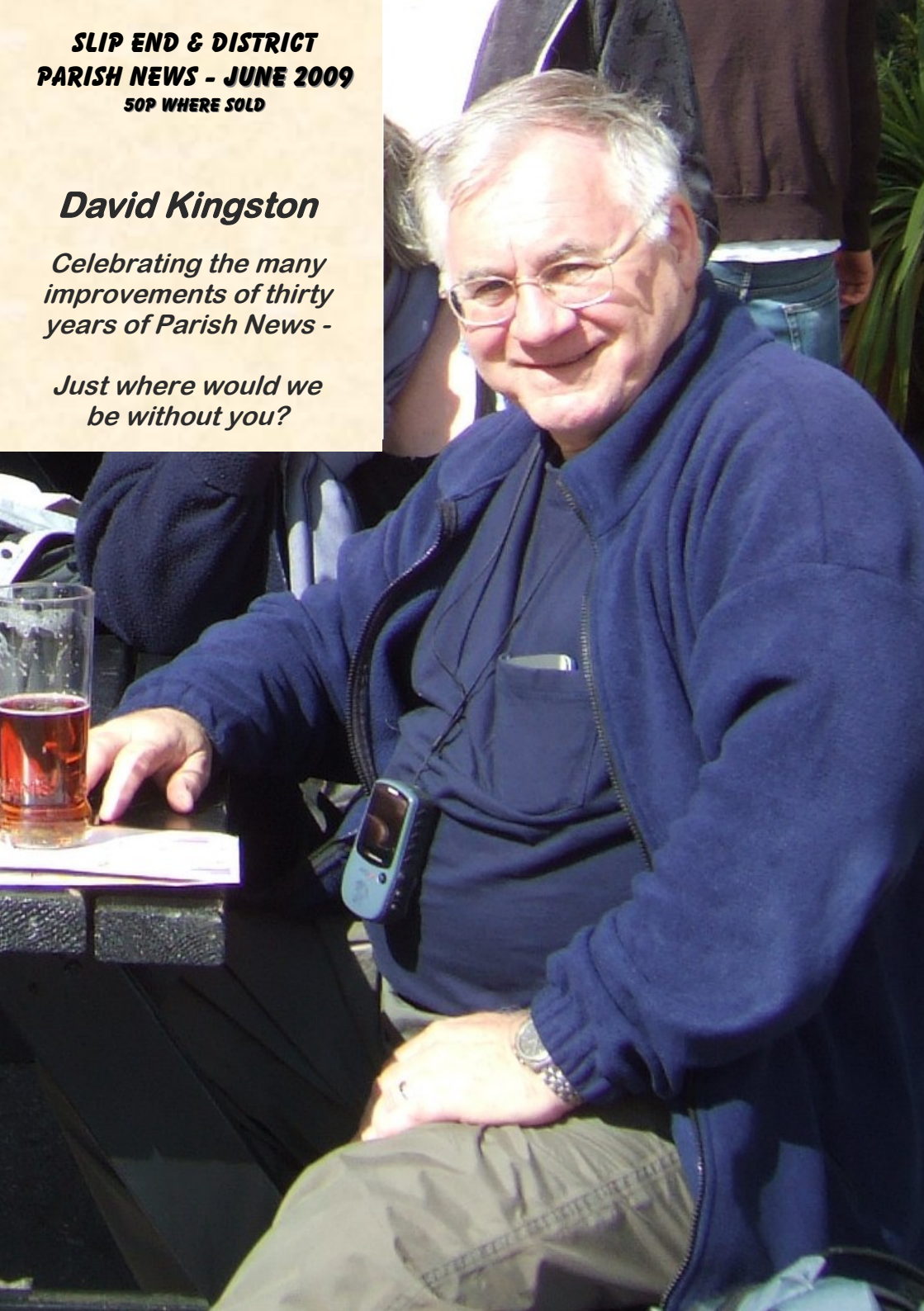


**SLIP END & DISTRICT  
PARISH NEWS - JUNE 2009  
50P WHERE SOLD**

***David Kingston***

*Celebrating the many  
improvements of thirty  
years of Parish News -*

*Just where would we  
be without you?*





## St Andrew's Church has been very busy lately:

The baptism of Jack Kelly took place at the morning service on April 26th with lots of friends and family present. Jack is pictured with sister Danielle and parents Russell and Charlotte.

Russell and Charlotte are both members of the band at St Andrew's Church, formed last year by Russell

Thanksgiving for the gift of a child took place on 19th April. Madison Sharp seen here with her parents Emma and Simon who live in St Andrew's Close. Friends and family and sister Chloe were there to help them celebrate.



Emily Jane Watson was baptised on 10th May at Morning Praise. She is pictured with her parents Sarah and Des and many friends and family were there to support the family. Sarah is a helper with the 3—16 group at St Andrew's and now lives with her family in Houghton Regis.





The Unlock Walkers finally manage to meet up after the two groups started separately. They were able to share a quick drink before continuing on their way to the final Church in Hackney. The usual group of walkers (seen above) were joined by Roy and Pauline Todd who used to live in Claydown Way and also some of Sue Wiltshire's family. *More details inside.*



Val and Brian Church pictured with some willing helpers at the recent successful Plant Sale that took place at The Old Bakery in Summer Street on 16th May. *More photos inside.*

Nick and Lynne Sandle from Front Street proudly introduce their new baby son, Henry Thomas who was born on April 13th. A little brother to Lucy. Congratulations to all.



# **The Parish @ Large**

## *SCHOOLS*

*Slip End Lower: 720152  
Caddington Village School: 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: TBA  
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*

*CENTRAL BEDS COUNCIL: 0300 300 8000*

## *PARISH COUNCILLORS*

*Stephen Fuell: 417792  
stevefuell@f2s.com  
Philip Penman: 455185  
PhilipPenman@aol.com  
Geoff Daniel: 424363  
geoffdaniel@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*

***NB: District & County Councillors below are acting in 'shadow' capacities until elections in June 2009.***

## *DISTRICT COUNCILLORS*

*Philip Penman: 455185  
PhilipPenman@aol.com*

## *COUNTY 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](http://slipend.co.uk)**



## **SLIP END CUB PACK**

It's been a few weeks since we moved to the PE Hall at the Playing Field, as most of you will know following the article in last month's magazine. (Apologies if anyone was scared by those legs!) We are enjoying really good nights at the playing fields and mostly good weather too.

*The Leaders Team has been busy planning for the summer term and our summer camp.*

Following on from the success last year, our end of term Bar-B-Cue will help towards group funds. We have received some very generous offers of support from The Rising Sun and Slip End Social Club and we are waiting to hear from a couple of other local businesses, who we hope will be able to donate prizes for the raffle that we will be having on the night. If there are any local businesses or entrepreneurs who feel that they would like to help in any way, we would be very grateful to hear from you!!

## **YOUTH CLUB MUGA EVENT**

On Wednesday 3rd June from 7 to 8 p.m. we will be having a MUGA (Multi Utility Games Area) event at the Playing Field.

The MUGA was installed at the Playing Field last month. There are two basketball hoops and football goals, funded by Streetcred. The gentleman who installed the MUGA will be giving demonstrations. All youngsters and those not so young welcome this brand new facility.



We have 20 cubs on our books at the moment, but we can take 4 more, so if any boys or girls aged 8-10½ would like to join us, please contact me. If you hurry, there may still be a place or two available at our summer camp.

We are going bowling in a few weeks time and hope to have a visit from St John's Ambulance to help the cubs with First Aid badges and we will be doing a cycling evening, a hike and a backwoods cooking evening over the next month or so.

As always, if there are any willing volunteers who would like to get involved with Scouting in any way, shape or form, please let me know as we are always on the lookout for people to help. As the parents will tell you - I'm constantly asking!!



*Akela (Jon Barker)*  
akela@slipendscouting.co.uk

**FANCY A NATTER  
WHILE YOU KNIT?**

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

**We will be meeting on  
16th & 30th June 1:30 to 2:45**

Open to all regardless of ability: bring along any knitting projects you have on the go, 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 Julie Taylor,  
on 413912 or e-mail  
duncan.taylor@btinternet.com.**

# VILLAGE HALL

## 1909 - 2009!

**Our Village Hall was opened on 24th July 1909.  
It's a Centenary! Come and join us at our grand...**

## Centenary Celebration!

**Old Tyme Musical Hall  
Community Singing  
Theatrical Melodrama!**

**Friday July 24th at 8pm**

**Finger Buffet provided - Bring your own drinks Edwardian dress optional. Admission by ticket only, numbers limited so get yours early!**

**Tickets just £5 from ...**

**Shirley Knapton 28 Markyate Road (01582 412506)**

### PARISH NEWS DISTRIBUTION



We are grateful to our distributors who bring Parish News to homes in the Parish. This time of year they call round for subs and most have done

that chore already. May we encourage those distributors who have yet to get round to do so in the next month or two when weather should be conducive. *Any readers who miss the distributor's call can drop their annual sub (just £4!) at 2 Summer Street.*

Good news for our distributors is that they have July off (or maybe a chance to do some collecting for some!) The July issue, 'sponsored' by the Parish Council, will be delivered to every home in the Parish by a team of volunteers from the Community Projects Group.

**Parish News Subscriptions  
are now due for 2009-10**

*Yet again the sub is  
unchanged at £4  
What a bargain!*



**Please help your valiant distributor by having the correct money ready when they call and help us continue keeping the price down by making sure you pay your sub in 2009.**



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## ONE STEAMY DAY IN APRIL ...

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*... I received an early morning call from Geoff Daniel, who had urgent news that a Tornado was about to hit the area!*

Alarmed, I was assured that this was not a severe weather warning, 'Tornado' in this instance being the name of the first express steam locomotive to be built in Britain for over 50 years. Just as he had done one early morning some months ago when a Zeppelin flew off from Cardington, Geoff had heard on 3 Counties Radio that 'Tornado' was heading our way, pulling a train to York via Stevenage and Hitchin. Uneasily cutting his usual rambling conversational style, Geoff exclaimed, "It's already left Kings Cross and it's on its way!"

We shot off, hoiking Brian Church on board and sped off towards Great Wymondley. On an earlier walk your PN correspondent had made a mental note of a good photographic position for just such an occasion and having parked the car we strode off across the fields, a mile or so off the road and took up our crouching positions. Cameras were poised with rarely used settings tweaked to capture the great moment! We had little notice of the train's arrival, although a distant hoot as the train shot through Stevenage gave us some warning *that the train was running ahead of time!*

In the event, we got our pictures, although they will not make the Railway Gazette. In all the careful preparations, we'd forgotten that steam and smoke were a factor of these magnificent machines and there is some resultant obliteration of the locomotive as it ran by, ever so smoothly at over 75 mph.

The sequel was an hour or so later when we arrived back in the village for more steam engines! A trio were making their way from Markyate to the Plough at Woodside, stopping for water at Brown's Pet Supplies and watering hole.

*Four steam engines in one morning, is this a local record for the twentieth millennium?*

*David Kingston*



## **COMMUNITY PROJECTS GROUP**

*Here is a brief report about the group meeting last month. Full minutes of group meetings may be found on [slipend.co.uk](http://slipend.co.uk) or contact David Kingston on 416138 if you would like a hard copy.*

We welcomed a good number (21!) of representatives from a wide selection of parish groups at the F&R. Constitution and core committee bank account matters were discussed then the group elected Paul Cooper as chairman. He prefers that the post should be passed to a non-parish councillor later. Carol Brennan was elected as Treasurer, Michelle Stoll as Secretary with Sarah Minnighan to support with grant applications. David Kingston was elected as Communications Officer.

Project Group account workings was explained, with reference to the transition of funds from Parish Council. Projects Group grants will be administered and already some groups (Brownies and Playgroup, etc) have applied for grants in the 2009-10 period.

Within the Group Account, various funds for specific or general purposes will be earmarked. Carol will set up accounts for general and protected funds. This supports our application for Charitable Status, which the Group may consider in due course.

There was discussion regarding the Group Account holding funds for established local groups. This may or may not be of interest to some. One of the benefits is that it would increase the overall Group resources, which could be helpful when applying for larger grants. Some groups were understandably cautious about this idea.

Nikki West explained how paid members of staff functioned:

*Michelle Stoll*, the Community Projects Manager deals with administration, grant applications, meetings, training and legislation awareness, etc. Later she will work on larger Group projects.

*Shirley Garner* (Youth Club manager) works mainly hands-on at the club, planning trips, organising equipment, tuck shop etc assisted by *Anita Fraulin*.

*Karen Bracey*, assisted by *Carol Brennan* will look after book-keeping and accounts, including banking, cheques and invoices.

*Verity Edwards* carries out occasional Youth Club administration, principally producing letters and news-sheets to parents.

### ***Questionnaires - some feedback***

Local groups were asked to put forward requests for assistance and whether they would find access to a minibus useful. Differing needs were raised in response, e.g. ceiling insulation, new flooring and toilets (Village Hall), roof renovation (St A's, temporary fencing (Playgroup), etc.

Many groups felt availability of a Group minibus would assist them. Chris Warren said that Badra (Brickhill and Dowlands Residents Association) is a different type of group which arranges events for its own people and negotiates with the site owner and other groups that impact upon the lives of the residents. The association would like the use of the minibus and thanked the Parish Council for the ongoing grants it has received and stressed the value of such income when new legislation and regulations continually push up the cost of the simplest events.

The Chairman said that the floor for the Village Hall and the temporary fencing for the playgroup were just two ideas which he thought were achievable with limited funds. The purchase of a minibus was, however, a much bigger project.

The Projects Group expects more questionnaire responses and these will be reported later.





## **LUTON HOO WALLED GARDEN PROJECT**

Several events are coming up just across the 'A6' at the Walled Garden at the Hoo.

*Sunday 14th June Open Gardens*

11-4 £5 admission Refreshments available

*Saturday 20th June*

Open Day (Medicinal plants focus)

*Sunday 19th July*

Summer Open Day

*Friday 11th September*

Heritage Open Day (Research focus)

*Saturday 12th September*

Heritage Open Day (Artists focus)

*Sunday 13 September*

Heritage Open Day and Craft Fair

*Sat 17th October*

Pumpkin and Apple Gala

If you have not visited Luton Hoo Walled Garden already it really is worth a visit. In its day the garden was a productive setup which provided all sorts of food and produce for people at the 'big house'. The six-acre octagonal walled garden was established in the 1770s by John Stuart, 3rd Earl of Bute, a friend and advisor to George III and consultant in the planning of Kew Gardens. For nearly two centuries it was both a botanical garden and the production centre for the Estate's fruit, vegetable and cut flower needs.

As with many great estates, the walled garden suffered decline after World War



Two and its original function as principal produce provider had ceased by the end of the 1950s. Today, the dignified but dilapidated glass houses, empty open ground and bare walls, stand as monuments to the glory days of kitchen gardening which reached its peak in the Edwardian period.

Research is piecing together the garden's history and work is being undertaken to restore the glass houses and re-create the historical planting. The conservatory will be filled with orchids and malmaison carnations, synonymous with that time. These were grown for Sir Julius and Lady Wernher and used in displays in the mansion and at home in Piccadilly. Historical varieties of apples, pears and peaches will be grown under authentic conditions, showcasing the craftsmanship of old-fashioned gardening.

Many old skills are now lost and traditional ways of working mostly abandoned. The restored garden will provide a living example of early 20th century working practices and fruit growing. Volunteers are at the research stage at the moment.

Contact Oonagh Kennedy at  
[paul@paulandoonagh.demon.co.uk](mailto:paul@paulandoonagh.demon.co.uk)  
for more information.

## ***Weddings & Christenings***

*Looking for something special that won't break the bank?*

*We provide a wish tree and handmade tags designed to co-ordinate with your Wedding/Christening colours or theme. Guests write their best wishes for the bride and groom/new baby and then hang the tag onto the wish tree, creating a stunning display at your reception. Tags are then collected and presented in a pretty handmade album, the perfect keepsake to remember your special day!*

Phone Liz on 07968718468 or email [liz@blueskycrafts.co.uk](mailto:liz@blueskycrafts.co.uk)

Samples available to view

**Services and Events in June**

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

Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am 6.15pm	Family Communion 3;16 meet in Family Room
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.45pm	Deanery Synod meeting at St Augustine's Church
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little stars meet in the Family Room
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	12.00-3.00	Village School Summer Fair
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am 6.15pm	Fathers Day - Café Church 3;16 meet in the Family Room
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Woodside Home Service
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise with Service of Thanksgiving and Blessing, for Matilda Franke



# SLIP END YOUTH CLUB



***Many thanks to Adam Brown who has stepped forward to help out at the YC, but more ...***

## **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!**



# **St Andrew's Church, Slip End**

## **An exciting New Event!**

on  
**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June 10:30 am**



**Cold Buffet Breakfast  
followed by**

**All age activities around a Father's Day theme**  
Drama, Quiz, "makes" and a short thought for the day.

**Bring a Man And Win a Prize!**

(that could be a dad, step-dad, uncle, granddad, brother  
or any other special man)

Mums, Aunties, Grannies and Sisters are welcome too!

# **Fun for All the Family!**

## **FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN GOES PUBLIC!**

Over the past couple of years or so £34,000 has been raised quietly by St Andrew's church people and from some events in the parish towards the £100K cost of repairs to the roof: a great effort! Money from these sources will continue to come in over the next few months. Now is the time for those in the wider parish, including local businesses, clubs and people who are 'non-church goers' to think about the value of our Parish Church within the community.

*'I don't go to church,  
why should I contribute?'*

Good question, although many do in fact attend St Andrew's on an 'irregular' basis when St Andrew's meets their needs.

*Take a look at the list printed on the back page of the leaflet recently delivered to every home in the Parish and see just how much is at stake with regard to our Parish Church.*



# **The Rising Sun**

***The Community Hub  
Lunch or Dinners - Only £4!***

Lily & Dave are proud to have introduced their new quality menu at a value price of just £4 per main course of carefully chosen foods of South East

Asian, Chinese and English pub favourites on a daily basis. All main courses are accompanied by a choice of different styled potatoes or rice and freshly cooked seasonal vegetables or green salads. Finish your meal from our special dessert selection at just £1.

***Tuesday & Wednesday selection of Pies & Quiches at just £3.50!***  
(Where available)

- ♦ Weekdays: Lunch Noon - 2:30pm, Dinner 6 to 9pm
- ♦ Saturday: Noon to 4pm
- ♦ Sunday Lunch: 12.30pm to 5pm



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

***Real Ales - Real Food - Real People***





The pubs have been doing their bit to brighten the place up and their floral efforts are looking good now. Latest colourful addition is at the Rising Sun, where Hilary and Brian Macdonald are seen recently putting up some hanging baskets.

### ***Village Day***

The Rising Sun Tug-o'-War team is in its final training phase now, confident to regain the FD Championship which they closely lost last year, following stewards rejection of their objection relating to usage of non-regulatory ropeage.

PN sport team is privy to detailed plans which must remain secret, but it can be revealed that recruitment during the winter close season of a number of 'key pullers' followed by months of rigorous training and strict dieting leave the RS team in peak condition for the 'July Challenge'.

***Latest quote from Ladbrookes  
leave RS 'A' Team as 6 - 4 on favourites.***

***Casino, Close-Up Magic & Live Music  
at the Frog & Rhubarb.  
A Fantastic Time Was Had By All!***



The May Ball with Casino, Close-up Magician and live music from Phil-In Collins was a great night. All those who attended had a fantastic time and everyone had great fun trying their luck on the casino tables including the Chair of the Parish Council, who honoured the occasion with his unofficial presence. The biggest casino winner on the night was Kev Lavelle who won £50 in vouchers.

### ***Darts for All***



Come to the Darts Tournament taking place on the 11th June at the F&R! Everyone welcome, arrive at 7.30pm to register. It is free to enter and the winner will walk away with £40 in vouchers.



Women's  
Institute

As the delegate of the Spring Federation meeting held at Bedford Corn Exchange, I was asked to give a resume at our AGM. Biggleswade have formed a new W.I. However, in the other direction, it was announced that Kempston is 25 years old, Haynes and Shillington are 70, Millbrook is 80 and Studham and Wooton are 90! Who says jam is no good for you! Happy Birthday to them all and long may they continue.

*The speaker for the evening was Edwina Currie who has a good sense of humour and has just finished her fifth book.* We all had a giggle when referring to Margaret Thatcher keeping her 'all male' cabinet in order. On this particular occasion they had all pleased her and as a thank you she was taking them out for a meal.

The waiter came over asking "Meat or fish?" She said "I will have the meat." He then asked "and the veg?" "Oh they will have meat as well." was the reply.

Joan Bunyan will be our delegate at the Albert Hall this year, the resolution is the saving of the Honey Bees which we are all in favour of. The previous twelve months meetings were then referred to and it reminded us of the very interesting speakers we have listened to. Su Martin was willing to stand as President again so we grabbed her with all hands, thank you Su. A new committee will be announced next month.

The new Rose Bowl was awarded to P Crick for getting the most points in the monthly competitions. Business finished, Su welcomed Angela Smith to talk to us and show us her love of hedgehogs. How she copes I will never know, she needs another 24 hours in the day. We are very lucky to have such a dedicated lady in our village. If you find a distressed hedgehog in your garden and would like advice phone 01582 730896 Angela will be sure to help you

*We meet monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays  
at the Baptist Hall in Caddington*

*Patricia Crick*



# **SLIP END SOCIAL CLUB**

***New Street, Slip End***

**☎ 415804**

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!*

---

**LUTON AIRPORT:  
NOISY NUISANCE OR GOOD NEIGHBOURS?**

---

Rex & Sue Horton referred to local aircraft noise in the last issue. Having moved away from Slip End last year they have said they do not miss the noise of jets flying overhead.

We moved to Rossway on the then new 'High Oaks Estate' Slip End years ago at the same time as the Hortons. Back then the estate was a builder's quagmire while the jets zoomed noisily above our heads! While conditions soon improved underfoot, things took a lot longer overhead but there have been huge improvements there too.

In our early days the noise nuisance was considerable with BAC 111's and early Boeing 737's ripping the airspace a few hundred feet above our heads. However, those early generation jet engines were quite inefficient and noisy to boot. Just as with our beloved motor cars, huge improvements have taken place over the years and now modern jets are significantly less noisy and much more efficient and powerful. I estimate that today's departing Airbus 320 flies at altitudes twice that of the bygone, smaller Court Line 111's. *Overall, the result is much less noise than in those early days, as it affects us here on the ground.*

Never one to hesitate to complain when complaints are seemingly justifiable, I have called the 'noise line' on a number of

occasions over the years. However, the situation now is that I have not called for over two years! True, on balmy days outside around the BBQ in the summer, there is still some noise, but not like in days gone by.

The fact is that we do live under the 'flight path' and, proposed developments notwithstanding, that will not change. A number of residents find employment at the airport and conveniently, many fly off on our holidays and business trips from LLA. Other than the most naive, most of us were aware what we were moving into when we came into the area. Increasingly, LLA has recognised its obligations to be good neighbours and has worked at that. We have received significant benefits in the last few years from LLA and it has to be said that the success of our thriving youth club has been greatly assisted by its thoughtfulness and generosity.

Same thoughts apply to Airparks. However (and not a direct concern of Airparks) we are suffering to some extent by jet-tripping motorists from outside the area, using our already crowded streets as a free parking zone, in one case recently for over three weeks! I have a strong feeling that some of these free-loading motorists not only seize on free parking here on our streets, but also get free rides to the airport at Airparks' expense!

*David Kingston*

*Odd bits of space become available in the ex-Pats version, so I indulge. Here's a Caravelle at LHR, the first aircraft I flew in, LHR-FCO in May 1967. Note the crowds on the observation decks on top of the Queen's Building. How things have changed! This photo was taken through the large windows of a Vickers Viscount, a type I used a lot shuttling from Aberdeen to the Shetlands not so long ago, on BP's North Sea shuttles.*

*dgk*

**Slip End & District Association  
Senior Citizens Outing  
Saturday June 6th 2009**

*Put your name down for this popular free trip by calling Gillian on 01582 723109. Let us know your meal preference, Fish & Chips or Ham Salad.*





## PLANT SALE

The Plant Sale on Saturday 16th May started with rainclouds looming which dampened spirits a little. However, rain thankfully stayed away apart from a short shower. It was good to see so many people attending this bi-annual event; there were plenty of bargains to be had. Not only were plants and vegetables on sale, but also Mrs Church's renowned Bakery Jams, Chutneys & Marmalade; some beautiful hanging baskets, rare white pebbles by the ton, exquisite biscuits specially imported for the event, a variety of English and Oriental teas, coffee and lots of good gardening advice.

*£930 was raised of which £850 is exceptionally to be donated to the church roof fund this year. The committee thanks all those who supported the event and particularly those who helped on the day to make the event a tremendous success.*



*This somewhat naive-looking punter parts with a tenner, to the smug satisfaction of a smart Raffle operative. Last laugh was on the punter, who was to be a 'lucky winner'!*

*Another lucky winner was Andy Protheroe who looks after Coronation Gardens and the Churchyard mowing. He won 4 hours of gardening! Andy is happy to pass his prize to the first taker who would appreciate it (thanks Andy)*



*Joan Duncombe did a roaring trade at her Perennials stall!*



*In the 'Rustique Tea Room', the Baird family from Woodside with Mary Barker's mum Tricia, from Caddington, all enjoy a rest and chat over tea and exquisite biscuitaries.*



*Herbs, both popular and healthy*



***Junior Coaching***

Sally Parry, our qualified Lawn Tennis Association Coach coaches on Fridays, just £3 per session, non-members £4. (Beginners: 5 to 6pm, Intermediates 6 to 7pm). Ladies and private coaching is also available. Contact Sally on 413501.

***Team Competitions***

We field a Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles Team in the South Beds Leagues also a Men's Indoor and Mixed Outdoor Team in the Winter Leagues.

***Come on down,  
you're welcome!***



*Enquiries to Peter Smith on 733253  
or Steve Lyons on 414162.*

The Children's Centre opened in September 2008 and runs services for families with children 0-5 years. We are located at Slip End lower school, where we run services on a Monday and Tuesday. We recently had an Open day where the local community was invited to come and see what was going on at the centre. We named the centre 'Bluebells' with the help of our families. The timetable is changing regularly as we develop the services to meet the needs of families. We meet from 9.30 to 11 and afternoons 1.30 to 3 at Slip End school. For further information contact South Beds Centre, 01525 384368

**Your local SureStart Children's Centre**

*Making a difference*

**Bed in Summertime**

*In winter I get up at night,  
And dress by yellow candle light.  
In summer quite the other way,  
I have to go to bed by day,  
I have to go to bed and see  
The birds still hopping on the tree,  
Or hear the grown up people's feet  
Still going past me in the street,  
And does it not seem hard to you,  
When all the sky is clear and blue,  
And I should like so much to play,  
To have to go to bed by day*

*By R L Stevenson*

**MP's Surgeries**

Not sure if Margaret Moran MP holds a Surgery these days on Friday evenings, where you might be able meet and discuss on a person to person basis. (Thought it's best to drop the picture.)

***For appointments try calling 01582 731882  
or try via [www.margaretmoran.gov.uk](http://www.margaretmoran.gov.uk)  
Good luck.***



### *Affordable Housing*

Philip Jered of Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity presented the results of the Housing Needs Survey Report at the May PC meeting. Phillip Penman reported that the questionnaire, delivered to all homes in the Parish last year, produced a disappointingly low response of 14.5%. Of those who did respond, 67% said they would be happy to have 'affordable' housing in the Parish. The results indicate that 5 housing units having a differing number of bedrooms are needed. A development of this size would not be viable as it would not justify the cost of construction and infrastructure changes. A development of ten units could, however, be justified given sufficient evidence of need.

Based on local knowledge, Councillors believed the results were skewed because of the low response rate. It was felt that if a display stand is set up on Village Day further interest may be generated. This subject is also being referred to the Parish Plan Steering Group.

The report can be seen on the Parish website, [www.slipend.co.uk](http://www.slipend.co.uk) or from the Clerk.

### *Our Roads*

Recently Luton Borough Council reduced the speed limit on Newlands Road to 40mph. At the same time, Luton obtained a traffic order to reduce the speed limit from the Newlands Road junction up Church Road to the existing 30mph restriction zone. *This is an order which Luton cannot impose as this stretch of road falls outside their boundary.* Having said that, the Highways Authority appears to want a 30mph limit along the length of Church Road, especially now that street lighting has been installed during the M1 widening. There is more to this than just imposing a 30mph limit, as it implies that Slip End could be seen as part of Luton for there will no longer be an unrestricted stretch of road between Luton and Slip End.

As always, the factors to be considered in making the correct recommendation are not as straight forward as at first it might appear. Complaints received from residents would suggest the 30mph limit should remain regardless of any civil or political implications.

There is little that can be done twenty four hours a day to stop the determined speeding motorist other than the installation of physical traffic calming barriers. Since Markyate/Church Road is a through route for the A5 to A1081 and Junction 10 of the M1, the Council has been told that these barriers cannot be installed. The remedy would seem to lie with driver perception, to encourage the majority to observe the speed limit. Influencing factors are:

- ♦ A deregulated band between built up areas: there is limited driver compliance to speed restriction where there are no houses present.
- ♦ use of street furniture to give the illusion of the road narrowing, the relatively new style electronic slow down signs such as the one in Markyate Road
- ♦ street lighting

Enforcement is also a factor but limited police manpower restricts the amount of surveillance and mobile camera detection that is employed in and around Slip End.

Cllr Steve Fuell is meeting with Highways shortly to discuss in depth, what can be done under the heading of driver perception in the light of new regulations. He will also hear about Highways speed reduction proposals resulting from the recent traffic speed survey carried out by the Highways Authority. He will then report to the Parish Council who in turn will send its comments on any speed limit proposals, and new street furniture to Highways.

Speeding is an emotive subject in the minds of all road users, not only drivers but pedestrians too. Because of its importance I



feel it is right that residents are made aware of Highways recommendations for this is an issue that cannot wait for the Parish Plan. Once the meeting with Highways has taken place I will publish a report on the website.

This will enable residents to consider the report as well as the factors which influence a driver to observe the 30 mph speed limit and tell us what they think using the contact form on the website or by email. For those without Internet access, the report will be available from the Clerk. Everyone is welcome to talk this through with any of the Councillors or write to us. Better still if you can come to the Council meeting when this will be discussed.

### *Parish Council meetings*

Keep an eye on the Council Agenda which is posted on the Notice Boards on the Wednesday before a Council meeting; meetings take place on the first Monday of

the month except bank holidays and in the month of August.

### *Parish Council AGM*

Finally, the Council held its annual meeting in May. A summary of all the work undertaken by the Council during the last twelve months will appear in next month's Parish News which is being delivered to every house in the Parish.

In the meantime I would like to wish Paul Cooper well following his appointment as Vice Chairman of the Council.

*Ken Crossett, Chairman*



# ***THE PLOUGH***

## ***UPPER WOODSIDE***

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

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

***SUNDAYS: 11AM TO 10PM***

# Picture Page



## ‘LINEAGE’

We had some beautiful days last month and the eagle-eyed PN photographer was out and about. There’s some delicate work going on here, putting lines down in the MUGA.

## ‘LEAFAGE’

Road around Pepperstock were well on the way to completion. The footpath from Slip End up to the Half Moon and Pepperstock have been repaired and improved and the potholes in the road are gone!

## ‘SIGNAGE’

One cold, rainy day last January, the Minister of Transport turned out to unveil these plaques on the new roundabout. *When will Harold’s Seal be put back in place?*



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## **ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH**

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### ***Services and Diary dates for June***

#### *Sunday 7th:*

11am Trinity Sunday Service &  
Communion, Rev Bob Forrest

11am Sunday School

6pm Prayer Service, Rev Phil Horner

#### *Wednesday 10th:*

7.30pm Coffee Evening in aid of Methodist  
Homes for the Aged (MHA)

#### *Sunday 14th:*

11am MHA Sunday, Michael Adams

11.00am Sunday School

#### *Wednesday 17th*

7.30pm Bible Study led by Rev Bob Forrest

#### *Sunday 21st*

11am Sunday School, no Morning Service

3pm Churches Together, Rev. Phil Horner

#### *Monday 22nd*

8pm Fellowship Meeting led by Mike Bull

#### *Sunday 28th*

11am Sunday School Anniversary led by the  
children and Rev. Phil Horner

#### *Sunday 5th July*

11am Morning Service & Communion

Rev Bob Forrest

11am Sunday School

During Lent we collected money in our Smartie tubes, the adults raised £145 for Water Aid and the children £46 for the Royal National Lifeboats. The Easter offering envelopes raised £57.50 for the Women's Network. Thank you to everyone who supported our Good As New Sale & Christian Aid lunches. Once again we were pleased to welcome people into our church to be fed and watered and to pick up a bargain or two. We raised £206 for Christian Aid and £372 towards our re-pointing project.

Our first Bible Study in April led by Rev Bob Forrest, was well attended and greatly enjoyed, we look forward to our next one,

You are welcome to join us, we meet on Wednesday 27th June for our third session.

The Fellowship meeting led by Mike Bull will be held on Monday 22nd June, 7.45 for coffee, 8pm start. These are lively informal, easygoing gatherings. Come along and try. The Coffee Evening on June 10th from 7.30 is in aid of Methodist Homes for the Aged. Tea & coffee are free and the company priceless! If you are going on your holidays or just walking or driving around our lovely countryside may you return home refreshed renewed & relaxed in mind body & soul.

### ***A prayer for you***

*Lord, thank you that the whole earth is yours and all its riches and that the sun and the rain are your gift to be enjoyed by all. Help us to live responsibly in relation to all that you have made and winsomely to urge on others the same regard for the earth, its atmosphere and all living things. In Jesus name AMEN*

Come and see us soon at Aley Green.  
May God Bless You!

*Ann Meade*

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## **FROM A SUMMER STREET RESIDENT**

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This is Dave Williams, *our* Postman. Dave, who is in his early forties, has been a postman for about 20 years. For the past 4 years he has delivered post to all of us in Slip End apart from Front Street and Crawley Close.

Dave loves his job but this is the best one he has had, delivering to the friendly Slip End folk.

*(PN reported recently about 'postie', Chris, thinking he delivered all round the Village! Good to acknowledge Dave's hard work too.)*





*Yes folks, what we've all been waiting for, it's ...*  
**VILLAGE DAY - SATURDAY JULY 25th!**

*at the Playing Field next to St Andrew's church. Gates open at 11am*

*The small but dedicated organising team has been hard at work since the winter to bring us the best in Interest and Entertainment for the whole family.*



Jan Crawley & Sarah Minnighan have been busy planning and here we see them with the site plan, working out how things will fit on to a level playing field.

Come along next month, witness local rivalry as Tug O' War Team do battle. There will be Burgers, Pimm's, Ice Cream, Archery, Irish Dancing, Grand Raffle, Craft Stalls, DJ & Live Music, Rave Bus, Bouncy Castle, Hog Roast, Beer and more. A warm day is anticipated so remember to call into St Andrews (our real cool church) to have a sit down with tea & chat, a little local history and piped music. At St A's, the Peter Edwards Hall and at the Village Hall there

will be a chance to look over the children's Village Day posters and prizes will be presented to the winners in the Poster Competition. Children are busy right now, producing Village Day poster designs which will be on show on the big day. A panel of local celebrity judges will award prizes to the winning entries in 3 age groups and to the overall winner.



**We are grateful to our friends at Airparks who will provide free transport to and from the site to convey folk from Pepperstock and Woodside.**

*At 10.30 & 12 noon Airparks Bus will run from Brickhill Park to Slip End (Grove Road bus stop) to Woodside (Grove Road bus stop) then back to Slip End Playing Field. Return buses will run at 2.30 & 5 from Slip End Playing Field, to Woodside (Grove Road bus stop) to Slip End (Grove Road bus stop) then to Brickhill Park.*

Laughter of Lilacs  
Rainbows of roses  
Songs of the robins  
Lily of the valley borders  
Sunshine to warm the heart  
Oh what joy this season does impart!

by Anne Morrow Lindberg

***Wind down and lick the wounds during the Village Day evening when special Fun Day fare will be on offer at the Rising Sun and Frog & Rhubarb!***



01582  
452722

11 June  
Darts Tournament

21 June  
Free Pint For Dad

4 July  
Beach Party BBQ

25 July  
Village Day Party  
With Live Music

# FATHERS DAY



*Another photo indulgence, dear old G-AOVS. I spent the best part of a week on this aircraft with Gerry Belcher from Elm Close in Caddington, boneshaking from STN to Singapore via Hong Kong, stopping off at many exotic places (such as Basra) en route. The plane disgraced itself by breaking down even before we set off from Stansted! This Bristol Britannia was a freighter with about 30 seats in the back. During the long flight, we camped out for kips in the freight section at the front, curled up amongst Rolls Royce Avon jets on their way back for Singapore Airlines DH Comets after overhaul by BOAC in the UK. G-AOVS overflew Da Nang in Viet Nam at nighttime at 13000 feet, safe above the flashes of gunfire and warfare down below. We dropped into Hong Kong, the old Kai Tak airport with its spectacular curved approach between the high rise buildings, unforgettable. After starring in 'RedAir' colours for a BBC-TV series, G-AOVS finished up wrecked at LTN, following years of foamings by the fire brigade there.*





## 26<sup>TH</sup> UNLOCK WALK

We left Slip End bright and early on a miserable, rainy day but on arriving at the first church on our list, St Matthias in Hackney, the sun was thankfully shining. This church had been chosen by the Unlock organisation for their presentation. Volunteers were busy setting up stalls and chosen craftwork for the day, 'Restoring the City, Bricks, Building and Big Hearts' using the story of Nehemiah, reflecting some questions and building a brick wall. We were the first there when the wall was just starting (See next page on how the wall finished).



The church in Hackney, built in 1853 by William Butterfield, is surrounded by tower blocks, residential flats and houses and stands out over all with its huge tower. Inside the church are amazing stained glass windows depicting the history of the gospels with detailed architecture on the ceiling. The organ has a very rare four manual keyboard and one of its previous organists was Dr W H Monk who wrote Abide With Me. The vicar Father David Lambert made us most welcome, even letting us park in the Vicarage Garden.

It was then on to the Church of Our Lady & St Joseph, a very busy Catholic church which can have up to 92 different nationalities represented at Mass and congregations of up to 2000 at Christmas and Easter. Next on the list was St Mark's in Dalston which contains a mosaic behind its altar made up of approximately 27,000 pieces to form a picture of the Last Supper. They are also in

need of funds to repair their roof like St Andrew's. Dalston Methodist Church was very welcoming and made up mostly of people from the Caribbean and Africa who supplied some excellent refreshments for the Unlock Walkers. Churches around London are used for various activities to help keep them going and this one is typical with women's fellowship meeting, church groups, Health groups etc – in all nineteen different activities happen there each week.



On to Hackney Pentecostal Church which features a stone-clad wall with two beams resembling a castle. The church is surrounded by many attractions, including the famous London Fields Park and Sutton House, the oldest residential building in Hackney. We were able to walk through part of the Park which was first recorded in 1540 as a place for drovers to pasture their livestock and is a great attraction for locals.





It has some unusual features, including a concrete table tennis structure which was being used as we passed by. How about one for the playing fields and youth club? The Salvation Army church has a lively and multi-cultural fellowship which doubles up to support vulnerable immigrants and teach them English.



The last church in Hackney was the Lithuanian Catholic Church of St Casimir and we met many Lithuanians and children there. The church was built in 1912 for the immigrants that had settled in London in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and then used by the refugees escaping the Soviet invasion and now for the latest Lithuanians who came here when their country became part of the European Union. I spoke to one young lady from Richmond and has worked here for four years. She spoke excellent English and travels for two hours every Sunday just to reach the church and meet with other Lithuanians.



Our next stop was the famous Hackney City Farm where we had a welcome break for a delicious lunch. The farm is used by many children who go there to see the animals, use the pottery workshops and craft workshops and play in the gardens as well as eat the different foods prepared there.



*Roy stops for a chat with a friendly goose*

We then reached Acton's Lock and onwards for a delightful walk along the canal path, finally meeting up with the other group from St Andrew's for a most welcome drink.

During this fine day it was a real eye-opener to see the work that is being carried out by inner city churches and how they work in their communities. Our sponsorship effort raised £150 for Unlock's work in deprived urban areas across the UK. For any further information on the charity check out their website [www.unlock.urban.org.uk](http://www.unlock.urban.org.uk)



*How the wall finished up at the end of the day, well done all round!*

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## **ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

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With little risk of frosts, June should bring hot sunshine and the summer solstice so there is plenty of daylight to let you get on with things. Harvest lettuce, spring onion, radish, Summer cabbage, early carrots and those lovely early potatoes. Beetroot, young turnips and summer spinach and early peas could well be cropping.

### ***Sowing, Planting and Cultivating***

Keep on top of the weeds! Hoeing them as small seedlings will make the job easier than waiting for them to send roots down. Hoe on dry days so that weeds do not have a chance to recover. Don't forget to sharpen your hoe before you start and frequently as you use it. Keeping a small sharpening stone or file in your pocket will make this more convenient.

Thin carrots, parsnips, beetroot etc. and water when required. If the top of the soil looks dry, insert your finger into the soil. If it is dry at the tip then you need to water. It is best to give a good soaking which will get to the roots. In dry weather, keep the surface friable (easily broken up) by hoeing to help keep the water from getting to the surface by capillary action and then evaporating away. It also helps water soak in when you do get some rain.

Plant out broccoli, calabrese, Brussels sprouts, summer cabbage. Runner and French Beans and celery can go out, leeks may be ready to move to their final position, ideally they are about pencil thickness. Outdoor tomatoes can go to their final position. When moving plants from outdoors it is a good idea to condition them to the move. Take them out in the day and put back at night for a few days or move from greenhouse to cold-frame. This avoids shocking the plant by drastic climate changes. There is a lot to sow this month and with many crops you can sow one set and then a few weeks later re-sow to give a succession of vegetables at the peak of perfection. In dry weather it is a good idea to soak your seed

drill before sowing and then just water with a fine rose after. Maincrop peas, beetroot, carrots, turnips, Swedes, cauliflowers, chicory, endive, kohlrabi, sweetcorn, squash, courgette, marrow, cucumber, French beans can be sown now.

### ***Fruit***

Make sure plants have sufficient water when the fruit is swelling. Thin out plums and apples in June. Better to have one reasonable apple than three miniature marbles. Nature naturally tends towards this and sheds excess fruit. It's best to thin out after the 'June Drop'.

### ***General Tasks***

Slugs and snails are attacking so take action to keep them down. Use netting to keep the birds off your crops. Butterflies are about now so check undersides of brassica leaves for eggs that will hatch into caterpillars. Squash them, wipe or wash them off.

### ***Well done Trevor!***

Here's Trevor Ray last month, spreading 'fly' from the old road surface in Front Street. Shifting many barrow loads of the old asphalt, he created some parking spaces just inside the allotment gates in Front Street.

By doing that, Trevor reduced the disposal process for the contractors and the numbers of cars parked on the road and verge by the gate. He gets the rare 'Green Fingered PN Gardener of the Month' accolade !



*We are sad to report the passing of a number of our friends and neighbours this month. In addition to those mentioned here, news has come in of the passing of Stan Coker. More will be said, but let us reflect for now on the great example Stan showed us as he suffered serious illness over a long period. Our thoughts and prayers are with Maureen and her family at this sad time.*

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**GINNIE JELL (FORMERLY CARDY)**

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It was such a shock to learn of the sad news that Ginnie Cardy (as she was when living in Slip End) had died after a very short illness on May 10th. I lived next door to Ginnie in Rossway with the Scott family the other side, and she was a warm, generous and very amiable lady who enjoyed life. She had many friends and it was our misfortune when she moved to Harpenden and then later to settle in Seaton Ross, York. She was a loving mother to Matthew and Joanna who both attended Slip End Lower School and also leaves her long-time partner Andrew, dear sister Katherine and her darling grand-daughter Jordan.



The funeral was attended by approximately 200 people at Holme on Spalding Moor in York and she will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

Rest in Peace Ginnie.

*Sue Briggs*

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**FARLEY HILL METHODISTS**

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Our concert seasons have run over the last six years. This year's season begins on Saturday 13th June with the eagerly awaited return of CANTATA under Mr. Chris Wood. The concert starts 7pm, doors open 6.30 and interval refreshments will be available. FHM are anxious these concerts should be open to all and, as a result, the

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**RAFFAELL PISANI**

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The funeral for Raffaell, who died suddenly was held in St Andrews Church on May 8th.

Raff and his wife Jan were married in St Andrews Church. The family have a long association with Slip End. Raff first came to the area to work at Luton Airport. He then spent the rest of his career in catering and the Hotel Trade. His last retirement job was delivering lunches prepared at Slip End School. He was a popular man and will be much missed especially by his wife Jan, daughters Kirsty and Natalie and son Paul.

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**BARBARA BROCKLEHURST**

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I am sad to report that Barbara died on May 9th aged 76. Her funeral was held in St Andrews Church with friends and family present.

Barbara was a local lass who moved to Ross Way in 1976 and was a true Country Lady from a farming background. She used to help at the Mother and Toddler group making the teas for them.

She will be very much missed by her 4 Sons, Steve, Gary, Mick and Mark of whom she was very proud and they were a real credit to her. She also had five grandchildren. Most of her sons still live in Slip End apart from Mark

*No-one is gone unless you want them to go,  
if you don't want them to go  
they will be with you forever.*

admission price remains as for the first concert in 2004. £3, £2 concessions.

There can't possibly be better value anywhere. The Lunch Club meets on Wednesday 10th June and being June we have our Summer Turkey with all the trimmings associated with another time of year. 12.20 for 1.pm £3.00 and a free raffle.

*Ken W Cameron Tel: 07960257218*



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## PARISH PLAN MEETING (MAY)

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The meeting was held at The Plough in Woodside and we were able to meet the new Community Projects manager, Michelle Stoll who will liaise between the Parish Plan and the Community Projects Committee. The constitution was agreed which will help give the necessary focus and direction to the process. We have been successful with our first grant of £500 from the ITV Community Planning Grants scheme. These grants are organised by Rural Action East and they are given to communities by ITV as their part in the agreement they made over the telephone scandal that ITV were involved with several years ago. The grant is to help in the early stages of the plan with, organising meetings, developing project plans, fixing budgets and identifying sources of funding.

Jemma McLean from the Bedfordshire Rural Charity Committee has obtained large maps of the village and surrounding area which we will be using for the future Planning for Real consultation events. The maps, once they have been fixed to polystyrene will provide an instant view of what we already have in the village and once completed, the community will be able to identify local needs which can be marked on the maps by way of small flags. The maps will hopefully be displayed on Village Fun Day and we hope many of the villagers will add their suggestions at the Planning for Real event. Whereabouts for the display has not been finalised as yet but should be displayed in the

next issue of Parish News. The leaflet, which will be sent to households in the next month or so, was discussed and the Parish Plan will be asking for suggestions for improvements from local residents. Please remember when you do receive your form – this is your community and your say. We need as many people as possible to complete the questionnaires to get a fair understanding of what future requirements might be.

Officers were elected to add to the Chairperson of Adriana Lokman. Carol Brennan as Treasurer, I will be responsible for publicity and Michelle Stoll will be the co-ordinator. Date of next meeting was fixed for Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June and will be at The Half Moon at Pepperstock. If you are interested in joining us please let us know.

*Sue Briggs*

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## FATHERS DAY - JUNE 21ST

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### What Makes a Dad?

God took the strength of a mountain,  
The majesty of a tree,  
The warmth of a summer sun,  
The calm of a quiet sea,  
The generous soul of nature,  
The comforting arm of night,  
The wisdom of the ages,  
The power of the eagles in flight,  
The joy of a morning in spring,  
The faith of a mustard seed,  
The patience of eternity,  
The depth of a family need,  
Then God combined these qualities,  
And there was nothing more to add,  
He knew his masterpiece was complete,  
And He called it – Dad.

*Author unknown*

*Sonora Louise Smart Dodd is the person responsible for Fathers Day. In 1909 she listened to a sermon about Mothering Sunday and wondered why there was no corresponding Fathers Day. However it wasn't until 1966 that President Lyndon Johnson signed the proclamation declaring the 3rd Sunday in June as Fathers Day and the UK has since followed suit.*



David Kingston mentioned recently in passing that he has been involved in the production of Parish News for more than thirty years. He has also been editing the magazine continuously for many years, the last ten in collaboration with Sue Briggs. His long service really seems worth marking in some way – hence his bright smiling face (and generous figure) on the front page of this issue.

Way back in the seventies, copies of the magazine were produced, using typewriter-cut stencils, on a (state of the art?) Gestetner at East Hyde – a process which itself took some hours. In those days, the magazine consisted of *about eight pages* of fairly austere content in smudgy black and white. The circulation was *about 40 copies*.

Since then the monthly circulation has increased more than tenfold, and David has initiated and overseen a steady stream of improvements in both the content and the print quality of ‘Parish News’.

We’re not quite sure when we were first able to afford a professional printer. However, by this century in 2002 we had the first coloured cover on the June issue which covered the Jubilee celebrations edition. Since then, with a steady revenue from advertising, colour gradually increased from two issues a year until September 2005, after which every issue has had a coloured cover, with only marginal increases in costs to ‘the punter’.

That of course is only part of the story, because David has also beavered away, streamlining the production process by using ever more sophisticated software, nudging print margins to accommodate bigger pictures and more text per page, and insisting on such arcane details as having the folded pages trimmed to square etc. How he manages this, together with all he contributes elsewhere to village activities while still making frequent visits to his beloved Italy, is something of a miracle!

This year alone he has worked on the preparation of fund-raising for the new church roof, joined the Projects team for the Parish Plan and helped with the meetings to promote it; begun the mammoth task of combining three magazines in one for the next month of PN—Village Hall centenary celebrations, this year’s Fun Day, the Parish Councils yearly update for the village as well as finding room for the next issue of Parish News. Also, in his ‘spare time’ he is a member of the Village Hall committee, has been Church Warden and on the PCC at St Andrew’s Church where he also sings with the music group.

He is a keen walker and photographer and probably has quite a few more hobbies that we don’t know about! He is prepared to go that extra mile and has performed in many plays for Harvest Suppers or just recently joined in a fun sketch at church, see below. (you might have wondered what Sean the Sheep looked like—now you know!)



*Pictured with his good friend ‘Brian the Lion’*

We appreciate all the dedicated contribution David has made over the years—long may it continue. (and what a job we have had doing this behind his back!!)

*Parish News Committee*

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

## **June**

- 1st Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm  
3rd MUGA Evening at the Youth Club!  
5th Citizens Advice Surgery—Doctors Surgery Manor Road, Caddington Tel: 725673

## **6th SEADA: Senior Citizens Annual Outing**

9th Community Projects Group - Meeting at Social Club 7.30

11th Darts Night at the Frog & Rhubarb

## **13th FoSELS: Summer Fete at Slip End School**

13th Farley Hill Methodist Church: Concert Evening

14th Open Gardens at Luton Hoo 11—4 Admission £5 refreshments available

16th Women's Institute: 'From Chef to Clergy', Rev. R. Winslade

16th Knit & Natter at Julie Taylors home (Call Julie on 413912)

19th Citizens Advice Surgery—Doctors Surgery Manor Road, Caddington Tel: 725673

20th Open Day at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden

21st Father's Day - Café Church at St Andrew's

25th Parish Plan meeting at the Half Moon

30th Knit & Natter at Julie Taylors home (Call Julie on 413912)

## **July**

6th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm

14th Community Projects Group - 7.30, Venue TBA

19th Summer Open Day at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden

24th Village Weekend: Village Hall Centenary Evening

25th Village Weekend: Village Fun Day

## **August**

11th Community Projects Group - 7.30, Venue TBA

## **September**

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

***Items for inclusion in next month's issue should be in by 15th!***

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](mailto: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](mailto:parishnews@slipend.co.uk).

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

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Bin Days		June 2009		
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			

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