

# SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

AUGUST 2009

50P WHERE SOLD



**WHAT  
A GREAT  
VILLAGE  
DAY !  
JULY 25TH  
2009**



**VILLAGE  
DAY  
JULY 25TH  
2009**



# VILLAGE HALL

1909 - 2009!



*On the Friday evening of the Village Weekend a Grand Centenary Celebration was held in the Village Hall. Hostesses were Doris Horgan, Jill Acton & Shirley Knapton and entertainment was provided by the Wilstead Players. A great evening was enjoyed by a packed house!*



*Above: On Sunday 28th June, there was a Service of Thanksgiving for the gift of a child at St Andrew's Church for Matilda (Tilly) Joan Franke, seen here with sister Emma and parents Rachel & Felix Franke. They all live in Siegburg near Bonn in Germany and it was lovely to welcome them at the church. Rachel is the daughter of Joan Duncombe who lives in Summer Street.*



*Right: Newest recruit to St Andrew's is Jemima who was born on July 11th to parents Lisa & Danny Cornelius. Sister Tilly is a regular visitor to Little Stars and had a wonderful time at the Village Day with lots of her friends.*



# The Parish @ Large

**WHAT A FABULOUS VILLAGE WEEKEND!**  
**THIS ISSUE HAS BEEN RUSHED TO**  
**BRING YOU ITEMS & PICTURES ABOUT**  
**VILLAGE HALL '100' & VILLAGE DAY.**

## 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: 0795 6833488

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

**RISH COUNCILLORS**  
Stephen Fuell: 417792  
stevefuell@f2s.com  
Philip Penman: 455185  
PhilipPenman@aol.com  
Geoff Daniel: 424363  
#gdaniel@btinternet.com  
Ken Crossett 414168  
kencrossett@slipend.co.uk  
Janet Crawley: 07752 902070  
crawley\_janet@yahoo.co.uk  
Sarah Minnighan  
s.minnighan@btinternet.com  
Paul Cooper  
paul-cooper@indigo-tiger.com

**CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**  
Nikki West: 402312 (9am to noon weekdays)  
parishclerk@slipend.co.uk

**CENTRAL BEDS COUNCIL: 0300 300 8000**

**CENTRAL BEDS COUNCILLOR**

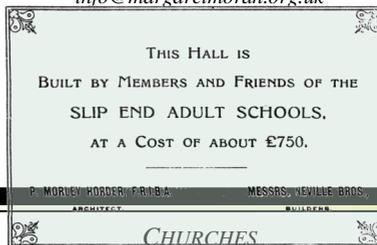
Richard Stay: 724685

Richard.Stay@bedscc.gov.uk

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

Margaret Moran: 01582 731882

info@margaretmoran.org.uk



## CHURCHES

### **St Andrew's Church**

Rev Joy Daniel 01582 424363

Wardens: Tony Willson 482681

Susan Wiltshire 725984

### **Aley Green Methodist Church**

Minister: Rev Philip Horner

Senior Steward: Ann Meader 733668

## SHOPS & SERVICES

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**

## VILLAGE HALL CENTENARY CELEBRATION



100 years of Village Hall events, where has the time gone? The Hall had been suitably decorated with bunting and photos taken over the last century: what a talking point they were. It was interesting to see how times had changed, not only with some of the vehicles pictured but by the style of dress and the outfits that have been worn in the last 100 years. What fun we had trying to place faces and some of the children in the photos. Special celebrations were also featured and we were welcomed by Steve Fuell who opened the evening.

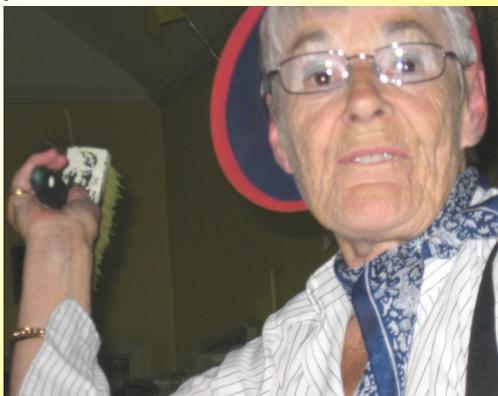


In the first part of the evening we were entertained by the Wilstead Players and their Old Time Music Hall singers. The audience were invited to sing along and everyone joined in with gusto.

The 'Galloping Major' had us in uproar as he galloped around the hall. There were some monologues and we witnessed some amazing magic, how did he do it?



After a refreshment interval Ken Crossett (Alice) and Chris Barnes (Vicar) performed a 'Vicar of Dibley' sketch, with some hilarious jokes. Your talents are wasted!



*'When father painted the parlour ...'*

**VILLAGE HALL**  
1909 - 2009!



The raffle provided some excellent prizes and Shirley was on hand to give out the gifts and help the winners choose their prize.



There were many familiar faces who enjoyed the evening and it was a chance to meet up with old friends.

Assisted by Hilary Barnes on the piano, we stood up to sing along to 'Onward Christian Soldiers', the hymn which was sung at the opening ceremony on 24 July 1909.



Ken Crossett thanked ex-committee members for all their help in the past and also present members, they all do a sterling job. Their talents mainly go largely unrecognised, so thank you to all, past and present.



Good to see some dressed up for the occasion, a great evening! The Centenary Celebration ended with thanks all round and singing of the National Anthem

*Sue Briggs*





*Happy scenes during the Village Weekend!*

### **DEAD DUCK!**

A woman brought a very limp duck into a vet's surgery. As she laid her pet on the table, the vet pulled out his stethoscope and listened to the bird's chest. After a moment or two, the vet shook his head sadly and said 'I'm so sorry, your duck, 'Cuddles' has passed away' The distressed owner wailed 'Are you sure ?' 'Yes, I am sure. The duck is dead,' he replied. 'How can you be so sure,' she protested. 'I mean, you haven't done any testing on him or anything. He might just be in a coma or something'

The Vet rolled his eyes, and left the room, and returned a few minutes later with a black Labrador retriever. As the duck's owner looked on in amazement, the dog stood on his hind legs, put his paws on the table and sniffed the duck from top to bottom. He then looked at the Vet with sad eyes and shook his head. The vet patted the dog, and took it out, and returned a few minutes later

with a cat. The cat jumped up on the table and also sniffed delicately at the bird from head to foot. The cat sat back on its haunches, shook its head, mewed softly and strolled out of the room. The vet looked at the woman and said, 'I'm sorry, but as I said, this is most definitely, 100% certifiably, a dead duck'. The vet turned to his PC, hit a few keys and produced a bill, which he handed to the woman. The duck's owner, still in shock, took the bill. '£150!', she cried, '£150 just to tell me my duck is dead!'

The vet just shrugged, and said 'I'm sorry. If you'd taken my word for it, the bill would have been £20, but with the Lab report and the Cat scan, it's now £150!'



## POSTER COMPETITION

The poster entries were on display on Village Day and the worthy winner was Molly Poultney aged five and three quarters and runner up was Loucas Newsome aged five and seven months, both from Slip End School. Well done to both.

Thank you also to all the other children who took the time to do a poster, there were some great ideas. It was good to see the children getting involved in Village Day, face painting, crafts at St Andrew's and Irish Dancing plus much more. It was a real family event and thanks must go to the organisers and everyone who helped them.



Matthew McPherson - age 6 - Beavers



Lucy Stanfield - age 6 - Beavers



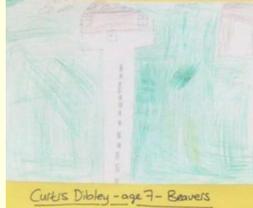
Hannah Burgess - age 7 - Beavers



Ben Higley - age 7 - Beavers



Liam Redmond - age 7 - Beavers



Curtis Dibley - age 7 - Beavers

## WINNERS OF THE CHILDRENS PAINTING COMPETITION

1<sup>ST</sup>



Molly Poultney - age 5 3/4 - S.E.S

PLACE

2<sup>ND</sup>

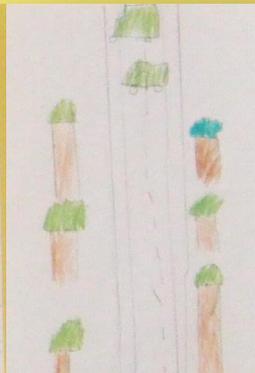


Loucas Newsome - age 5 7/8 - S.E.S

PLACE



Matthew Knibbs - Beavers



Callum McGeoghegan - age 6 - Beavers

# SCARECROW FESTIVAL



FLAMSTEAD  
21ST / 22ND / 23RD  
AUGUST 2009

HELP CHOOSE THE BEST OF THESE  
SUPER SCARECROWS!

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

FRIDAY 21ST AUGUST 2:00 - 5:00  
SATURDAY 22ND AUGUST 10:00 - 6:00  
SUNDAY 23RD AUGUST 10:30 - 5:00

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

For more details [www.flamstead-herts.co.uk](http://www.flamstead-herts.co.uk)  
Please use the free car parks provided, Flamstead is not a very large  
village and it will only take a couple of hours to see all the



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



***Dates for August***

Sunday 2nd 9.30a.m.

Morning Service: Lorna Martin

Sunday 9th 9.30a.m.

Morning Service &amp; Communion

Rev Phil Horner

Wednesday 12th 7.30p.m.

Coffee evening in aid of World Vision

Sunday 16th 9.30a.m.

Sunday Service: Mike Bull

Sunday 23rd 9.30a.m.

Sunday Service Rev Phil Horner

Sunday 30th Bank Holiday weekend

Church closed

September Sunday 6th 11.00a.m.

Morning Service

Sunday School re-opens.

Christian Aid Week was well supported. Over £640 was raised from the lunch event, Coffee Evening, pew envelopes and the Ecumenical Cake Stall in Caddington. Thank you for your help and support.

Everyone is welcome at our services, Fellowship meetings, Bible Studies and coffee evenings. Come along and experience the Aley Green feel. Check our church notice board for August events. Sunday School will closed in July and will restart on 6th September with a Bring and Sing. Our short summer services will be earlier, at 9.30am so that we can enjoy the summer sunshine (hopefully). For those not in a hurry drinks and a natter will be available. The June Coffee Evening and pew envelopes raised £145 for Methodist Homes for the Aged.

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3v16*

May the Lord be with you always, from all at Aley Green. Yours in Christ

*Ann Meader*

On Sunday 19th July thirty seven of us spent a lovely time having lunch at The Green Man at Stanford which is right in the heart of the Bedfordshire countryside set in two acres of gardens with a large children's play area and croquet. It is a very popular and idyllic country public house with restaurant and it was lovely to have so many turn up and as yet there have been no complaints!

Our next trip is on August 10th and we are off to Southend. We have had a good response so far, let us know if you want to come along.

We would like to say a big thank you to the Frog & Rhubarb for their very kind donation of 48 cups and saucers for the club. Our old ones were 'well past their sell-by date'

*Pam King*



*Josie, Maureen and Viv at the Village Day by their stall which sold out and raised over £100 for the club. Well done ladies.*



**Services and Events in August & September**

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

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Family Communion
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Woodside Home Service
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise

**September**

Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Family Communion
	6.15pm	3;16 meet in the Family Room
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Café Church in St Andrews
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	8.00 pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup>	2.30pm	Installation of new Bishop at St Albans Abbey
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion
	6.15pm	3;16 meet in the Family Room
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Woodside Home Service
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise with Baptisms

**SAVE ON YOUR HOUSEHOLD BILLS!**

**RAISE MONEY FOR ST ANDREW'S ROOF !**

**WITH ...**



*Call 0800 1313000 or Ade Lokman locally on 01582 873079 and give our appeal number C91942.*

*We're part of a new fundraising scheme. Simply switch your utilities to the Utilities Warehouse Discount Club and we'll receive a donation of up to 5% of your household bill - every month. And you'll save money for yourself at the same time! Also, save 5% on all your petrol and household shopping. Call and ask how.*

**YOU SAVE MONEY, WE RAISE MONEY!**

## Little Stars

I have been going to Little Stars with my daughter, Holly, for about a year now. This year, Mary Barker has been linking the children's names to bible stories and creating activities for them to do on each of these themes. Paddy Higgins pops in to help from time to time and boost the male attendance! Rev Joy Daniel also drops in to see what the children have been making. All the children have a great time playing with each other, singing, making crafts and lots of mess! Little Stars has given Holly and I a chance to meet other local Mums and children, many of whom will go on to the village playgroup and school.

From a Mum's point of view, I would have to say that Little Stars has created a new circle of friends for me and helped to keep me sane when dealing with an uncooperative toddler! We instigated a monthly Mum's night out which allows for some grown-up conversation without interruptions. I would recommend Little Stars to anyone with young children as it offers a real sense of community. We meet every Wednesday at 10:30am in the Family Room at St Andrew's.

On behalf of everyone at Little Stars, I would like to thank Mary for all her time, effort and patience. It really is very much appreciated.

*Heather McLardy*

## Cafe Church

Next month on September 13th St Andrew's are having another Cafe Church which promises to be just as enjoyable as the first one. The all age activities this time will be based on a fruity theme and of course there will be a buffet breakfast with lots going on as before. If you bring a friend you will win a prize. So, make a date in your calendar and don't forget to join in the fun at St Andrew's. Everyone welcome.



# Cafe Church at St Andrew's goes Fruity!

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September 10:30 am - 11:30am

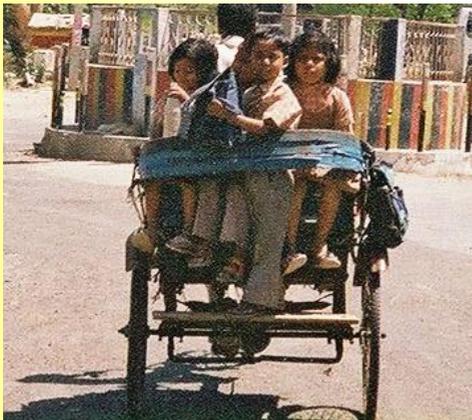
Buffet Breakfast followed by  
All age activities on a Fruity theme  
Drama, Quiz, "makes" and a short  
Thought for the Day.  
Bring a friend and Win a Prize.  
Everyone welcome.



## ANDREW & SYLVIA - INDIA CONTINUED

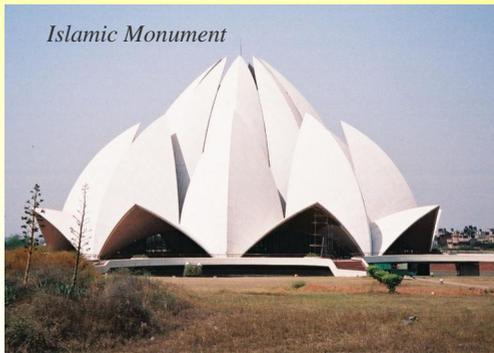


Andrew Harland and Sylvia Miller continue their India experience: On Maundy Thursday, the team spent their time praying with the staff and patients at the hospital and then on Good Friday, the team attended a service at the chapel in the morning which lasted just over two and a half hours. I was surprised that the few children there behaved so well - none of them got too restless. After lunch, we had a van journey back to Gonda but when we got there we were told that the train to Lucknow, where we were going sightseeing over the Easter weekend, was



running two hours late. I don't think I've had any culture shocks on this Indian trip but the brief ride on rickshaw that we had on our departure from the Godwin Hotel, where we stayed in Delhi until Monday the 6th, was for me a pretty hair raising event. With three people and a lot of luggage, it didn't feel to

me as though the rickshaw was going to be able to cope with the weight but it did. It was a pretty bumpy ride and I really thought it might fall on to its side but it didn't. The weekend in Lucknow was rather disappointing as the landmarks that we saw weren't that interesting. I was glad to be

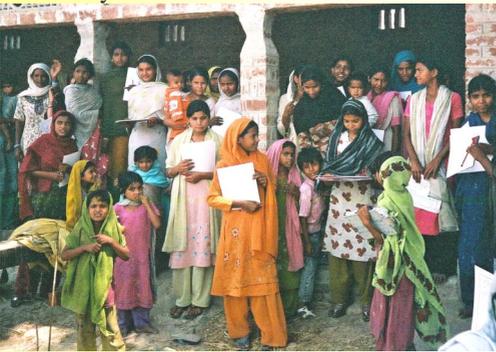


back in Utraula on Easter Monday. There was, however, one bright spot during the weekend and that was an Easter Sunday service at an English speaking church. It was a lovely service and at one point our group came up to the front and sang "There is a Redeemer" with Ben on guitar and Sylvia on violin. It is a joy to hear Sylvia on violin - she plays it so beautifully.

The patients at the hospital are roughly 50% Hindu and 50% Muslim. As the doctors and nurses are all Christians, evangelism is very much in evidence particularly in the waiting room and one day our team took part in a short service there. In fact, many Hindus are perfectly happy to hear the Gospel message if they are in the lower castes but they don't tend to let go of worshipping other gods, so can be a bit mixed up.



On another occasion, I was asked to give a talk with a spiritual message for one of the morning services, so on the advice of another member of my team, I decided to give a testimony which I based on Hebrews 4 verses 14-16. I focused particularly on God's grace and mercy which He has on offer for us. Later on that morning, my team visited a local village, mainly to take part in a presentation of certificates to young women who have recently learnt to read and write. I understand they had been too poor to afford a formal education, so the Emmanuel Hospital Association had arranged for them to learn informally instead.



*The graduates receive their certificates, well done*

Shortly after I gave my talk, I fell ill and was eventually admitted to a very good hospital in New Delhi. Sylvia spent a lot of time with me and during my stay I told her that the excellent way I was being treated threw into very sharp focus the lack of healthcare that is available to those living in poverty in India. We prayed about it and about the corruption in Indian politics. Hopefully, the plight of the poor in India and elsewhere will always be a subject that I shall pray about and will feel passionately about.

I was eventually discharged from hospital in Delhi on April 22nd and Sylvia and I flew back to London Heathrow the next day.

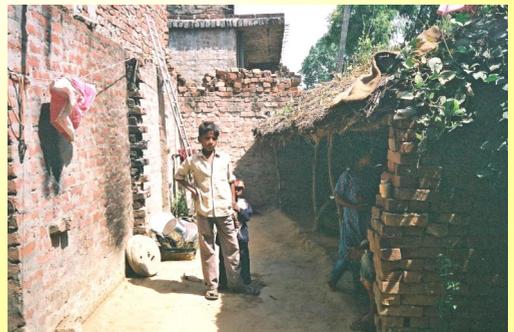
Would we go back to India again? Well we don't know. Sylvia suffered gastroenteritis shortly after our return to this country and I picked up a couple of nasty nose infections

caused by mosquito bites so I think both of us might be too nervous to venture there again but we shall see. However, I for one, would certainly like to get more involved in Tearfund and what they do to help the poor and I think Sylvia would too. Perhaps visiting an eastern European country might be on the agenda for next time. Anyway, there will be a reunion for the two teams at the end of September and I expect we shall discuss together any future plans.



*Some of the children that we worked alongside.*

So did Sylvia and I come back as changed people? Well maybe not noticeably so but I am more concerned about the plight of people who don't have access to adequate medical treatment and, whereas up until now I had been too nervous about getting involved in charity work abroad, now I would like to do something else even if it is less adventurous!



*Typical dwelling in India, a far cry from the UK.*

## **PARISH PLAN**

The last meeting was held at 'Ruchi' in Woodside and the committee discussed the inclusion of the Parish Plan at the Village Day event. Members were on hand throughout the day to get views and suggestions from residents. A large scale map of the area, coloured in by local children, was on display. Jemma McLean, an advisor from Beds Rural Charities Commission, provided the map and suggestion cards to help give visitors some ideas to help them and I hope you were able to visit the stand and write down your ideas.



*Rosemary & Helen  
with the Parish Plan  
on Village Day.*



We have received about 50 responses so far from the questionnaire delivered to all the residents last month. We are still waiting for the bulk of the village to return their forms, either to one of the drop-off points or contact Parish News if you wish someone to collect your form.

We are hoping to hold an event at the Village Hall to promote the Parish Plan sometime in the early autumn and hope that many of the villagers from Slip End, Pepperstock, Aley Green and Woodside will come along and support the Plan.

This is your village and we need your suggestions and help to discover what your main concerns are, and hopefully then we might be able to provide a solution – be it traffic, parking, lighting, play areas etc.

We are also hoping to set up some kind of Village Care Scheme for the future, so please watch this space for news of the next event.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 3rd September at 7:30pm at the Social Club.

*Sue Briggs*

## **Coming soon!**

The St Andrews Church Holiday Club for 2009.  
Full details and booking forms will be available  
in the September edition of Parish News  
The dates will be Thursday 29<sup>th</sup>  
and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

If you would like your children in school years 1-6  
to attend please contact  
Mary on 738435 or Jill on 452539



## ARTS FAIR AT CHILDWICKBURY

For those of you who managed to get to the Arts Fair held at Childwickbury at the beginning of July what a treat was in store. Not only were the visitors able to enjoy the wonderful surroundings, there were also plenty of activities and entertainment during the three day event. It was a pleasure to see a local artist at the fair displaying her work and also watch her in action. Angela Allaway lives in Church Road with her husband and daughter Heather and is part of the church family at St Andrew's. Her landscapes are excellent and there are some wonderful local views amongst them. Angela has a BA (Hons) in Fine Art but has only been seriously painting for a few years. She is currently tutored by Camilla Clutterbeck, Christiane and Katharina Kubric. They hold regular painting weekends every month (apart from July and August) and teach all abilities from inexperienced to skilled painters at the stables in Childwickbury, between Harpenden and St Albans.



Angela's chosen subject is mainly 'trees' taken from different locations whilst discovering the beauty in the environment. Her next exhibition is on 29th August at Langley Wood, Sandridge. She is working with the Woodland Trust and the new Heartswood forest project. The exhibition is 'Art in the Woods' and she will be running a workshop and showing her paintings.



Alongside the artists displaying their talents, were demonstrations of wood turning, jewellery making, stone carving, t-shirt printing and many other interesting arts.

There was live music and even a tribal musician, inviting the visitors to join him in some group percussion .



The uni-cyclist provided some fun for all the children watching.

*Well worth a visit next year.*

*Sue Briggs.*

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## IN MEMORY OF LINDA STANFIELD

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Linda grew up in Markyate and met the love of her life, Dave in one of the pubs there. She was married at the tender age of 19 and moved to Church Road in Slip End where she lived happily and raised their three children David, Sharon and Robert. Linda loved family life and from an early age the children soon became used to her 'open house' policy where sometimes as many as 30 people would be crowded into their home.

Linda has been described as everyone's mum and she never turned anyone away. She welcomed them all and never judged them. The family have received numerous letters from the many youngsters who wrote fondly about Linda, who welcomed them into her home and said how they loved to visit and be part of the family. She summed up what village life should be about, sharing and caring for others. She was a true friend to her elderly neighbours Daisy and Les Isherwood who she would always help out, caring for Les when he was ill and cooking their meals.

Linda loved to help village outings with the Friendship Club and SEADA and often served the teas at the Bingo. She also did the raffles at the Social Club and always put others first. Sunday was family day for the Stanfield household and Linda would not only feed her family, but many others who turned up to share her roast dinners. Her motto was 'if you can't give with a good heart, don't give at all.' She adored her six

grandchildren and nothing was too much trouble as far as they were concerned. They enjoyed acting out plays and sketches for her and Linda would buy the costumes and accessories, loving the precious time with them. She was always there for her friends, in difficult times and in times of rejoicing.

She had worked part-time at The Plough, Frog & Rhubarb and finally The Half Moon. She tried not to worry and felt that 'what would be would be'. Linda loved to go to the Village Hall dances with her family and the photo of her was taken at the last dance last December where she had a wonderful time.

She was very brave and fought her illness with great courage, keeping her sense of humour throughout it, laughing with Dave as they tried to learn how to use an intercom! They were a very close couple. As her illness progressed Linda was able to fulfil her wish to have afternoon tea at Luton Hoo with close friends.

She spent her last days at the Pasque Hospice and said that 'if heaven was like this, she was ready for it' and described the nurses as her 'angels without wings.' She was grateful that the pressure was taken from her family but even then worried that she wasn't able to care for them, for Linda lived to help others. Her funeral brought the village to a standstill and it is a real testament to her life by the hundreds of people that turned up to pay their respects to a truly remarkable lady.

Her friend Reverend Rex Merry lived in the same street as her in Markyate as a child, and visited her in the Hospice and readily agreed to take the funeral service for her. He spoke warmly of Linda and of her life helping others. She was much loved and will be missed by all who knew her.

The family would like to thank Linda's dear friends for all their support and kindness and to everyone for their cards and messages which have given them great comfort at this very sad and difficult time.

*Following on, for many of Linda's friends  
and family I found the poems below.*

### ***The Heart of Friendship***

Friends are patient and kind,  
They are not jealous or boastful,  
They are not arrogant or rude.  
Friends do not insist on having their own way,  
They are not irritable or resentful,  
They do not rejoice at wrong,  
But delight in what is right.  
Friendship bears all things, believes all things.  
Friendship never ends  
*(adapted from Corinthians 1)*

### ***Angels***

When the road is steep and rocky  
And the way is hard to find  
When your problems all oppress you  
And the world seems so unkind,  
Just reach out a hand in silence,  
Take a moment you can spare,  
Soon you'll feel your special angels  
All around you everywhere.

When the night is dark and stormy  
And the stars forget to shine,  
When you feel that sleep eludes you  
They will bring a peace divine.  
When you see the sun awaken  
And you sense a bright new start,  
You will know your special angels  
Took your hand and touched your heart.

*Iris Hesselden*

*The lines below were inside a small  
Victorian wooden box bought at a jumble  
sale and given by a mother to her young  
daughter.*

I wish kind friends to love thee,  
And wise ones thee to guide  
With happy ones to cheer thee  
Whatever may betide.

What a lovely message to pass on from one  
generation to the next.



## **FARLEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH**

£250 was raised at a well attended charity Concert on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July. The Beds Police Choir under Mark Edmonds were in their usual excellent form with a wide variety of popular numbers both choral and solo. The Concert was in aid of a new neonatal intensive care unit at the Luton Dunstable Hospital. Among the invited guests Deputy Mayor Councillor Morel Benard, Chief Constable Gillian Parker Matron Liz Langham, Anne Bierton L & D and Kelvin Hopkins M.P. Matron Liz Langham updated the audience on the progress of the appeal and talked about the need for the new unit. Chief Constable Parker congratulated the organisers and helpers for a wonderful evening. Deputy Mayor Councillor Moral Benard congratulated the Choir on their brilliant performance and remarked on FHM's policy of low admission prices making such wonderful entertainment open to all. Mark Edmonds was Director, Richard Heyes accompanied on the piano Joyce Nethersole compered while Ken Cameron was Master of Ceremonies.

The Lunch Club head off on their annual free coach mystery tour outing after a buffet lunch. Much interest in the destination is being taken but the hint by Ken Cameron that travellers should, as it is August 12th, wear tweeds and bring their shotguns is being taken with a little lump of salt.

The Lunch Club celebrates its fourth anniversary on Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup> with one or two special items including a sing a long.

The Churches annual coach outing is on Saturday August 8<sup>th</sup> and a few seats are left should anyone desire a day at the seaside. Cost adults £11 children £6 The coach leaves the Farley Hill Methodist Church at 9am and departs Margate 5.30 pm

*Ken Cameron  
07960257218*

*E-Mail [khubsurat1@xln.co.uk](mailto:khubsurat1@xln.co.uk)*

## **PUB PAGE**

Twenty intrepid customers at the Frog & Rhubarb embarked on a mammoth wine tasting of 20 different wines from around the globe on Friday 10th July. The evening was a huge success giving everyone both the opportunity to learn more about wine and to discover which were their favourites. After the tasting finished, a huge cheese board was served making the evening a bargain at just £5, even though I am sure there were some sore heads the next morning.

The flower boxes at the Frog are now in full bloom, adding a great splash of colour to Church Road and brightening up the village.

It came to the attention of the Frog & Rhubarb that the Friendship Club were in need of new tea cups and saucers. The pub has provided them with 48 brand new sets of crockery for which Pam King and all at the Friendship Club are extremely grateful.

*Pam said, "We really did need new cups and saucers as ours were past their sell by date. We would like to say a very big thank you to the Frog & Rhubarb."*





*Val Church was the lucky winner of 2 free flights, generously donated by London Luton Airport! She receives her prize from Katrina and a bottle of bubbly from Emma, who sold the winning ticket at the Fun Day Raffle. All lucky winners in the raffle also received a pair of beach towels, kindly donated by Slip End Social Club, a nice touch.*

# The Rising Sun

## The Community Hub

Over 55? Free 2-4pm Tuesday afternoons? If so then come and join in the fun at the Rising Sun Seniors Come Chatty Club. Sandwiches, cake, biscuits and bottomless tea/coffee available for only £1.50 per person Weekly raffle - win a bottle of wine!



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Carefully chosen foods of South East Asian, Chinese and English pub favourites on a daily basis.

- ◆ Weekdays: Lunch Noon - 2:30pm, Dinner 6pm to 9pm
- ◆ Saturday: Noon to 4pm
- ◆ Sunday Lunch: Noon to 4pm

**TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT,  
BOOKINGS ARE HIGHLY  
RECOMMENDED!**

**Real Ales - Real Food - Real People**  
**The Rising Sun, 1 Front Street, Slip End, Tel 01582 482354**

## **CHURCH ROOF PROGRESS REPORT**

*St Andrew's report that the gift day in aid of the church roof was a remarkable success. Gifts and pledges exceeded the target by 45% and still counting!*

*By mid-July the St. Andrew's congregation had raised £56,000 of the £100,000 required to complete repairs to the church roof and carry out other essential major capital maintenance. The church has also received another £25,000 in grants from various bodies and is awaiting the results of other applications for much smaller sums.*

PN has learned from informed sources that there is some disappointment that the response so far to the appeal made to the local community has been somewhat less spectacular! They are very grateful to those who have contributed already but related to the numbers quoted above, relatively little had been forthcoming from parish residents and local businesses by mid-July.

At St A's they feel that the building serves not just their use but also the less frequent needs of many of us here in the community. They ask that you take another look at the leaflet which was circulated a couple of months back and consider what would be lost to the area without a church building. Should there be a shortfall, the roof repairs *will* go forward but on a less than ideal specification which is currently being discussed with the architect. Hopes are that more money will come in over the coming weeks from further appeals and at the Village Day.

**The major part of the funding has been found, but a last push is needed to raise the remaining money needed to provide the best possible results in order to serve the needs of the community for the next 120 years or more!**



01582  
452722

6th August

Mexican Combo Night

15th August

Golf Day

12th September

Beach Party

# BEACH PARTY

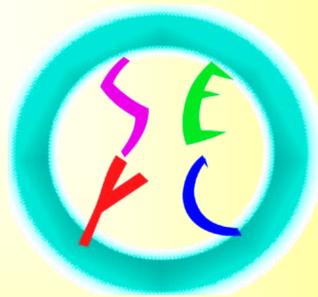




# SLIP END YOUTH CLUB



**Parents  
are  
Needed!**



We know how much you appreciate the peace and quiet for a few hours a week when your little darlings are at the Youth Club, but to help maintain peace and quiet at home we need some more volunteers at the YC!

**If you can offer your services for just a few hours a *month*  
Shirley on 07866 215453 or  
garn\_s@tiscali.co.uk would love to hear from you!**



Most locals walked down to the Playing Field on Village Day and Airparks kindly laid on free busses for Pepperstock and Woodside residents. Some parking was possible at the playing field, supervised impressively by Mike, in full 'they shall nor pass' posture (right).

A little congestion was caused in Church Road and we were fortunate to have the constabulary on hand to look after things along there!

(Left) Cllr Gammons explains Luton's ideas for the A1081-Newlands Road area, Rosemary seems partially enthusiastic!

# SLIP END SOCIAL CLUB

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Live Sky Sports on the Big Screen - Pool - Darts - Crib - Dominoes  
Saturday Night Entertainment every fortnight

Golf Society

Opening times:

**Weekdays: 4.00 to 11pm**

**Saturdays: 12 noon to 12 midnight**

**Sundays: 12 noon to 11pm**

*Usual Club prices!*

*Be social  
make it  
your local!*

*New members  
& their families  
welcome!*



**More Village Day scenes!**  
*A great All-Age event in perfect weather. 'Aunties' May and Hilda are seen here relaxing after their opening ceremonies, inevitably heading for the Pimms' Tent! "Let me help with portion control young man, pass me the bottle!" Others were less formally attired with smiles all round, including The Slip End Strutters who entertained with precision Line Dancing.*



### *Traffic Calming*

The debate concerning speeding in the Parish has been gaining momentum. I would like to take this opportunity to bring you up to date with what has been happening.

Historically, the Council has asked for increased enforcement and traffic calming measures from District and County Councils with little success. The Parish Council does not have powers to deal with these issues, but we do present residents concerns to District and County.

*I am grateful to residents who took time to send in emails, write to Parish News and place their comments on [www.slipend.co.uk](http://www.slipend.co.uk). These have been shown to various authorities during discussions. I felt we were being listened to much more than on previous occasions. So please keep in contact with your views they are of great help to us.*

### **Current situation**

I learned from these meetings that there are Government, Police and Unitary Council Policies with different aspects regarding speeding. These aspects are the setting of correct speed limits, enforcement, road layout, street furniture and driver education. In isolation, I am told, none of these aspects would solve speeding issues: all four in combination would reduce offences.

Speeding is not just a problem here but exists nationwide. Numerous studies have been carried out and it is as a result of these studies and statistics that policies have been formulated.

The primary problem in applying solutions is that of money and resources. Resources are limited, so priorities have to be made. The main criteria is the number of deaths and injuries which have occurred at a particular location measured against the cost of the proposed improvement. A natural reaction to this could be "So nothing will get done until people die or get seriously hurt. Surely we should be looking at prevention?"

Another view is that policy changes are unlikely until all high casualty accident spots have been improved. We are not in a high casualty area however, a fact which places us down the priority list. These are the parameters the Parish Council has to work within, over which it has no power to change.

Local comments have largely related to enforcement aspects and Steve Fuell and I recently put these to Gordon Pearsall, the Bedfordshire Police Traffic Management Manager. Prior to our meeting Gordon had surveyed traffic speeds in Church Road, Markyate Road and Front Street. The Church Road/Markyate Road survey was undertaken 24 hours a day from April 19th to 25th inclusive. The survey showed that in the course of the week a total of 43315 vehicles travelled in both directions along Church Road. 25% were logged at over 35 mph. For Markyate Road the figures are 35938, 11018 and over 30%. Steve asked how Slip End compared to other villages and apparently we are about average'. Villages with biggest problems have percentages in the 70s.

A similar survey was carried out in Front Street during the week of 22nd June. 21452 vehicles passed through in both directions: 3582 (over 16%) were logged at over 35 mph. Gordon could not expand much but Parish Council could decide to commission such survey at a cost of around £400. However, he did say that on the Sunday evening there were 47 vehicles exceeding 35mph in Church Road between midnight and 2am which significantly reduced on an hourly basis for the rest of the night. During the same period on other nights of the survey the average was around 15.

### **Camera Van**

Previously, speeding was dealt with when Police received a complaint and they would make three visits to a location. Nowadays, speeding surveys are undertaken and the camera van unit visits designated sites for 30 minutes. The frequency of these visits is based on the percentage of speeding vehicles. Previously only Markyate Road was and remains such a site. It is eligible for twelve visits per year. Church Road and Front Street are becoming designated sites and because they fall into a lower percentage bracket, will receive one 30 minute visit per quarter.

We discussed the times of the day for the visits. Our observation was that these had been within narrow time frames, outside rush hour periods for which two reasons were given. Firstly the Bedfordshire camera vans do not have infra red equipment, only operating in day light hours. Secondly, shifts begin from lam during the summer. Vehicle preparation then travel from

Bedford to Slip End takes up a lot of time. Before the end of the shift the van is returned to Bedford where data is then off-loaded and the vehicle secured.

### ***Other types of speed recording***

In July's Parish News a suggestion was made to install average speed cameras. This would cost £350,000 but with the low accident rate it is unlikely this would receive funds unless residents met the cost in the Parish part of the Council Tax. There are about 1100 houses in the Parish, so cost would be around £300 per household. However there is a further hurdle. Following motorist's complaints, the Government no longer allows the installation of fixed cameras other than on motorways and serious casualty spots.

The use of Traffic Cars was raised. Bedfordshire Police no longer has a traffic department, this has been replaced by a Road Crime Unit with up to four cars. Three are allocated to road accidents and general crime and the other is available for county-wide responses. All four cars have number plate recognition equipment and must if possible respond to vehicle alerts which these detect.

Our local Police Team: the Council is aware of the demands on PC Wesley Hall's time to be able to provide radar gun cover. The CPSO's are currently not authorised to serve penalties to offending drivers. Residents have it within their power to write to the Safer Neighbourhood Team requesting speeding be a priority over a three month period and you may consider doing this.

You may also wish to write to Bedfordshire Police Authority requesting an increase in the funding of the Road Crime Unit to provide more cars and for a general increase in the level of speeding enforcement. Undoubtedly, this would mean an increase in Council Tax or funds being redirected from other Police operations and suggestions would need to be offered for this. Alternatively, if there is enough local support I would be prepared to take this up on your behalf.

### ***Aley Green, Pepperstock & Woodside***

We are looking into improvements at Pepperstock and recently I contacted several residents in Lower Woodside to obtain an understanding of the position there. As there are a couple of hotspots, the traffic Management Manager has agreed to carry out speed surveys and I will let you know the outcome in due course.

### ***An alternative idea?***

Steve and I are exploring the possibility of the Parish Council being able to "rent an officer with a radar gun". The cost would be in the region of £250 per five hour shift and the advantage would be that the Council could determine when, where and at what time of day or night speed detection would take place.

### ***Speed limits in the Parish***

The position at the moment with the apparent 30 mph limit from Newlands Road to the 30 mph sign in Church Road is unenforceable. Technical and legislative reasons for this going back to the temporary limit when the M1 works were underway and Luton Borough placing a 30 limit from the Newlands Road Junction to the bridge.

Parish Council and Highways have been considering the limit for this stretch of Church Road. You may recall the factors detailed in the June's Parish News. David Bowie from Central Bedfordshire Highways attended the July Council meeting to receive our recommendations. After debate it was recommended that the existing 40mph should be extended from Newlands Road to a point in Church Road on the Newlands side of the church close. That junction is used by increasing numbers visiting the church and Playing Field. David will work on this and try to secure agreement of Luton to change their small stretch of 30 before the bridge.

David was also asked to look at the unrestricted limit in Woodside from 'Ruchi', past the Grove Road junction to the bend. After the school holidays he will conduct a survey to see if this stretch warrants a 30 mph limit. I will let you know the outcome. A request has also been made for a reduction to 40mph from the Pepperstock Bridge to the existing 30mph in Front Street.

Against perceptions, Highways assures us that studies show that street furniture does have a lowering effect on speeds with the exception of determined offenders. "We would much rather spend the money on repairs if it didn't". In June I put Summer Street resident Matt Ogier-Russell's proposals to, Highways. Their decision is now postponed until the speed limit issue in Church Road has been resolved. The Council also asked for 'cushions' to be installed in the road, similar to the ones in the centre of St Albans. We will need to be careful with this to avoid any increase in noise. This, with the proposed roundabout at the

Markyate Road - Rossway junction (which is waiting for funding) should help reduce speeds with a view to overcoming some enforcement issues.

Following our contact with Lower Woodside residents about speeding, Steve and I met with some who live around the Mancroft and Manor Road junctions and close to Ruchi's. We came away with a good account of the issues there and Steve will be putting recommendations to Highways. I will keep you informed.

Steve is keeping an eye on the condition of Church Road to ensure any pot holes are quickly repaired to avoid periods of additional noise until the road is resurfaced sometime next year.

### ***Heavy goods vehicle restrictions***

Relating to traffic noise, particularly through the night, Highways have agreed to my request, following a suggestion from Rob Swetman, for a survey to measure the number of heavy vehicles coming through Slip End. The survey will determine if a weight limit for through traffic can be imposed within the scope of policy and regulations, but which would allow access for our local businesses, the Garage, Hales and Airparks for example. I will let you know the outcome of this survey.

### ***Airparks coaches***

Some of the feedback complained of the noise made by Airparks buses and there has been talk of windows rattling! After some thought about the cause of this Steve, wrote to Airparks Head Office. During the night, the buses can reach speeds of 30mph unimpeded by oncoming traffic as is the case during the day. Air flow around large vehicles is considerable even at around 30 mph. Understanding the problems facing business these days and their necessity for tough targets, Steve asked if the local manager could be authorised to restrict speeds to 20mph past the cottages in Church Road and if the Company would consider quieter vehicles next time the fleet is being replaced.

The Group Fleet Manager replied confirming that drivers are being instructed to drive at 20 mph when safe to do so and he is also in discussions with the bus manufacturer to see if quieter tyres are available. Two of the older buses are being replaced in August "with newer euro 4 emission compliant buses". He has asked for residents comments (through the Parish Council) by the end of September to let him know if they have noticed a reduction in noise levels. So please let us know, positively or negatively how things go during August and September.

The letter closes, "Airparks take the concerns of local residents extremely seriously".

### ***Conclusion***

Having read this report I hope you will have an appreciation of Council's understandings, what it is trying to do to resolve them and some of the obstacles which are in the way. One thing I have learned from this is that when the community works together, residents, businesses and Parish organisations, we have a much better chance of achieving what we set out to do and if we don't then at least we will know the reasons why. The responses to the June article on speeding is a case in point, the feedback and suggestions have been invaluable in getting this far.

I hope that residents will feel encouraged to contact the Council more, come to meetings and take full advantage of the opportunities the Parish Plan questionnaires will provide in telling us what you want to see happen.

*Ken Crossett  
Chairman*





# **THE PLOUGH**

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

**SUNDAYS: 11AM TO 10PM**

August is often brings blue skies and heat. To save time watering, put down a mulch of organic matter to preserve moisture. This may encourage slugs so take action against them. Hoeing also prevents water loss. This not only kills the weeds but breaks up the top of the soil stopping water from being drawn to the surface by capillary action.

### *Harvest*

Vegetables will be cropping well to provide fresh vegetables and vegetables to store over winter. Remove all potato tubers as any left will not only sprout next year and become weeds but will also be a reservoir for disease and potato blight spores. It is worth forking over a few days after harvesting potatoes because more seem to miraculously appear! If blight has struck, the best method to preserve the crop is to remove and dispose of the haulms, then leave the potatoes in the ground for a fortnight to stop the spores getting onto the tubers. Dig potatoes fairly early in the day, rinse them off as they come from the ground and leave in the sunlight for a day to dry off and harden the skins before storing. Sort carefully and place perfect specimens into hessian or paper sacks in a cool, dark, frost free place. Use damaged tubers first before they have a chance to rot. Empty the sacks after a few weeks and check that no potatoes are going off. Discard these before they rot the sack. Pop a few slug pellets into the sacks as well: these are in store and present no risk to wildlife.

### *Sowing*

Sow spring & Chinese cabbage, kohlrabi, lettuce (winter variety), spring Onions (white Lisbon), radish, spinach and turnips After harvesting potatoes, sow green manure. Mustard is fast growing and confuses potato eel worms into breeding at the wrong time. Another fast growing crop you can use as a green manure is French beans. Even if you have enough beans to feed an army, the plant produces a fair amount of leaf, stems and

roots which have nodules containing bacteria that fix nitrogen from the atmosphere.

### *Planting out & Cultivating*

Plant out Savoy cabbages, cauliflowers, and kale. Runner beans that have reached the top of their supports will benefit from having the growing tip pinched out. Keep on top of the weeds, it is far easier to hoe them as seedlings. Hoeing will kill tiny, unnoticed seedlings. Keep tomato side shoots in check, you want tomatoes not masses of foliage. Ensure they are watered regularly, drying out prevents the plant from taking up sufficient calcium and the deficit causes blossom end rot. Keep feeding tomatoes, we demand a lot from them and need to keep them well fed.

### *In the greenhouse*

Ensure good ventilation. It can get very hot in a greenhouse with strong sun to scorch plants. Consider shading the house either with blinds or film or with a shading wash.

Cut off the growing tips from tomato plants now to encourage fruit to swell and ripen.

Keep a close eye out for pests such as whitefly which may be controlled with either biological controls or sticky yellow cards. The fly is attracted to yellow and once on the card cannot get off.

### *Fruit*

Swelling fruit requires a lot of water so ensure they have enough. Finish summer pruning apple trees and prune mature plums after fruiting. Plant new strawberry plants and pot up runners from established plants.

### *General Tasks*

Keep on top of the pests especially aphids and black fly. Control them with pesticides or wash them off with a strong water jet. Washing with soft soap and water to reduce pests will do no harm.

Keep an eye on brassicas for butterfly eggs and caterpillars hiding under the leaves. Pick or wash them off.

# VILLAGE HEROES!

**SARAH MINNIGHAN  
&  
JANET CRAWLEY**



# DIARY

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

## August

- 8th *Farley Hill Church: Annual outing*  
10th *Friendship Club: 'We're off to Sarfend!'*  
11th *Community Projects Group - 7.30, Venue TBA*  
13th *Café Church in St Andrews*  
29th *Art Exhibition (Angela Allaway) at Langley Wood, Sandridge*

## September

- 3rd *Parish Planning Group - 7.30 at the Social Club*  
6th *Aley Green Church : Sunday School resumes*  
7th *Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm*  
8th *Community Projects Group - 7.30, Venue TBA*  
11 & 12th *Open Day at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden*

## October

- 5th *Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm*  
13th *Community Projects Group - 7.30, Venue TBA*  
17th *Open Day at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden*  
29th-30th *St Andrew's Holiday Club*

Ladies: Get Fit in 2009 at ...  
**DEBORAH'S  
AEROBICS**  
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Peter Edwards Hall  
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For information  
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### *Items for inclusion in next month's issue should be in by 15th August*

If you would like a copy of Parish News delivered monthly, contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way (01582 724527), alanjan@buttery400.fsnet.co.uk. Anything interesting to report about village activities, photos, holidays, 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 Sue Briggs, 4 The Oaks, Slip End or e-Mail parishnews@slipend.co.uk.

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Bin Days		August 2009		
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

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