

# SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2009 50P WHERE SOLD



Janet Buttery & Rachel Parslow (in pink) with their friend Lottie at the start of the Race for Life in Stockwood Park. Many local people taking part with over 3000 other ladies of all ages to raise funds for Cancer Research.



## Scouts out & about

Ian Wilson (right) from Claydown Way with friends from the Dunstable Explorer Scouts at the start of their 84 miles along Hadrian's Wall for their Queens Scouts Awards.





***Village Day - more scenes***

*A great All-Age event  
in perfect weather.*

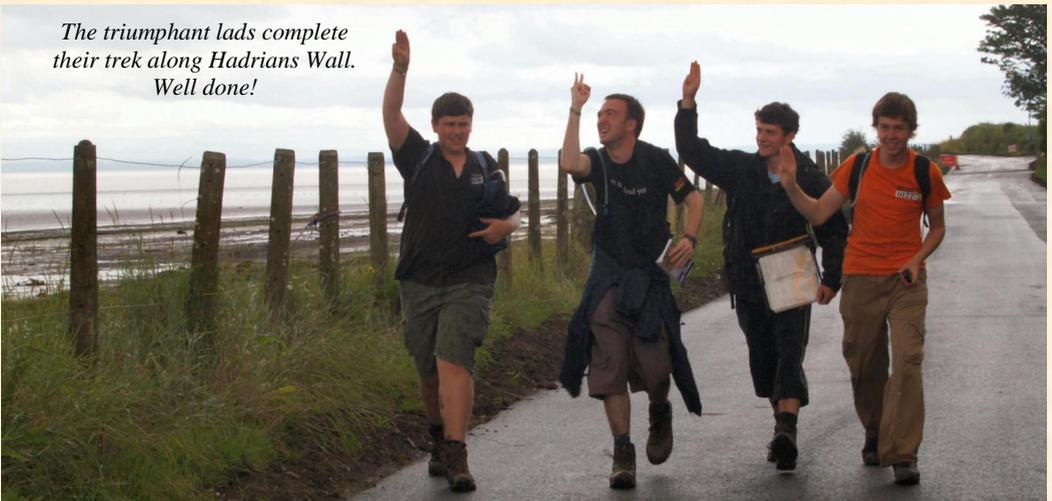
*'Aunties' May and Hilda seen here relaxing after their opening ceremonials, inevitably heading for the Pimms' Tent! "Let me help with portion control young man, pass me the bottle!" Others were less formally attired with smiles all round, including the Slip End Stompers who entertained with precision Line Dancing.*

*Andy Lunn, holding his son in his arms, looking much less formal than he did at VH100, when he hosted in full white tie & tails whilst Thomas (centre) gets an excellent view of the dancers.*



***Flamstead Scarecrow Festival**  
With England cricketers celebrating with the return of the Ashes how apt that there should be a cricket scarecrow! The Morris dancers and singers performed to a large crowd who were enjoying the festivities*

*The triumphant lads complete their trek along Hadrian's Wall. Well done!*



# 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: 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

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Stephen Fuell: 417792  
stevefuell@f2s.com  
Philip Penman: 455185  
PhilipPenman@aol.com  
Geoff Daniel: 424363  
geoffdaniel@btinternet.com  
Ken Crossett 414168  
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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](http://slipend.co.uk)**

## HOW SMART IS YOUR DRIVING?

Most car drivers could be travelling a lot further on a tank of fuel. No new car is required - just a change to smarter driving.



Try these tips:

- Shift up the gears earlier (between 2000 and 2500rpm). Cruising comfortably in 5th gear is the best place to be.
- Cut your top speed. Wind resistance increases significantly with speed. The optimum speed for fuel efficiency is just 45 to 50mph.
- Avoid unnecessary braking by anticipating the traffic ahead. Fluid motion is better than stop start.

- When slowing down, stay in gear and take your foot off the accelerator as early as possible. This reduces fuel consumption to near zero.
- Plan your route to avoid congestion or getting lost.
- Check tyre pressures. Under inflated tyres can increase fuel consumption.

Smarter driving could save the equivalent of about one month's worth of fuel a year. It will also help you drive safely and reduce wear and tear on your car's transmission.

For money saving tips and information on travelling with lower carbon emissions, call the Energy Saving Trust on 0800 512 012



*Editor's note: We would add 'Leave home say 10 minutes earlier' to the list above!*

PN Junior Sub-Editor is something of a railway buff, bordering upon anorakishness! Here is one of his snaps, taken on the Chur - Arosa line in Switzerland on a recent holiday.



## **ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH**

### **Services & diary dates for September**

*Wednesday 2nd 7.30pm*

Bible Study led by Rev Bob Forrest

*Sunday 6th Racial Justice Sunday*

11.00am Sunday School reopens  
with Bring & Sing

Morning Service with Communion  
Rev Bob Forrest

*Sunday 13th*

11.00am Sunday School & Morning Service  
Colin Quine

*Saturday 19th*

Methodist Church 'Action for Children'  
Preserve Stall at Caddington Village Show

*Sunday 20th*

11.00am Sunday School  
Morning Service - Ron Cowle

*Monday 21st 7.30pm*

Fellowship Meeting led by Mike Bull

*Wednesday 23rd 7.30pm*

Coffee Evening in aid of  
Methodist Relief & Development Fund

*Friday 25th 9.30am*

Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee Morning at  
45 Manor Road Caddington

*Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>*

11.00am Harvest Festival all age worship  
- Rev Phil Horner

*Monday 28<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm*

Auction of Harvest Gifts in aid of  
'Water Aid' Auctioneer Mrs. Carol Bull

*Sunday October 4th*

11.00am Morning Service & Communion Rev  
Bob Forrest  
6pm Prayer Service - Rev Phil Horner



We are sad to report the passing of our oldest member, our friend Ivy Tarrant. Ivy who was a resident at Greenfields Care Home, (formally of Chaul End Road), celebrated her 101st birthday last December. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

During a restful few weeks at Aley Green Church we were encouraged by attendances at services, fellowships, bible studies and coffee evenings over the holiday period.

The June Coffee Evening raised £100 for Methodist Homes for the Aged and the pew envelopes £45. Our July charity was Action for Children when the Coffee Evening raised £82, pew envelopes £69 and tombola £37. Expecting a quiet affair due to holidays, over 40 came to our August Coffee Evening where we raised £120 for World Vision.

Our Sunday School Barbecue in July found young and old enjoying lovely sunshine good food and company and raised £160 for our Sunday School to establish the new Children's Christian Lending Library.

Please visit our preserve stall at the Village Show and stock up on chutney, jam marmalade & jellies. All monies raised will go to Action for Children.

Our coffee morning on Friday 25th September will be in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support's Big Coffee Morning. Join us from 9.30 to noon at 45 Manor Road, good coffee, cakes and company!

Our Harvest Festival Celebration service is on Sunday 27th September, a family service led by our minister Phil. The auction on the Monday following is always a fun event, come along and place a bid or two and help us to raise money for Water Aid. May God bless you all, from your friends at Aley Green Methodist Church.

*Ann Meader*

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

## **VILLAGE DAY 2009**

After the tremendous success of Village Day 2008, Janet and Sarah have been busy since December last year planning Village Day 2009, which went off with great success on Saturday 25th July. Sarah writes ....

*We are delighted to report that the total amount raised on Village Day was over £5,000! This is a massive achievement and one of which Janet and I are very proud.*

*The feedback we received on the day and since has been extremely positive, with everyone from spectators to stall holders, the food folks and the bar people all saying what a great atmosphere the day was, with 'a real sense of community'. We have to say, this makes all our hard work worthwhile. We wanted people to come along and support the Village Day but more importantly we wanted them to have a day to remember. It seems all that was achieved!*

*Our thanks to all the Tug of War teams that turned up to 'pull' on the day. Commiserations to runners up, the Chequers team from Caddington. Big congratulations to the winning team, from Slip End's own Frog & Rhubarb, coached by Rik Caldon, bringing the trophy home. Well done boys!*

*Although overall planning was mainly down to Janet and myself, we really couldn't have had*

*the successful day that we did without all those great people and groups listed below, who were all wonderful and instrumental in making Village Day 2009 the success it was!*

*In particular our special thanks to Hilda and May for officially opening Village Day for us, it is always a pleasure to be in your company ladies.*

*Thanks also to Andy Prothero and Stanley Bojarski who have lots of photos' of the day which we will be posting shortly on the website for you to view.*

*Check out the band on the internet! 'Banned' were filmed performing on the day and now we have the footage uploaded onto U-Tube, [www.youtube.com/user/aworldofpayne](http://www.youtube.com/user/aworldofpayne)*

*Planning for Village Day 2010 will be underway towards the end of the year and if you would like to become a part of the organization team for this fabulous community event then don't hesitate to contact Janet (07752 902 070) or Sarah (07868 742 904) to let them know.*



**VILLAGE  
DAY  
HEROES!**

- \* Ade Lokman & Parish Plan Team \* Airparks \* Andy & Debbie Prothero \*
- \* Anil Mittal @ Slip End Corner Shop \* Asda's \* Barry @ Home Bakery \* Barry Keech \*
- \* Bookers \* Brakes Brothers \* Butlers Butchers \* Chris Warren \* Citroen Garage \*
- \* All Craft Stall Holders \* Dawn & Steve Grainger \* Deb Perry & Pepperstock Archers \*
- \* Doug Coburn & Dave Ward \* Eileen Crawley \* Geoff & Joy Daniels \*
- \* Graham & Lorna Shepherd \* Jill Acton & BATS \* Katrina Doubleday \*
- \* Kayleigh Long @ Ladbroke Insurance \* Kev, Lainey & Team @ Slip End Social Club \*
- \* Lily, Dave & Team @ The Rising Sun \* Linda Taylor \* Lynn & Leanne \* Mark Short \*
- \* Martin Allen & Harpenden Scout Group \* Martin Simpkins, Steve Haynes & 'Banned' \*
- \* Martin Spring - Chauffeur \* Mike McKeivitt \* Molly Allsopp & Sophie Fallon \*
- \* Nina Oakes \* Pam Crawley \* Paul, Jon & Team @ Frog & Rhubarb \*
- \* PC Wesley Hall, PCSO Claire Young, PCSO Paul Clark & Brendan Murray \*
- \* Phil Johnson @ J&P Scaffolding \* Roy Cruise @ Middlesex Meats \*
- \* Shirley Knaption & the Bowlers \* Slip End Scout Group \* Slip End Stompers Line Dancers \*
- \* Slip End Lower School \* St Margaret's School Bushey \* Steve @ Huff 'n' Puff Bouncy Castles \*
- \* Steve Crawley \* Steve Fuell \* Teresa Flaherty @ Murphy Flaherty Irish Dance School \*
- \* Tony Taylerson \* Vince Bianco \*



### *More Village Day scenes*

*Action in the Dog Agility demonstration, this canine obviously having fun as are the Bouncy Sumo Wrestlers. More serious is the Tug o' War where we see Team F & R in straining response to their coach Rik's exhortations.*



*Below, Barry Keech is chatting to the two youngsters who took the prizes in the Village Day Poster Competition.*



*If you live near to an elderly, or vulnerable person, please take the time to think about who might be calling at their home.*

***PN has received this disturbing news from Bedfordshire Police.***

A Distraction Burglary took place in Manor Road Woodside on Monday 17th of August, at 6am. The location is a Mobile Home Park.

Two men called at one of the homes, offering to cut down some trees at the rear of the home. The men said that there would be no charge for the work. The elderly owner went inside to call the site owner and one of the men followed her in. The second male stayed outside talking the other elderly owner.

Whilst the lady was talking on the phone the man searched a cupboard and took some cash from a purse. Both men then ran off towards bushes at the rear. No vehicle was seen.

The first offender was a white male, in his mid 30's, 5 feet 10 ins tall, with a heavy build and short dark hair. The second offender was a black male, again in his mid 30's, 5 feet 8 ins tall with a slim build, and short black hair.

*The Police offer the following advice:*

- ◆ Keep both front and back doors locked at all times.
- ◆ Always use a door chain and viewer when answering your door.
- ◆ Always ask for identification, and check it carefully.
- ◆ If a caller claims to be from a utility company, ask them to make an appointment to call back when you will not be alone in the house.
- ◆ Council and housing association staff will always make an appointment with you before they call at your home. If you have any doubts, do not let the person in and dial 999.

***Beware, callous criminals are about***

You may have noticed that a number of cones have appeared at several locations in the parish. Some criminals in our society are now taking it upon themselves to steal kerbside drainage grills.

Presumably there is some value in cast iron, but to achieve illegal financial return from their crimes these people must be stealing tons and removing many. Their activities must take place at times when not many are about, probably in the dark. There must be some occasional noise, so if you are disturbed try and get a discreet look and report anything which may help the police catch up with these people and bring them to book.

It is not difficult to imagine some of the possible consequences of what is being done, including serious injury.



**Services and Events in September**

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

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

**Sponsored  
Bike 'n Hike  
2009**

*St Andrew's is benefitting by huge generosity from Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust to help fund the roof project!*

*On September 12th we have an opportunity to support the Trust again by taking part in the annual Bike'n Hike event. Hundreds of sponsored walkers and cyclists will be out and about on the roads visiting many of the 628 churches open on the day.*

"It has caught on in a remarkable way and we have a considerable following of regulars as well as new people joining in each year", said organiser Patrick Lepper. "More than £1million has been raised in total so far - last year £102,000 was raised in a single day! We welcome newcomers, if they would like to join in by cycling or walking they can find more information on our website: [www.bedshertshct.org.uk](http://www.bedshertshct.org.uk)."

A group from our parish will be walking around a selected area on the day so if you wish to join in call Brian on 458443 for details. At home, the door at St Andrew's will be open from 10 to 6 so this is a great opportunity for anyone to call in for tea and chat.



**SAVE ON YOUR HOUSEHOLD BILLS & RAISE MONEY FOR ST ANDREW'S ROOF !**

*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!**

### September Dates

Our table of services and events shown opposite was produced before the holiday period and some additional items have arisen.

- ◆ Ade Lockman will be available in Church every Sunday in September to collect small items to be sold on e-Bay towards the costs of the Roof Fund. Arrangements may be made for the collection of larger items.
- ◆ Harvest Festival at Slip End Lower School on Friday 2nd October at 2.15pm
- ◆ Friday October 2nd: Harvest Supper in the Village Hall; see advertisement elsewhere in this issue
- ◆ The Harvest Festival service at St Andrews will be on Sunday 4th 10.30am
- ◆ There will be a Garden Party on Sunday 20th 7.00pm Luton Churches Education Trust, Service at St Marys, Luton

### NEW! GARDENING CLUB

#### *Interested in joining?*

*Aims of club would include visits to gardens, guest speakers, planning and organisation of Open Gardens & Plant Sales*

**If you are interested  
come along to Village Hall on  
Monday 19th October 8pm.**

### **Woodside Garden Party (next to church)**

**Saturday**

**12th September**

**2pm -5pm**

✽ Bric-a-Brac ✽

✽ Cream Teas ✽

✽ Raffle ✽

✽ Entertainment ✽

✽ Tombola ✽

*All welcome - Entry £1*

*All proceeds go to Woodside Residents.*

*Donations gratefully received!*



**Reduce waste that goes into landfill  
by offering it to your local community  
for free!**

Post your unwanted items on  
<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/FreecycleLuton/>  
and an email is sent to all members  
who then make contact to arrange collection.

Everything *must be free*,  
preferably local although some things can be posted.



*Ladies: Get Fit in 2009 at ...*

### **DEBORAH'S AEROBICS**

*Thursdays 8pm*

*at Peter Edwards Hall*

*Only £3!*

*For information call Deborah  
on 01582 767916*



### **MP's Surgeries**

PN is assured by her officials in Luton that Margaret Moran MP continues to hold Surgeries on Friday evenings, where you can meet and discuss on a person to person basis.

*For appointments:  
call 01582 731882*

*or via [www.margaretmoran.gov.uk](http://www.margaretmoran.gov.uk)*

## **BINGO**

*at the Village Hall  
Thursdays at Eight*

*Slip End & District Association*



### *Almost there!*

Fund raising momentum continues and news from St A's at the time of going to press is that 90% of projected funding is already committed. The push during the last month or so over the Village Day period has been towards the parish community and businesses. Response has been very positive and £5,300 has been given from those sources so far! This is great milestone for a campaign which began only a few months back.

Chris Barnes, who heads up the roof project group at St A's told PN, "This is very good news from within the community and a reflection of just how many in the village appreciate their local church and what is being done here. We are greatly encouraged. Many thanks all round!"

Chris says that plans are now going ahead to start work quite soon and hopes that all essential external work will be completed by Christmas, although some scaffolding may still be up at that time. Also, some internal works may not be finished until the New Year. We have to follow strict health and safety rules these days which can cause delay, but on the upside, we can continue our services and events like our popular Holiday Club in October which can go ahead as the work continues.

The planning group met with architect Pamela Ward three times between May and mid August and emailed and telephoned her several times to assist her with detailed specifications. Together they have come up with a working programme. "To some extent we depend on what we find when we get up there. Also the weather which, although often favourable for construction work in the final quarter of the year, can be unpredictable!" Pamela and churchwarden Tony Willson however, are optimistic from their expert knowledge of the building that risks of finding trouble is slight but, you never know!

### *Keep it coming*

This is good news, but St A's emphasises that the last 10% of funding is still needed. There are good indications that some more grant aid and further contributions from businesses and organisations will come in. *Chris reminds everybody that the competition to guess how many new tiles will be required is ongoing with the winner to be announced at Christmas time. "First prize is a 'Night on the Tiles for two at Luton Hoo, so if you have not entered, go ahead: if you have already entered, buy a few more!"*



## **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, some Drama, a Quiz, "makes" and a short "Thought for the Day. Bring a friend and Win a Prize. Everyone welcome.**



The end of summer is near but there is sometimes an Indian summer with blue skies and sunshine, nothing is certain. The bulk of the harvest comes home now and as crops come out the plot begins to empty

### *Harvest*

Maincrop potatoes should be ready now: see August's advice about cropping and storing. There may be some reasonably sized parsnips now but they will stay perfectly happy in the ground and taste better after they have had a frost on them. French and runner beans will continue to produce and the last of the peas should be coming in. Compost the peas foliage but leave roots in the ground as the nodules contain nitrogen.

The harvest will be in full swing and in addition to the above you should have: beetroot, cabbage, carrots, cauliflowers, courgettes, cucumbers, globe artichokes, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, leeks, marrows, onions, radishes, spring onions, spinach, sweetcorn, tomatoes and turnips. From the greenhouse you should be picking aubergines, chilli and sweet peppers as well as cucumbers and tomatoes.

If you grow fruit then the picking should be in full swing there as well: apples, pears, plums, peaches from the trees, blackberries and raspberries from the canes and strawberries from the bed.

### *Sowing, Planting and Cultivating*

There's not a great deal to sow now but Arctic king lettuce and white Lisbon onions can be sown for spring. Spring cabbage plants can be planted out now and over-wintering (Japanese) onion sets can go in for an early onion harvest.

Feed tomatoes, peppers and cucumbers. Stop feeding other plants now as they are nearly finished and the nutrients are best saved for the spring. Keep the side shoots in check on the tomatoes.

Tidy up the raspberries, cutting off canes and tying in the new shoots for next year. Fruited strawberries can be attended to, cutting off foliage 1" from the ground, clearing and weeding. Planted up runners to replace 3 year old plants that are best replaced now.

### *General Tasks*

Keep an eye on your brassicas for butterfly eggs and caterpillars under the leaves. Greenhouse pests should be declining but keep an eye out if the weather is good.

### *Making Compost*

If not already done, empty your compost bins. Compost that is ready can be spread on the ground and the partially rotted compost can be returned to the bin to finish off. Foliage will help transform the green waste to valuable compost. At the base of the heap place woody material, sweetcorn stalks, etc.. to allow airflow up into the heap. Put down a 6 inch layer of green material and add some sulphate of ammonia or dried blood to add nitrogen. A small sprinkling is sufficient, about 2oz per square yard is about right.

Put another layer of green material on., lightly sprinkled with lime to keep the pH up. Repeat the process and top off with a piece of carpet or plastic sheet to stop it getting too wet in the rain and to keep the heat in.

The heap should heat up after a few days and be ready to turn in four or six weeks. The smaller the particles the more surface area they have relative to weight and the faster they will decompose. If you have a shredder, this will be ideal but otherwise cut things up with shears, crush things like brassica stems and they will go down much faster.

### *Rent Night*

Here in Slip End, rents (*from just £3.50 for 5 'pole'!*) and membership (*50p'!*) are due on September 25th at Gil Plummer's home. Depending on what a pole is, that sounds good value.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, SLIP END

# HARVEST SUPPER

SLIP END VILLAGE HALL  
FRIDAY OCTOBER 2<sup>nd</sup>  
7.00 for 7.30

*£5 Adults*

*£4 Concessions*

*£10 Family Ticket (2+2)*

*(£1.50 for each additional child)*

*For Tickets call in at the church*

*or Slip End Post Office*

*or call Sue Lyons on 414162*



*Bring-your-own  
cutlery, cold drinks, etc.*

*We'll provide Supper,  
Tea, Coffee & Squash.*

### *Tug o' War Champions!*

Team Frog & Rhubarb was triumphant on Village Day, maintaining its unbroken record at this prestigious local event! The final was tugged out between teams from the Frog and the Chequers, Caddington. There were a lot of aching muscles the next day and many lost voices from members of the crowd who were extremely vocal in their support. Congratulations to the team!!!

The evening of Village Day at the Frog was fantastic. Following on from the huge success of the afternoons activities, live music was provided by 'Banned' the same musicians that kindly provided their time free of charge for Village Day. The pub made a huge donation to Village Day funds of almost £700! Total fundraising at the Frog & Rhubarb has now topped the £5500 mark. A huge thank you to everyone for their continued support.

Customers at the Frog & Rhubarb enjoyed a banquet of Mexican food on 6th August. There were enchiladas, quesadillas, fajitas and tequila sunrises accompanied by some authentic Mexican Music.

Stockwood Park was the venue for the Frog's golf day. A group of customers enjoyed their 18 holes of golf followed by drinks and an evening meal back at the pub. Taking the trophy on the day was James Cook while the loser, Scott Ward, suffered a disgusting cocktail mixed specially by Paul.



### *Fun & Games at the Plough*

With autumn coming on the Domino League will be restarting at the Plough on Monday evenings in October.

Darts are as popular at the Plough as they are at the Club and the other pubs. The Darts League recommences at the Plough in October too, on Thursday evenings.



*For further details call in at the Plough or call Doug on 720923.*

The funeral of the late Eva Crowe, formally of The Grove, took place at the Vale Crematorium on 26th August followed by a celebration at the Plough, her watering hole whenever she could get there. The collection went to the Pasque Hospice.

Historically, our area has been strong on darts. Here at PN we recall times many years back when the Slip End & District Darts League was run by the redoubtable Eric Cullis. Eric used to write regular items about the Darts League here in PN. His passion for the game was reflected in his enthusiastic prose, but so keen was he with his pen that the then editor, the equally redoubtable Joan Austin, had problems deciphering Eric's words. She used her editorial discretion to create an item which, hopefully, bore at least a passing relationship to what Eric had in mind!

## **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

## **A TALE OF FOUR CITIES**

Some of us do the annual ‘Unlock Walk’, a springtime event when we visit parts of London away from the tourist traps, to see how life is behind the newspaper headlines. Very interesting it is, to meet and chat with all sorts of real Londoners and see a little of how things really tick on the ground. This year was no exception as we wandered the streets of Dalston & Hackney (see May PN) taking in the River Lea (but not as salubrious as we know it in downtown Luton) and the wrong end of the Regent’s Canal.

We strolled that canal a few years back, but then in the smarter bits of the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea. Memories of this prestigious and moneyed area were sallowed then by some lack of communal hospitality at high level. On the ground, people were people, i.e. great folk, who we could get along with and relate to. However, there were sad contrasts at the highest echelons!

One of our members had direct dealings with no less an icon than His Excellency the Chief Executive of This Regal Borough. Our member had unwittingly parked his car just the wrong side of a very small yellow line on a very quiet road on a very deserted Saturday afternoon. His Regal Excellency’s foot servant on the street, no doubt a somewhat lesser minion working overtime on franchised commission, felt urged to slap a £50 ticket.

“Surely, if I write to His Excellency the Chief Executive, He might understand my charitable motives towards His community and use His discretion to wave His piddling fine in a spirit of an honest mistake made in the best of intentions. I’ll send His Excellence a cheque but plead, suggesting He might tear it up discretionarily.”

Our man had a prompt and charming response to the effect that H.E. noted the spirit of the plea and would duly pass this case to His subordinate. Nothing more was heard until weeks later when a bank statement showed that the *cheque had been drawn!*

Contrast that with hospitality in Dalston & Hackney this spring. The canal was murkier, the people obviously poorer but their hospitality was exemplary and their establishment reflected a more human side. The same man who suffered under the hand of the Regal Chief had a call last month from the Sally Army (Dalston Brigade). ‘Victor’, who spoke with a heavy Maltese accent which put our man on his most astute telephonic guard initially, referred to our visit to the East End in the spring.

“Oh no, did I park unwisely again?” he thought, but soon dismissed any possibility that the SA operated the Dalston Wheel Clamping franchise.

“You have won first prize in our Raffle, what is known as ‘a magnum of Brut Champagne’!” (Have in mind, dear reader, that this was a low level SA Officer whose knowledge on things Champagnoise reflected no great expertise.)

“That’s great!” said our man, “but I will not be passing your way in the foreseeable future to pick up the prize.” Halfway through the ensuing sentence, our man realised that his suggestion that the SA should dispose of the vintage in whatever way they wished was falling on stony ground. He felt an urge to suggest that the SA deliver the champers ceremonially through the plate glass of the H.E.’s Regal suite in Kensington with his compliments. (Time has not healed the wounds dealt by their Lordships in Kensington & Chelsea.)

***“No,” said Victor “We will deliver your prize to your home near Luton!”***

### ***Latest score:***

Plebeian Borough of Dalston & Hackney: 10  
Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea: 0

***Our man looks forward to another visit to the East End but cares little if he ever sets foot in either Kensington or Chelsea ever again!***

On the 10<sup>th</sup> August we went to Southend for the day with an impressive group of 48 for the trip. The weather yet again was very kind to us so a good time was had by all. On our trips we always use Theobalds Coaches and try to have the same driver as he knows us all by name and is very caring, which makes everyone feel at ease so many thanks Keith.

Also, a big thank you goes out to everyone who gave such lovely prizes for the Tombola on Village Day which made over £100 and leads me to show our appreciation to three lovely ladies, Maureen, Josie and Viv who ran the stall. Grateful thanks to Bob and Carol Payne and Angela for taking everything down to the Playing Fields for us in the cars.

*Pam King*

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**SEADA TRIP TO WORTHING**

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Memories of our trip to Worthing where the sun shone and we had a great time ....

***Do not disturb!***

Frank having 40 well deserved winks after an exhausting lunch and walk on the Pier, while (below) Alan, Ena, Rita & Doug in more strenuous mode, well, awake at least whilst waiting for their fish & chips.



***Heritage Open Days***

*Friday 11th September 11am to 3pm*

*Research Open Day*

Meet the Researchers, browse the collection of old maps and photos, learn about what was planted in the garden over 200 years ago and immerse yourself in the tales of life on the Estate told by gardeners from times gone by. Illustrated talks on the history of the Walled Garden 11am and 2pm.

*Saturday 12th September 11am to 3pm*

*Artists' Open Day*

A opportunity to explore the Walled Garden, to set up your easel, sit and sketch or photograph one of the area's hidden delights.

*Sunday 13th September 11am to 3pm*

*Garden Open Day*

Highlights of the Open Day are an exciting display of local craft stalls, live demonstrations of traditional rural skills, displays of heritage tools, wildlife walks, refreshments, picnic area, plant stall, children's activities and guided tours of the garden.

*Saturday 17th October 11am to 3pm*

*Pumpkin & Apple Gala*

An exciting gala celebrating the pumpkin and the apple, with entertainment for all the family. Visitors can see an A-Z of pumpkin and squash, a fantastic show of pumpkins decorated by local school children, as well as a huge display of apples.

Stallholders will offer an array of pumpkins and apple related goods and visitors will be able to watch local country craftsmen, beekeepers, basket makers and wood turners. Children's activities will include story reading, apple printing, pumpkin decorating and a pumpkin and apple shy.

*For more information please email  
events@lhwg.org.uk or call 01582 721443.*

## SLIP END LOWER SCHOOL NEWS

The Summer Term ended with a couple of regular favourite events, the school sports day and the leavers' assembly which were both emotional highlights but for very different reasons.

The sports day sees the entire school divided into teams so that all ages get to take part together. With the help and support of parents and friends, there were a number of races and activities including old favourites like the egg & spoon, sack race and bean bag on the head! Fortunately the weather held out and a fun afternoon was had by all, culminating in the Mums and Dads races – always good entertainment! Thank you to all who supported the event and helped out.

The leavers' assembly was year 4's chance to put on a performance for their families and say goodbye on the last day of term. This year saw the class do their own version of "X Factor" or the "Rowan Factor" as they called it. Singing, dancing, skipping and poetry performances all took to the stage with

comments from their very own panel of judges, all of which raised smiles as well as receiving lots of applause. The show finished with the children each reliving their favourite school memories and a really emotional farewell song along with a slideshow of class photos. There were plenty of hankies needed in the audience (and one or two on stage) by the end.

As the new school year starts there are a couple of staff changes at Slip End Lower school. You may remember from our PN special edition feature that Mrs. Gordon has now retired. We are pleased to announce the appointment of a new teacher, Mrs Poulton, who will be teaching year 2 (Oak class) from the start of term. Plus congratulations to Miss Peppiatt, who takes over from Mrs Gordon as our new Assistant Head Teacher. We wish them both the very best in their new roles.

As usual there will be lots happening in the Autumn term so please keep up with school activities through our website [www.slipend.beds.sch.uk](http://www.slipend.beds.sch.uk).



# 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](mailto:garn_s@tiscali.co.uk)would love to hear from you!**

## **AN EXPEDITION TO HADRIAN'S WALL**

Earlier this summer three fellow Explorer Scouts from our unit in Dunstable and I set out to walk the Hadrian's Wall Trail. The path is 84 miles long and follows the course of the wall, or what remains of it, from coast to coast. The purpose of this walk was to complete the expedition for our Queens Scout Award. We walked for four days carrying heavy kit, which comprised over 20 kilogram bags containing all our food, clothes and tent. After that we decided to walk on and finish the wall with smaller bags.

On the first day we walked through Newcastle: no remnants of the wall at all there! On day two we moved into countryside, where we saw occasional spots of rubble and some of the 'vallum' earthworks.

Day three was breathtaking in more than one way! Perhaps the best known part of the wall is here among rolling hills and stretches of wall between forts and milecastles and the famous Sycamore Gap. This section is beautiful although walking those rolling hills with a very large bag was hard going. Day four took us through similar terrain but heading mainly downhill. We saw some of the most complete parts of wall here.

Days five and six were a nice relaxing change for us. With flat ground with no bags to carry and we sped through it with only a few minor



incidents involving construction sites, bulls and barbed wire to slow us down.

It was definitely a gruelling experience, however one well worth every moment and we all felt like we had achieved something by the end of it.

Thanks to those who sponsored me, as I also used the walk to raise a little money for a trip to Kenya next year when I shall be doing community and conservation work.

*Ian Wilson*

## **NEWS FROM DAVID & MARY BOLSTER**

*David Bolster was the vicar here back in the '90's, then David and Mary moved not very far away to north London. Now they are planning their next move.*

In 2010 David and Mary will pack their bags to spend 5 years in Rangoon in Thailand. They have often travelled to the Thai-Burma border area and some of us here in the parish have been supportive of their trips and raised money for some of the projects there. Mary, then David's interest grew while they were here in Slip End. A young person came to speak to the Mother's Union at St. Andrew's about his experience on the Thai-Burmese border. Mary then David visited the area, then others including a group from Manshead School went out also. Some here got involved in Karenaid charity, of which Mary has been Secretary.

Three years ago David was introduced to two Burmese bishops who invited him to Burma for a fortnight to do some Bible teaching.

When David was in Burma he sensed opportunities to go and work there for a longer period and to make a contribution in working with the church there. During the following 18 months they 'tested' this call from God. Interviews with Bishops and Missionary Societies and another visit to Rangoon were part of this process. These are huge steps not least because foreign missionaries were expelled by the government in 1966. It is also exciting and so much wisdom has been sought which has encouraged them to go.

David and Mary thank everyone who have supported and encouraged them, going back to their time here in the 1990's. Now they are looking for 'partners' who will support them financially and prayerfully over the next 5 years. If you would like to consider this e-mail them on [drbolster@yahoo.com](mailto:drbolster@yahoo.com) or get in touch with Ron & Julie Flashman at St. Andrew's who have agreed to co-ordinate this effort here.

*Another holiday snap, at over 7000' above Lake Brienz. The JSE took this snap from a train about 100 metres ahead of the one in the picture. Three trains were making their ways down to Brienz, one behind the other on the single track rack railway on a 40% grade (that's steep)!*



### *August meetings*

The Fun Day was another tremendous success, over £5000 being raised for community projects. The meeting roundly congratulated Sarah and Janet for all their hard work. Money came from all sorts of directions; for example, a wrap-up meeting was held in August to see how things could be made even better at Fun Day 2010.

### *Youth Club*

£2,300 grant aid has come in from Bedfordshire and Luton Community Foundation. Some of that money will be used for running costs of the Youth Club and to purchase equipment. Our youngsters raised over £500 on the day from their bucket collection!

The residential trip, funded by 'Streetcred', to Hindleap, Sussex was great. Full report will appear in next issue of PN

### *Chatty Club*

Thoughts are in minds about the future running of the club and organising trips and speakers. Members of the club are encouraged to send reps to group meetings.

### *Questionnaires*

The Parish Plan Group has received about 50 responses from the questionnaire. *Don't forget to send yours in if you haven't already done so.* Traffic was listed as an overall problem and Woodside residents reported problems with refuse collection. In response members of the group were appointed to look in detail at specific matters such as leisure, health, training & education, housing, community facilities, traffic & transport, environment and crime & policing. The Parish Plan Group will work with the Projects Group on a Village Care Scheme. More details will come out, but generally it aims to promote and develop 'good neighbourliness' in the community. A questionnaire will be distributed which will explain the scheme, asking residents if they

want such a scheme and if so, how they would take part.

The Parish Plan Group is holding an open evening in autumn, where residents can express their views about life in the Parish. Look out for the date in Parish News.

### **Minibus**

The projects group is looking into having access to a community minibus. This is an important and high profile matter as feedback is that we could do with at least ready access to a bus in the short term and most probably our own bus sooner or later! There had been difficulties in getting a minibus to take the youth club to Hindleap.

### *Village SOS Grant Application*

Village SOS is a Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and the BBC initiative: "Dynamic business ideas to help transform villages and bring lasting change." The parish is going for this and an application has been sent off.

See [http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_village\\_sos](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_village_sos)

### *Short Term Projects*

The Village Hall needs a new fence, cost about £750.

Parish News global edition was delivered in the parish by members of the Projects Group. (*Many thanks all round - editor*)

### *Further Meetings*

In our fragmented parish, there are feelings around that things are "village" based with Woodside, Aley Green and Pepperstock not so well served and are 'forgotten about'

This matter needs to be seen to. The possibilities of Parish News to be provided free of cost to all households in the parish will be looked into. This is seen as a vital line of communication to all residents.

***We need to start talking about the community as "Parish" as opposed to "Village" or Slip End.***

**HIGH blood pressure is a “silent killer” that causes 60% of strokes and 40% of heart attacks in the UK.**

- ♦ One in three people don't even know they have it!
- ♦ Once diagnosed, the condition can be successfully managed through taking medicines or making lifestyle changes.

The Blood Pressure Association is holding its annual 'Know your Numbers Week' from 7th to 13th September. This aims to encourage people to get their blood pressure checked, so they get to know their blood pressure numbers in the same way as they know their height and weight.

Thousands of “pressure stations” will be offering free blood pressure checks in supermarkets, pharmacies, health centres, workplaces and health clubs.

***Our nearest “Pressure Station” location is:***

Asda Pharmacy,  
Wigmore Hall Shopping Centre,  
Wigmore Lane, Luton.

***Opening Hours***

Monday 7th September, 08.00 - 23.00  
Tuesday 8th September, 07.00 - 23.00  
Wednesday 9th September, 07.00 - 23.00  
Thursday 10th September, 07.00 - 23.00  
Friday 11th September, 07.00 - 23.00  
Saturday 12th September, 07.00 - 22.00  
Sunday 13th September, 10.00 - 16.00

***For other locations***

Call 020 8772 4994  
or visit [www.bpassoc.org.uk/kyn](http://www.bpassoc.org.uk/kyn)



**Blood Pressure  
Association**  
the blood pressure charity

***Apology***

Unfortunately some pages were missing from last month's Parish News, due to circumstances beyond our control. The omission of a number of advertisements is regretted and Steve Lyons has been in touch with those advertisers who affected.

***Ideas for free ‘Globalisation’***

PN is widely read throughout the parish and has become a major source of information locally. Much is also carried on [slipend.co.uk](http://slipend.co.uk) and also on the notice boards around the parish. However, the promulgation of information is patchy as not everyone has access to the internet and not everyone subscribes to PN. We are looking at ways to improve this situation.

For several years now, one issue of Parish News has been distributed free to every home in the Parish in order to carry the annual report from the Parish Council.

*We are discussing possibilities now with the Community Projects group to provide PN free, door to door every month.*

Naturally financial considerations feature large due to increased printing costs and the potential loss of subscriptions. Additional funds will be sought from increased advertising and from the Community Project group funds. Circulation would double and so more help would be needed with distribution. At PN in July we were encouraged by a very helpful response by project group people who took on delivery that month. We are also looking at possibilities of providing a ‘full colour’ magazine! Should ‘global’ PN distribution become a reality, we anticipate starting that way next spring.

These are early days and we are not sure we will achieve our aims, but first signs look promising.

***Watch this space!***

# DIARY

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

## 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, at the Half Moon  
11th Citizen's Advice Surgery - Call 725673 for appointment  
12th Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust - Sponsored Walk / Cycle Ride  
11th & 12th Open Day at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden  
13th Café Church in St Andrews  
25th Citizen's Advice Surgery - Call 725673 for appointment  
27th Harvest Festival at Aley Green Methodist Church  
28th Auction of Harvest Gifts at Aley Green Methodist Church

## October

- 2nd Harvest Festival at Slip End Lower School  
2nd Harvest Supper in the Village Hall  
4th Harvest Festival at St Andrew's  
5th Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm  
12th Garden Party at Woodside Residential Home  
13th Community Projects Group - 7.30, Venue TBA  
17th Open Day at the Luton Hoo Walled Garden  
19th New Gardening Club - Here all about it at the Village Hall 8pm  
29th-30th **St Andrew's Holiday Club**



'Know your Numbers Week'  
7th to 13th September

**Blood Pressure  
Association**  
the blood pressure charity

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

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.

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

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

Bin Days		September 2009			
M	T	W	T	F	
	1	2	3	4	
7	8	9	10	11	
14	15	16	17	18	
21	22	23	24	25	
28	29	30			