -

call Paula 07813616462
or Philippa 07961958404
or Verity 07963630878

VILLAGE FUN DAY

Have you heard?

Do you run a small business and would like a stall to sell your goods?

Stalls are just £10 for a pitch or on a profit share basis!

Do you have time to come and help on one of the many stalls on the day?

Young or old we would love you to get involved!

Do you have a business you wish to advertise on the day or in the programme?

For a small donation to the fundraising you can advertise!

Do you want to enter a team in the Grand Tug-o'-War?

Separate groups for Kids & Adults!

Are you a Musician or Entertainer?

Let us know and we'll get you into the fun!

This event is for all the Family!

- ❁ *Bouncy Castle & Train Rides* ❁
- ❁ *Climbing Wall to Tug-o'-War* ❁
- ❁ *Carpet Bowls to Cream Teas* ❁
- ❁ *Punch and Judy to Garden Games* ❁
- ❁ *Pimms Tent to Beer Tent* ❁
- ❁ *BBQ's to Hog Roast* ❁

**Come along,
get involved,
join in the Village Fun!**

If you want to lend a hand for a few hours
or if you can offer a particular talent
or you wish to donate prizes for our Tombola stall,
toys, books or bottles. Please call ...

❁ **Janet Crawley 07752 902070** ❁

❁ **Nikki West 01582 402312** ❁

❁ **Tracey Burgess 07767 731187** ❁

**PROPOSALS FOR DEPARTURE PATTERNS
FROM LUTON AIRPORT**

Parish News reported in the March edition that a consultation document had been released by the National Air Traffic Services (NATS) which included, amongst other things, a proposal to re-route departing aircraft from Luton Airport. The proposal would result in aircraft taking off in a westerly direction, to follow a line between Slip End and Woodside. At the time of reporting in March it was a little unclear of the impact of these changes other than there would be some benefit to residents in Pepperstock. NATS had placed their consultation document on a web site at www.consultation.nats.co.uk and comments from interested parties, including residents, could be made through that web site.

For readers able to access the internet it is worth going on the NATS web site to read, at least, the summarised version together with maps showing the proposed changes. In short, NATS is proposing that all 'planes will be fitted with new navigational equipment to ensure that take offs follow a consistent line and do not wander within a wide "corridor".

However, the new line that is proposed for westerly take offs from Luton will run almost in between Slip End and Woodside/Lower Woodside on both day and night departures. Even NATS' own calculations show that as aircraft will still be below 1000ft whilst passing over then the level of aircraft noise and disruption will rise throughout the parish during the day.

NATS makes no comment about night-time flights although if, as stated, new navigational equipment will mean aircraft stay on a consistent line, then it can be assumed that if daytime noise levels rise then night-time ones will also rise. Within the proposals NATS is predicting that by 2016 aircraft take-offs from Luton Airport would be running at 1 every 4 minutes. It goes without saying that this will also affect air pollution levels.

An enlightening and well attended meeting was held on 20th April, arranged jointly by Caddington Parish Council, South Beds. District Council and Bedfordshire County Council. Also present was the MP for South Luton, Margaret Moran and a representative from LADACAN. Residents learned more about the impact of the proposed changes and were given information on how they could comment if they did not have access to the internet by writing directly to "***TNC Consultation, NATS, Freepost NAT22750, Reading, RG1 4BR***". It was also confirmed that the comments must be received by NATS before the **22nd May 2008** and these will include comments from Luton Airport which is not party to the these proposals. Once the comments have been analysed NATS will make its recommendation to the Civil Aviation Authority which is the final arbiter in bringing about any changes. If changes such as the current proposal are agreed then those changes could be put into effect as early as Spring 2009.

At the meeting, Caddington Parish Council, South Beds. District Council, Bedfordshire County Council and Margaret Moran made it very clear that they will be opposing the proposed changes. They urged all residents to make their comments to NATS preferably, in their view, by writing direct to the address given above.

The main thrust of what they believe should be said to NATS is that the proposal to have more consistent navigation for departing aircraft can be achieved without altering the line of take off, which if pursued, will result in routing flights over heavily populated areas such as Slip End, Woodside/Lower Woodside and Aley Green.

If anyone wishes to pass their comments through Margaret Moran or contribute to her Petition "Stop NATS in its Tracks", she is happy to receive calls on 01582 731882, or through e-mail at halls@parliament.uk or at www.margaretmoran.org.

Weight Restriction
7.5 tonnes
½ mile
←

H & S Protective Barriering.
Temporary, may be removed
before April 1st, 2025.

Springtime is here and the Village is beginning to bloom. Coronation Garden looks fine, there's talk of further improvements around the Parish and we look forward to Open Gardens and Fun Days in the summer. Great, but improvements around the place tend to emphasise contrasting areas which are not so wonderful. PN is pleased to report that the Parish Council is moving towards despatch of the gruesome wreckage of the one-time telephone box. When that happens the contents of this County Council detritus sub-depot, for that is what the phone box has become, will need relocation. Track record is that it will not be moved, indeed there is every risk that phone box removal contractors will add their own trashy contributions on leaving the site. Such is the case of the weirdness surrounding the spectacular new street light in Church Road, complete with tropospheric signage relating to some mysterious weight restriction. (Thereby hangs another tale, far too complex to be entered into here!)

No doubt there are some in the Parish who have been eagerly awaiting delivery of the latest issue of "Yellow Pages". I am not amongst them; unwanted and uninvited, the wretched tome is immediately binned in our household and same goes for Thomson Directory, rubbish!

There are more cost effective and ecologically friendlier ways available to many these days to access the type of information found in these directories, so PN is on the hunt, trying to find out how to unsubscribe. We are not optimistic that this will be easy. The publishers (not the friendly PO or less friendly BT, but Yell Ltd of Reading) no doubt report terrific circulation figures to their advertisers and subscribers, the result of dumping the thing on millions of doorsteps. Sadly, like the one shown below which is beginning to decompose in Summer Street, many are left to rot. Speaks volumes ...



David Kingston



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

May

- 3rd County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington. 10 - 12
- 9th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 8.00pm
- 10th Garden Open Day at The Hyde, East Hyde 2 to 5pm
- 12th **Parish Council: Village Hall at 8.00pm Annual General Meeting**
- 13th Women's Institute at Baptist Hall, Caddington: Dunstable Ladies Choir
- 20th Women's Institute at Baptist Hall, Caddington: Annual Meeting
- 22nd Deadline for response to NATS Air Traffic proposals
- 31st Plant & Produce Sale at Aley Green Methodist Church

June

- 5th Muriel & Wally Allsop: **GOLDEN WEDDING!**
- 7th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington. 10 - 12
- 7th SEADA Senior Citizens Outing, contact Gil on 732109
- 9th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 8.00pm
- 17th Women's Institute at Baptist Hall, Caddington: "Scams", Major Gilmor
- 22nd "Race for Life" in Luton in aid of Cancer Research (www.raceforlife.org)

21st SUMMER FAYRE at the School

July

- 5th County Councillor's Surgery at Heathfield School, Caddington. 10 - 12
- 7th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 8.00pm

12th VILLAGE OPEN GARDENS DAY

20th "Race for Life" St Albans in aid Cancer Research

26th VILLAGE FUN DAY

BINGO
at the Village Hall
Thursdays at Eight
Slip End & District Association

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 to Sue Briggs at 4 The Oaks, Slip End,
or David Kingston davidgoodmankingston@gmail.com

Parish News is grateful to our advertisers for their contributions. Please support them!

**For advertising enquiries call Steve on 01582 861186 (Monday to Friday 9 to 4) or 01582 414162 (evenings & weekends),
SteveSueLyons@aol.com**

BIN DAYS - May 2008

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

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