



SLIP END ALEY GREEN
PARISH NEWS
PEPPERSTOCK WOODSIDE
APRIL 2011



On the front cover and here you can see pictures from the Licensing and Installation Service at St Andrews Church for the Reverend Cathy Pullinger. She and her husband, Ian, were welcomed



The Parish @ Large

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Darts League: 425323
Football: 418494
Cricket: 414157

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Gavin Shuker
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CHURCHES

St Andrew's Church

Rev. Cathy Pullinger (contact number TBC)
Wardens: Tony Willson 482681
Susan Wiltshire 727477

Aley Green Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Philip Horner
Senior Steward: Ann Meader 733668

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At the Crossroads, telephone 401069
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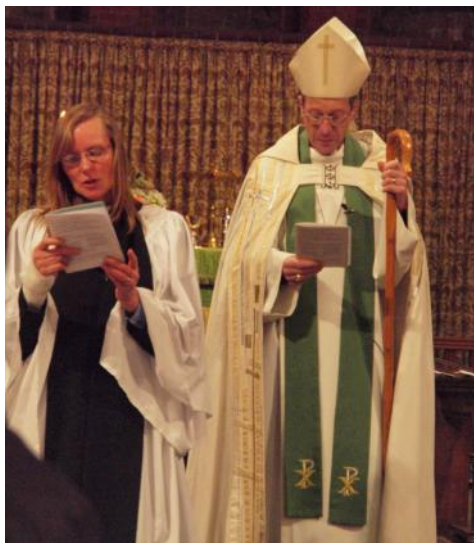
Website: slipend.co.uk

**WELCOME TO REV CATHY PULLINGER
THE NEW PRIEST IN CHARGE**

The Licensing by the Bishop of Bedford (Right Reverend Richard Inwood) and the Installation by the Archdeacon of Bedford (the Venerable Paul Hughes) of the Reverend Cathy Pullinger as Priest in Charge of St Andrew's took place on Monday March 7th. It was good to see so many people in the Church to witness the Induction of Cathy, including many of her friends from St Hugh's Church in Legrave and her family.

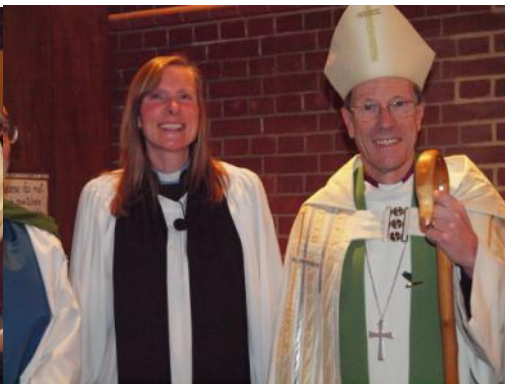


The St Andrew's singers led the congregation with the singing and performed an Anthem of The Lord's My Shepherd arranged by Malcolm Archer.



The Bishop of Bedford led the service and Cathy read her declaration. People from the Parish and the Church welcomed Cathy and her husband Ian.

Rev Joy Daniel and her husband Geoff were also present at the service. It was good to see them both.



After the service everyone was invited to the Peter Edwards Hall for drinks and a buffet, provided by Lily from the Rising Sun, with cakes made by ladies of the Church family.

A special cake had been made to celebrate the evening and Chris Barnes (Lay reader at



St Andrew's) welcomed Cathy before she cut the cake. Many friends from St Hugh's were able to join in with the celebrations and I am sure Cathy will be sorely missed by the congregation at her old Church.

Cathy thanked everyone for attending and for all the hard work that had gone into making the evening such a success. We all hope



Cathy and Ian will spend many wonderful years at St Andrew's and wish them every happiness for the future.

Following the Licensing service Cathy preached on Sunday 13th. It was the turn of Little Stars and the children present to welcome her and Ian to the Church, and they presented Cathy with a large folder of



pictures and greetings. She is looking forward to joining the youngsters who attend Kidztime sometime soon and to meet many more from the Parish in the near future.

Sue Briggs

ST ANDREWS CHURCH DATES

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun 3rd April | 10:30 Mothering Sunday
Family Communion |
| Wed 6th April | 10:30 Little Stars |
| Sun 10th April | 10:30 Morning Praise |
| Wed 13th April | 10:30 Little Stars |
| Sun 17th April | 10:30 Palm Sunday Café
Church |
| Thurs 21st April | 7.30pm Agape service |
| Fri 22nd April | 11:30am Walk of Witness
(meet at crossroads) and
12.00 to 1.00pm Meditation on the cross |
| Sun 24th April | 10:30 Easter Sunday Holy
Communion with Guest preacher - David
Bolster. (Bring & Share lunch to follow) |

We look forward to welcoming David and Mary back for a visit. All welcome, come and say hello!



GREETINGS FROM CATHY PULLINGER

Hello everyone,

I have been here just over a week now, since my licensing as the new Priest in Charge of St Andrew's - Vicar for short. I am really pleased to have been appointed to St. Andrew's, they are a lovely warm and friendly church and have welcomed me wonderfully.

I am also really glad to arrive as we begin to prepare for Easter, the time we remember how Jesus both died and rose again for us. One of the welcome cards I received has the words "With God, all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well." (*shown above*) These are the words of Julian of Norwich a 14th Century Christian Mystic, who had an intense experience of God's love during a time when she was very ill, and near to death. She experienced a closeness to God in her sufferings that she had not done before. It is my experience too, that God draws very close to us if we let him during the most difficult times in our lives. He has great compassion and understanding as, in Jesus, he has also gone through great suffering. He will come alongside to comfort

and to give us strength. However he does more than this, he takes our sufferings and our failure upon himself, when he dies on the cross, so that we might be healed. For some this healing comes only with resurrection, life beyond the grave, but with God, through Jesus' death and resurrection this victory, this wellness is assured. Whatever happens, whatever we are going through, with God all will be well and all manner of things will be well.

I have seen many come into this experience with God in their lives and I am looking forward to seeing this blessing for many more here in Slip End.

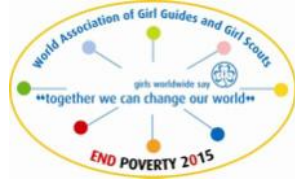
St. Andrew's sought a new vicar who would be fully involved in the life of the surrounding villages. I very much look forward to meeting as many of you as I can at community events in the coming months, starting with my party at the Rising Sun, Thank You Lily! I look forward to listening, sharing and seeing God at work amongst us in his loving ways.

Bless You,

Cathy



Did you know that women do two thirds of the work across the world but only get 10% of the wages? Neither did we until we started work on the WAGGS Global Action Theme badge this term.



WAGGS' Global Action Theme (GAT) is: *girls worldwide say "together we can change our world"* which focuses on the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to end extreme poverty by 2015. The theme encourages girls, young women and members of all ages to make a personal commitment to change the world around them. We have looked at how education, gender equality and the empowerment of women is important to the achievement of all the MDGs.

The badge also linked in nicely with this year's Girl Guide Thinking Day on 22nd February, a day in which Rainbows, Brownies, Girl Guides and Senior Section all join together and think about the other Guiding members across the globe.



Finally, the girls took part in an evening of 'Brownies Got Talent' where they performed a variety of acts for an audience of their families and friends. This gained them their Entertainers badges and also raised £120 towards sponsoring a girl in a developing country.

Brownies would also like to welcome their newest members, Lilli, Sammy, Libby and Lily-Rose who were enrolled this term. Events during this term include activities for Shrove Tuesday, Mothering Sunday and Easter and our next badge is Brownie Skills.

Tawny Owl

Regular readers of Parish News will probably know that every year there is a walk in London on behalf of the 'Unlock' charity. This aims to raise awareness and money for their work in deprived areas across the UK (including London).

This year the area chosen for the walk is Lambeth, Southwark and the City of London. There will be eight churches to visit in all plus a surprise stop at Lambeth Palace Gate. It really is a very interesting day, when you get the opportunity to see how churches in London cope with the problems of living in deprived areas.

The year is Walk number 28 and takes place on 16th April. If you would like to sponsor any of the walkers or indeed join in the walk contact St Andrew's Church or Parish News. A group will be going from the village and church and we will hope for a warm sunny day and report back in next month's Parish News.



For further information visit www.unlock-urban.org.uk or telephone 01142939060.

PARISH NEWS SUBSCRIPTIONS

REMINDER

The subs (£4 delivered, £8 posted) are due to be collected soon so please be ready to pay your distributor when they ask.

Thanks.

Parish News Committee

ST ANDREW'S PUPPETEERS

On Saturday 5th March three puppeteers from St Andrew's – Francine Baird, Alex Neeson and Michael Taylor – along with three adult helpers, attended a puppet workshop at St Paul's Letchworth.

Many of you will be familiar with the puppets at St Andrew's, including Grandpa, Dad, Ruth and Zak. They have been involved for a number of years now with our youth work. Dad has even been known to get out his guitar and play some pop music. We have recently had a coup by having Elvis join us. We decided that it was time to hone our puppetry skills, especially where presenting music was concerned.

The workshop gave a lot of practical tips on how to make the puppets' movements life-like and how to stay in character throughout the performance. There was also a session on props, with much Blue Peter style advice about what to do with wire coat hangers!

The event included several performances by the trainers who were extremely adept. One of their main messages was that puppets can say things that a person would find difficult. Food for thought.



There was an opportunity to buy puppets and accessories. Pictured here is Alex with his purchase, a rather psychedelic snail which he has named Simon.

Mary Barker

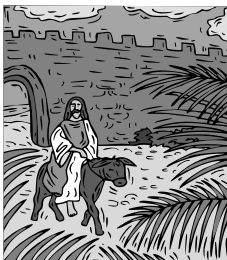
Coming soon!

St Andrew's Church presents ...

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Sunday 17th April 10:30 - 11:30am

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ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

Services and Diary dates for April

Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd Flower Festival

Friday 5.30pm - 8.00pm tea/coffee served

Saturday 10.15 - 5.00pm
(Light Lunches 12.00 - 2.00pm)

Mothering Sunday 2.00pm - 4.15pm
No Morning Service or Sunday School
4.30pm Evening Service Rev Bob Forrest

Monday 4th

7.30pm Lent Meeting led by Mike Bull

Sunday 10th

11.00am Morning Service - Lesley Hopwood
11.00am Sunday School

Tuesday 12th

10.00am/12.00 noon 'Cakes & Company'
(Junior Mission for All Easter Tombola)

Sunday 17th Palm Sunday

11.00am All Age Worship - Rev Phil Horner
(Two Christenings during the service)

Monday 18th

7.30pm Lent Meeting led by Mike Bull

Wednesday 20th

7.30pm Coffee Evening
in aid of Keech Hospice Care

Good Friday 22nd

10.30am Walk of Witness
starting at Aley Green Church

Easter Sunday 24th

11.00am Morning Service - Mr Peter Barker
11.00am Sunday School

Sunday 1st May

11.00am Morning Service - Rev Bob Forrest
11.00am Sunday School (Communion)

Our February Coffee Evening raised £50 for
Leaders of Worship & Preachers Trust, thank

you to those who attended. It was the second month running that we were able to sing Happy Birthday to one of our friends and share their cake!

Pancakes & Company was a great success with both the upper and lower school rooms full of people enjoying pancakes with various fillings, I hear that one person managed to eat five!! Our new kitchen came into its own once again. We were supported by Circuit and Village friends and we raised £215.00 towards the painting of the outside of our Church. Work inside is now complete, Mick & Peter Burton recently redecorated our porch, vestry, toilet and hallway, we now look very smart, thank you boys.

On Ash Wednesday we attended a Circuit service at Beech Hill Methodist Church led by five of our ministers.

Mike Bull led the first meeting of our Lent course, entitled 'Great Events, Deep Meanings', individual studies looking at Christmas, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday, Good Friday & Easter Day, we were pleased to welcome our friends from the Baptist & Catholic Churches. We will meet for a fellowship meal in May and then in June for the final study on Pentecost

We hope you will be able to join us sometime over the Flower Festival weekend. As it is Mothering Sunday, why not bring your Mum to look at the displays, they will be for sale at the close of the Festival so put your name on your favourite.

*In a paupers stable ~ hope was born
In the minds of the shepherds ~ hope burned bright
In the eyes of an old woman ~ hope was seen
In the ears of the deaf ~ hope was heard
In the skin of the diseased ~ hope was felt
In the bodies of the lame ~ hope gave strength
In the hearts of his disciples ~ hope gave warmth
In the traitors kiss ~ hope was not lost
In the Tears by the cross ~ hope gave comfort
In the empty tomb ~ hope gave life ~ to us all*

Peace and Joy this Easter time

Ann Meader

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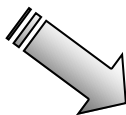
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2. DO SO WIDE
3. LENS DIP
4. PECK STOPPER
5. FRAIL LOOP



Good luck to all entrants!

Competition rules

Only one entry per household. One prize winner to be selected at random.

The Editors' decision is final!

All entries considered, if sent to the editors at parishnews.co.uk before Midday on 1st April!! (negotiable!)

LAUGHTER

A Victorious pun In 1843 General John Napier was ordered to quell an uprising in Sindh. He somewhat exceeded his orders and annexed the entire Indian province for Britain. He is said to have reported his success to London in one Latin word 'Peccavi' (I have sinned)!

More certainly, this caption was under a cartoon on the cover of *Punch* at the time.

Why did the bees go on strike?
Because they wanted more honey and shorter working flowers.

What do you call a horse that plays the violin in a musical?
Fiddler on the hoof.

Why do elephants have trunks?
Because they would look really silly if they were carrying suitcases.



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The Committee would like to thank our Members for running our meeting in March. A committee was formed and they gave us a very enjoyable evening.

The Minutes were read from last years' meeting and Barry Wolsey gave us a very interesting slide show, together with a talk on 'The Little Dog Called Nipper'. This was all about the life of Nipper, the dog on the labels of the HMV Gramophone records. Nipper was born in 1883 in Bristol and lived until 1895 where he died in Kingston Upon Thames. You can guess where his name came from, as he used to nip people's ankles! Over a period of time he lost one eye, also his tail and became very famous for his picture on the records.

Barry ran through the history of the Phonogram and Gramophone factory at HMV in Hayes, Middlesex where the records and labelling were all prepared and made. HMV became a worldwide name.

In Bristol in 2003 a Blue Plaque was hung to commemorate the Centenary of the first record ever made. Barry and his wife still spend a lot of time on the History of Nipper and HMV.

After that it was time for a cuppa and cake and a 'Quiz from Shows' where we had to identify the show having been given some of the words from them. Our competition was 'The Oldest Record'.

Our next Meeting is on 19th April at 7.30 p.m. when Paul Copping will talk about St.

Paul's Cathedral. Our Competition will be making an Easter Bonnet, so come along to the Baptist Hall and join us to have some fun.

The 17th May is our AGM together with an entertaining evening.

We look forward to seeing you. Visitors are always made welcome. We meet every third Tuesday in the Baptist Hall, Caddington.

Linda Bartlett

PARISH VIEWS



Signs of spring across the parish, including the bulbs planted by the playgroup.





TENNIS CLUB QUIZ NIGHT

Many thanks to the 60 people who supported the event at the Peter Edwards Hall on Sat 12th March, which raised £200 for Club funds. It was good to see some new faces from the village.

An interesting and varied quiz was prepared and presented by Peter Smith, ably assisted by his wife Margaret, which taxed the brains of those attending. A welcome midway break supper of fish or chicken and chips, helped the brains have time to recuperate.

Congratulations to the winning team from Markyate, who each received a bottle of wine. The losing teams were given a lottery ticket, which may have brought them some winnings!!

Steve Lyons

More on the Quiz Night

Sue Briggs was part of one of the teams and told me that there were 10 rounds altogether plus the marathon rounds (3 of them!) so it was a very busy night.

The rounds consisted of How Many, Science and Technology, Double Acts, 2010, Initials, The one before, TV, Silhouettes, Films and Family Fortunes! Her team managed to come 3rd. Well done to them too!

Having seen the score sheet I would say that it was a very close event with only 5 points separating the top three teams.

The teams selected some imaginative and entertaining names which may or may not represent their state of mind at the time! The Mixed Nuts, MK Dunces, The Odd Bods, The Crocks, The Aces, Prebendal+1, Green Fingers, Magenta and Lizzie Rules, a lovely selection!

I always find with these events that you remember the answer to that elusive question either on the way home or in the middle of the night. So well done again to all those who took part and especially well done to the people who think up all the conundrums and questions.

Alison Wilson

MOBILE LIBRARY

As mentioned last month, the mobile library service stops on 2nd April. Books taken out before that date will need to be returned to a local library such as Dunstable or Luton.

I'm sure there are many good neighbours around in the parish who would be willing to help the less mobile to be able to do this, if necessary!

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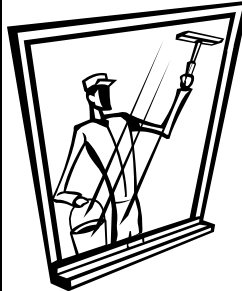
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stating name, address, phone number and what you would like to eat.:-

Fish & Chips or Ham Salad.

Paying guests are welcome if we have the spaces but they must be over 18 years old.

Frog and Rhubarb

Shrove Tuesday was a busy day at the Frog & Rhubarb with plenty of customers going along and making the most of the free pancakes.

Free internet access and computer use is now available at the Frog & Rhubarb. If you have your own laptop then feel free to go along and make use of their Wifi connection. Alternatively the pub now has a computer for use by any member of the public. You could order shopping, access your bank account or surf the web for the latest holiday deals.

The Frog & Rhubarb charity quiz is now in full swing. It takes place on the last Wednesday of every month. The next one is on 28 April. There is a mix of question, picture and more unusual rounds. First prize is £40 in vouchers and second prize is £20 in vouchers. Entry is a £1 per person donation to Macmillan Cancer Care and teams can be up to 5 people. Make sure you get here early as seats fill up quickly.

Forthcoming Events @ The Frog



The annual Egg Hunt is on Saturday 23 April and starts at the School at 12 noon. Follow the clues around the village to discover the secret code word. Give the code word at the bar

to claim your Free Easter Egg and Snack Lunch. This event is always a hit with the children and raises much needed funds for the School and Playgroup. Tickets are £2.50 per child which all goes to the school or playgroup. They are available from the School, Playgroup or Frog & Rhubarb until 15 April.

The Royal Wedding of Prince William of Wales and Kate Middleton will take place on Friday 29th April. This is a bank holiday so

why not chill out in the Frog & Rhubarb watching the ceremony on the Big Screen TV? In the evening the celebrations will continue at the Frog with a £2 drinks night. All drinks will be £2 and tickets are also only £2 in advance. Alternatively, you can go along for free and pay normal prices whilst enjoying the disco.

Attention All Golfers!!! The Frog & Rhubarb Golf Day is on Saturday 21st May. There are limited places, so sign up as soon as possible. The day includes coffee and a bacon butty at the pub, 18 holes of golf on the magnificent Luton Hoo Golf Course and a three course meal in the evening. The cost of the day is just £40 per person making it an absolute bargain.

Up to date information on events and offers can be found on the pub's website www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk.

Plough

Congratulations to our bar person Rachel and her husband Fitz, on the birth of their third child. She had a beautiful baby girl, and named her Maisie.

Happy Birthday to Doug the Landlord here at the Plough, where are all the presents???

Come celebrate St George's Day 23rd April with us. Also Easter Weekend bookings are now being taken.

Celebrate The Royal Wedding Friday 29th April. We are putting on a BBQ and music.

We want to say thank to Slip End Parish News for the picture on the front of last month's magazine, it was very much appreciated.

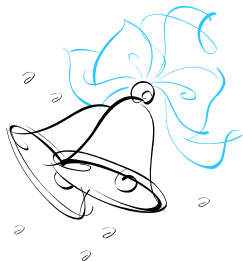
Bingo is still played here on Monday afternoons form 3pm....subject to attendance.

Our garden is now open....

Remember—we take booking for all your special occasions, Weddings, Birthday Parties etc. The Marquee can also be booked in advance.

Rising Sun

Excitement is growing as the Royal Wedding draws nearer and plans have been put in place for a wonderful day at the Rising Sun. The children are invited to dress up as Princesses and Pageboys to help celebrate the occasion. Lily has booked the bouncy castle and there will be fun and games during the event. Don't forget to get your tickets from Lily or Playgroup.



Tickets are still available for the St George's Day supper which takes place on the 30th April (due to the Easter break). Formal dress is to be worn for this meal with speeches and poems - an entertaining evening to look forward to.

With Spring and Summer fast approaching what better than a day out at the races. Tickets are available for Ascot on June 18th with breakfast at the pub, luxury coach, a Silver Ring ticket on the race course and full buffet dinner on your return to Slip End.



On the 19th March Lily welcomed the new Priest in charge Reverend Cathy Pullinger to the village, with a delicious buffet tea and

villagers were invited to come along to meet her and husband Ian.

It was good to see lots of families turn up on the beautiful sunny afternoon who were then



able to chat with Cathy and learn about our new Priest in Charge for St Andrew's Church.

Sue Briggs

Dates for April Mothering Sunday - a Kir Royale (cocktail) for all mums with food.

23rd April - St George's Day Darts competition with prize funds of £100

29th April - Royal Wedding Children's Fun Day with bouncy castle, garden games, drawing competition, BBQ lunch at £5 per child inclusive from 11am - 3pm

30th April - St George's dinner at £23 - 4 course meal (prior booking only).

Starting May 2011 - new menus and opening times for food. Also, Saturday—Caribbean food with a new guest chef.

Slip End Social Club

A charity evening in aid of Keech Hospice Care is being held on Friday the 15th April at Slip End Social Club . Tickets are £6.00 each including a fish/chicken chips supper, which will be pre-ordered before the evening. Entertainment will be supplied by rock and roll band Gerry & The Attricks. A raffle will also be held on the evening.

The Club also kindly hosted the Playgroup Race Night (*see elsewhere for details*)

The Rising Sun

The Community Hub



Rising Sun Pub

*Real Ale
Real Food
Real People!*

**1 Front Street
Slip End**

☎ 01582 482354

Value Home Cooked Food from only £4.50!

*Weekdays: Lunches 12 noon - 2.30pm
Dinners 6 - 9pm*

Saturdays: 12 noon to 7pm

Sundays: Lunches 12.30 - 7pm

Mondays 6 - 9pm

Malaysian Food Platter just £5!

Specials board including Steak & Seafood

Sunday Special

**2 course Sunday Roast £7.95 per person
with a choice of roasts plus free dessert!**



**Can't find the time
to do all those jobs
around your home
and garden?**

RELAX!

We have a man that can...

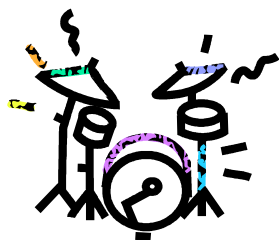
**Collections, deliveries, removals,
furniture repair & restoration, flat
packs, gardening and all manner
of jobs work undertaken.**

For further information

CALL Paul Goodaker on 07979057393



**Rock and Roll
Evening**
featuring
**Gerry and the
Attricks**



**Friday 15th April
8pm**

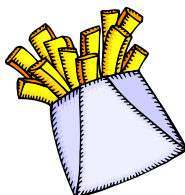
Charity Event

Raffle

**Slip End Social Club
New Street**

**in aid of
Keech Hospice Care**

Fish/chicken & chip
supper
to be pre-ordered



£6 per person
Tickets from
Slip End Social Club

SLIP END PLAYGROUP

Race Night

It was a good turnout at the Social Club for the charity race night in aid of the Playgroup. Greg the MC from Excel Services started the evening off with the first race, chosen randomly from a selection of DVD's by one of the race goers. There were races from Sandown, Newcastle, Newbury and Goodwood. At the start of each race everyone had their eyes fixed to the large screen to see if their chosen horse would be the lucky winner. The odds were worked out by how much money had been bet on each horse and winnings were paid. The excitement rose as the evening developed.



Playgroup assistants and their many friends helped to take the bets and pay out the money and young Chloe made a great job of selling raffle tickets. Raffle prizes had been kindly donated by many local organisations including the Social Club, Frog & Rhubarb, Rising Sun, Fantastic Fireworks. Citroen



Garage, Mignonette, Woodside Farm, Leighton Buzzard Railway, Luton Town FC, Karen Duncan, Catherine Hazel, Caddington Golf Club, Old Palace Lodge, Heather McLardy, Luton Soft Play and Farley Hill Chip Shop so a big thank you to all the above.

Half way through the evening some delicious chicken and chips were handed out which were thoroughly enjoyed by the hungry race goers. More races followed until the final race when the horses were auctioned off to lucky bidders—some going for very impressive amounts. The lucky winner of the final race was Dick Downs, so well done to him and hope he enjoyed his winnings.

A great evening was had by all and the playgroup benefited by an amount of over £300 to help their funds. Thanks to everyone who helped organise the evening and to the Social Club for the use of their premises.

Sue Briggs

POETRY

Smells

Through all the frozen winter
My nose has grown most lonely
For lovely, lovely coloured smells
That come in springtime only.

The purple smell of lilacs
The yellow smell that blows
Across the air of meadows
Where bright forsythia grows

The tall pink smell of peach trees,
The low white smell of clover,
And everywhere the great green smell
Of grass the whole world over



Kathryn Worth

This poem, which I found in a book of poetry through the year, sums up for me the sights and smells of spring. Therefore, spare a moment, look out of the window, go for a walk, breathe the air and see the colours of plants and trees.

Spring is here enjoy it!

**Frog &
Rhubarb**
country pub & dining

01582
452722

3 April - Mothers' Day
Free Bucks Fizz For Mum

23 April
Charity Egg Hunt

28 April
Charity Quiz 8.30pm

29 April - Royal Wedding
Watch On The Big Screen
£2 Drinks Party Night

Check Out Events & Offers At
www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk

ROYAL £2 PARTY

Tickets £2
In Advance

All Drinks £2
Disco

Friday 29th April
Or Free Entry
& Pay Normal Prices

DUNSTABLE DOWNS GOLF CLUB
FOUNDED 1906

18 hole, 100+ year old, James Braid designed,
'downland' style course in an area of outstanding natural beauty

Memberships now available

Interested in becoming a member?

There are a range of new and attractive packages that offer real value.
They will not last forever so call us now to discuss

www.dunstabledownsgolf.co.uk • Tel: 01582 604472

Some good progress has been made with the proposed joint venture between Caddington Parish Council and ourselves to buy and operate a gritter which can be towed behind a van or large car. Richard Stay (our District Councillor) has been able to arrange for us to buy grit at favourable rates and discussions are well in hand for the setting up of a new type of insurance policy which will cover local voluntary groups for their activities including the use of a gritter.

It was good to hear that the insurance company is setting up this policy as a pilot scheme for local councils and we will be part of that. This came about as Councillors from here and Caddington had separately raised concerns with Richard Stay about insurance cover for local activities, particularly since these are likely to increase as Central Beds activities reduce in line with the budget reductions. Richard accepted the problem and has worked with council officers to find a solution.

Fingers crossed, if we have a spell of heavy snow next winter we will have our own equipment to clear all the roads around the Parish, which the Highways Agency is not able to do.

Councillor Steve Fuell and I met with Mr. Nick Chapman who is the Transportation Manager for Highways to obtain an understanding of what needs to be done to obtain a Traffic Regulation Order. You may recall from previous notes in these pages a TRO is needed to set up and enforce parking restrictions. The cost of the process is around £3500 and we were looking to find out what can be done to reduce the cost by doing some of the work ourselves. As Mr. Chapman pointed out, most of the work has to be carried out by the Highways Authority for legal reasons but there are some steps we can take to keep costs to a minimum. Mr. Chapman also put forward some suggestions as to the type of restrictions that

could be employed to keep our corners and the area around the School safe. He also mentioned methods by which we may be able to reduce the amount of parking we have suffered from, which is caused by holiday makers using our streets as a free parking facility while they are away. The conversation with Mr Chapman will be very helpful when the Council begins to implement the Parish Plan.

Speaking of the Plan, several members of the Steering Group were present when the draft of the plan was presented for adoption and endorsement by the Council. Approval was given and the Steering Committee is now working on completing the final documents ready for publication.

Over the last few months several issues have arisen with street lighting, these range from lights that have not worked for a long time in spite of reports made to Central Beds, insufficient levels of lighting and the saga of the lights under the M1 bridge and around it's junction with Newlands Road. Since little progress has been made, Robert Fergusson, the Electrical and Lighting Manager for Central Beds has accepted an invitation to meet with us, see the problems first hand and tell us what he going to do to put matters right. I will let you know how we get on.

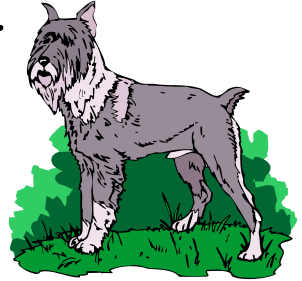
NOTE Local Elections on 5th May.

Ken Crossett, Chairman

LAUGHTER

An overweight man went to see his family doctor for some weight loss advice. The doctor advised that the best medicine was to run seven miles a day for forty days. The doctor promised, that would help him lose as much as fifteen pounds. The man followed the doctor's advice, and, after forty days, he had indeed lost fifteen pounds. He phoned the doctor and thanked him very much for the excellent advice which produced his weight loss results. At the end of the conversation, he asked one last question: "How do I get home, now that I am 280 miles away from home?"

CHARITY DOG SHOW



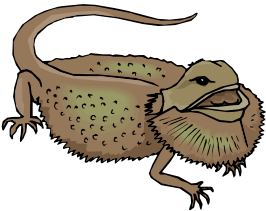
in aid of

Keech Hospice Care
Slip End Village Hall

SUNDAY 24TH

APRIL

11AM TO 3:30 PM



Bouncy Castle

Stalls

Reptile Display

Face Painting

YOUNG JOURNALISTS AT WORK!

In the Parish News we always welcome input from the residents of the Parish, especially from our young people when they have been on interesting or unusual trips or taken part in challenges or have achieved something special.

This month we have received an article from a 17 year old Slip End resident called Scarlett Dixon who is currently studying for A Levels at Sandringham School, in St Albans. She has recently come back from a government funded trip to Auschwitz in Poland. The article covers a subject which is difficult to tackle without dwelling on the more gruesome aspects. Thank you Scarlett for providing us with such a thought provoking piece of writing.

Included here are her comments about the experience as well as the article itself.



"I had a very inspiring experience – which was very emotional, however, I'm glad I went as it made me realise many things that I had never before considered in much depth.

I am a regular reader of the Parish News as well as being a budding journalist, I love writing stories and articles about places of interest and trips I have made. Being a regular reader of the Parish News each month, I was inspired to write an article which deals with many of the questions raised by the topic of the Holocaust and Auschwitz. I think it is a topic that is not covered much within the media, whether this is because people do not want to remember such an event, or that it is not the average topic that most would read about."



THE PLOUGH

UPPER WOODSIDE

☎ 01582 720923

TRADITIONAL FOOD

**Family Pub, Dining Room & Garden
Lunches & Evening Meals**

Bookings advisable.

Our restaurant is generally closed on Sunday & Monday evenings, unless bookings are made.

Bar Snacks & Afternoon Teas

Surf 'n' Turf Evenings

Every Tuesday & Thursday 5pm - 9pm

Choices of fish & 3 choices of steak.

The Earlier you order the cheaper it is!!

Curry Night

Every Wednesday evening 5 - 9pm

6 choices of curries including vegetarian option

for £5. The earlier you order the cheaper it is!! Plus rice, nan bread, onion bhaji, samosa.

Car parking, disabled facilities
baby changing for males & females.
We take bookings for large parties
so food is prepared just for you.

Traditional Sunday Roasts
*with fresh seasonal vegetables
including vegetarian roast
& children's roast.*

★ **Happy Hour Menu** ★
★ **Wed - Friday Evenings 5-7pm** ★
★ **£2.50 Main Course** ★

Join our discount club!
**Get 25% off the Bar & Restaurant
Menu on joining, 15% thereafter.**

TRIP TO AUSCHWITZ

It's not the bitter cold, the vast scale of the site or even the iconic image of the gate that told me I was in Auschwitz; it was the strange feeling I received that gave me shivers. It may sound very cliché, surely a place like that must have an odd sense of loss and despair considering what happened, however, it's a feeling that you can only experience on a visit to the site – not through books and pictures. I've always been very interested in the subject matter and was offered the rare opportunity of a government funded placement on the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project, at aged 17, I think this is a unique opportunity that most students wouldn't have otherwise. Although there's always an emotional attachment with such subjects, I was always interested in the topic simply because of the questions raised – how could human beings do such a thing to one another? How could you uphold the strength to survive when stripped of the means to do so?

I was astounded at the feeling I received once entering the infamous, now 'tourist attraction' Auschwitz Birkenau gate. Of course I was blown away by the sheer scale of the site itself, pictures of which do not do it justice but there was something else that sent shivers down my spine and it wasn't just the sharp cold (it can get down to -25° in the harsh winter months). As I explored the wooden shacks built fit for animals, we had an insight into the living conditions – beds that sleep 30, a hole in the ground for your toiletry needs. At my age, it is incomprehensible that you could live for a month like this, let alone the time that some prisoners stayed here for. The fact that we let this happen within humanity is beyond me, people being stripped of every quality that makes them an individual – their name, their hair, their belongings, their clothes.

I have always felt that the topic itself is not covered much within the media, it may not be something which people want to be reminded of, or something you do not want to read about. However as Rabbi Barry Marcus (who

joined us on the one-day trip) said it is important to remember this genocide, because in remembering it, we are essentially not letting the victims' deaths be in vain and therefore putting the word out there that it should have never have happened and will never happen again. In forgetting you are in effectively letting the victims' memories die once again. You may not think you are involved in the Holocaust, you may not want anything to do with the matter, but if you are looking for a sharp kick back into reality, then I recommend a visit. Although I'm sure the experience hasn't changed my entire outlook on life, it's certainly taught me a few things that I should respect much more than I do. I am grateful of my education, my upbringing and the fact that I could walk out of those gates once my visit was over, something the prisoners and victims of the holocaust never got a chance to do.

I am lucky enough to have heard survivor's testimonies, be educated about the topic in school and visit the site itself. I consider these great honours that not everyone is able to have, however in several years time we reach the generation where there will be no remaining survivors and first hand testimonies will be unheard of. I believe we should all make ourselves aware of the holocaust, we can always ask questions – Why did it happen? Who let it happen? We rarely think about the main point in hand - how can we prevent it from happening again?

Scarlett Dixon



Train tracks—"Women to the left men to the right"

This month spring becomes more evident as bulbs start blooming, as well as the start of regular lawn-mowing. Apply spring fertiliser to lawns and scarify to remove moss and dead grass. Lower cutting blades gradually as mowing increases with growth.

Complete pruning roses this month, tie new growth of climbers and ramblers to a cane, so when old wood is pruned later in the year it is easier to tie in new shoots to fill in the gaps where the old wood has been removed.

Chrysanthemum cuttings taken last month may need stopping (pinch out the tip) at about the sixth leaf if required for sprays of blooms, as it encourages side shoots and a bushy plant. Continue planting gladioli, and dahlias can be planted from the end of the month.

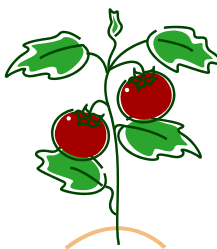
Split clumps of dahlia tubers with a sharp knife so that each tuber has a shoot that is already growing. Both chrysanthemums and dahlias will need protecting against slug damage.

Hanging baskets can be planted up and kept in the greenhouse so that the young plants can root and start to fill out. Hardy herbaceous plants which have grown into large clumps, such as michaelmas daisies, schizostylis, kniphofas, tradescantia and crocosmia, will benefit from being divided and replanted, but only the healthy outer shoots should be used, three or four shoots per division will give a healthy show in the autumn. The easiest way to divide large clumps of plants is to insert two forks back to back and lever apart. Smaller plants can be simply pulled apart. Fleshy rooted plants such as paeonies can be cut with a sharp knife or spade if very large clumps. If you end up with too many plants, offer them to someone who can make use of them, as you may well be surprised at how much it costs to replace them with new ones from a nursery.

Tall perennials such as helianthus, monordas, heleniums and rudbeckias exhaust the soil if left undisturbed. They gradually have smaller flowers and often lose their lower leaves, by transplanting them the flowers will grow larger and the plant will be green of leaf. Delphiniums grown near a hedge, wall or fence will need staking to prevent wind damage.

Carnations and pinks can be planted until the middle of the month and push branching twigs around the plants to support them, the flower stalks will grow up through the twigs and give a better display.

Plant tomato plants in the greenhouse and remove side shoots as they grow, support them with canes. Sow seeds for outdoor



tomatoes, cucumber and melons. From the middle of the month you can start sowing in a cold greenhouse: marrows, courgettes, sweet corn, French beans and runner beans for an early crop.

When planting out runner beans next month, why not drop a bean seed beside the plant to prolong the cropping season.

Second early potatoes can be planted early in the month and main crop from the middle of the month, cover any shoots of early potatoes sown last month by drawing soil over them. Onion sets, parsley, parsnips and radish can be sown and from the middle of the month carrots, beetroot and lettuce. Sow lettuce and radish regularly in short rows about a fortnight apart and use as soon as they are ready. Pick rhubarb as soon as ready and remove any flower spikes as soon as they appear to keep the plants productive

Finally, if you have any gardening questions you would like addressed, then please e-mail me at russell.sprout1@hotmail.co.uk and I will answer them in the next issue of the Parish News



PLANT SALE

Come Rain or Shine

Bedding & Vegetable Plants

SATURDAY 21 MAY

11am – 3pm

THE OLD BAKERY

2 SUMMER STREET

SLIP END

Hanging Baskets, Perennials

Produce

GARDENING CLUB

The club had a visit from a guest speaker on 21st March. (To be reported next month.)

The programme of visits for the next three months is given below.

Sun. 17 Apr. - Swiss Garden, Old Warden, Biggleswade Admission £5

(Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park)

Sun. 5th Jun. - Ashridge Gardens,

Berkhamsted Admission £4 (Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park)

Sun. 26 Jun. - The Gardens of the Rose. St Albans

Admission £5 (Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park)

The Village Plant Sale is to be held on **Sat. 21 May.**

Hold on to purchase your perennials, bedding plants and produce there. (See poster above.)



PN Gardening Correspondent

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Following the article last month about places to visit here is some more information about a couple of our local places to go.

Stockwood Discovery Centre I was helping as a volunteer at Stockwood during half term at the Special Event all about animals and insects. There were various creatures ranging from chinchillas and rabbits through to lizards, snakes and spiders. Other organisations were there too, with stands about bee keeping, bats and birds and their



habitats. There was also a craft activity, at which I was helping, where children were making butterflies, bugs and snakes. (see Sue Briggs and Grandchildren above) It was a hugely popular event with lots to do as well as the usual displays at the museum which I always enjoy.



There are more activity days coming soon including Cup Cake decoration for Mothering Sunday and a Country Fair at Easter. Look out for these!



Woodside Farm The Farm has a range of activities for children including animals and birds to look at. There are, among others, Llamas (which I can always see from the road as I pass!), squirrel monkeys, chinchillas and many varieties of poultry. Recent new arrivals at the park include some baby goats.



There is an outdoor play area as well as some traditional fairground rides including a helter skelter. There is also an indoor play area for when the weather is not quite so warm or dry.



The park runs seasonal activities including one to be held at Easter. Details can be found on the website at www.woodsidefarm.co.uk

Outside the park there are a number of small shops and units including Jake's Cafe (left) as well as the farm shop which sells home made jams, pickles and biscuits, fresh eggs, and animal feed.

Alison Wilson

ENGLAND CELEBRATES ST. GEORGE

For many years England's National Day, St George's Day on 23 April, has passed by with only small pockets of celebration and little acknowledgement of the day. A survey by a Government agency revealed that 82 per cent of the public know that St George's Day falls on 23 April, but fewer than 20 per cent of the population actually celebrates the occasion.

Boris Johnson says "St. George's Day has been ignored in London for far too long. We have much to be proud of in this great country; England has given so much to the world, politically, socially and artistically. St. George's Day is a time to celebrate the very best of everything English and the Cross of St George will proudly fly outside City Hall on 23rd April." London celebrates St. George's Day with a week long celebration on English culture starting with traditional English events such as Morris Dancing, Maypole dancing and a Punch and Judy show at the V&A Museum of Childhood.

A new national song for England, reflecting English customs, ideas and creativity in contemporary times was given its first airing

on St George's Day in 2009. At present, England's official national song is the British National anthem. This year, St George's Day falls on Easter Saturday but unlike other countries including Ireland, England's national day is not normally a public holiday.

How to celebrate:-

Wear a red rose for England in your jacket lapel. As the national flower of England, the rose is a symbol of patriotic pride

Read the "Legend of St. George and the Dragon"

Like many official buildings, fly the flag of St. George.



Attend a St. George's Day event — many take place throughout England.

Go on a pub crawl and support the English pubs, which are under threat from closure.

Eat fish & chips, England's favourite take away meal.

Where and how will you be celebrating St George's Day 2011?

To keep track of latest local issues, events, etc., visit

www.slipend.co.uk

Our website contains lots of information covering all activities and groups in the Parish. Web mistress Sarah Minnighan & Webmaster Peter King have been working hard to update information and improve presentation.

Charisma

Hair & Beauty Salon

Ladies
&
Gentlemen

☎ 722801



Opening Times

Mon: 9.15-2.45

Tues: 9-5

Wed: Closed

Thurs: 9-6

Fri: 9-7

Sat: 8-3

*Air-conditioned - Easy Parking - Chiroprody
Remedial Massage - Indian Head Massage
43B Elm Avenue, Caddington*

BINGO

*at the Village Hall
Thursdays at Eight*

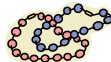
*Slip End & District Associa-
tion*

Body Image

**Fashion Jewellery at
Woodside Animal Farm**

Tel: 07715565958

Cara Kennedy CK-13@Live.co.uk



Parish News received a note from a resident of Summer Street, who is concerned that local residents have destroyed the nests of these birds.



The house martin, *Delichon urbica*, (part of the swallow family) is a small bird with glossy blue-black upper parts and pure white under parts. It has a distinctive

white rump with a forked tail and, on close inspection, white feathers covering its legs and feet. It spends much of its time on the wing collecting insect prey. The bird's mud nest is usually sited below the eaves of buildings. They are summer migrants and spend their winters in Africa. Although still numerous and widespread, recent moderate declines earn them a place on the Amber List.

Where to see them Across UK, although scarce in far N and W of Scotland. Mostly associated with man, found around towns and villages. They feed on aerial insects and so are most frequently seen in areas of mixed agriculture, near water and in the vicinity of woodland.

When to see them They return to the UK in April, often feeding over wetlands for a while before returning to their traditional nest sites, remaining here until September and October before migrating south.

Legal status House martins and their nests are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, which makes it an offence intentionally to kill, injure or take any wild bird. It is an offence to intentionally take, damage or destroy the eggs, young or nest of a house martin whilst it is being built or in use. The Act allows for fines up to £5,000 and/or a 6 month prison sentence for every bird, egg or nest destroyed.

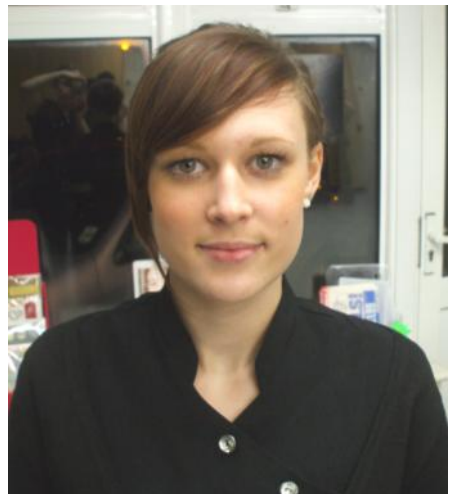
So Slip End residents - please welcome your visitors when these little birds fly in, exhausted, all the way from Africa!

Charisma is a hair and beauty salon in Caddington which many residents of the parish may know well. Kay McIlroy, the proprietor, is always very keen to encourage young people into the business of hairdressing. Over the years that my family and I have been customers there, we have seen a good few of these young helpers become talented and respected hairdressers in their own right.

Charlotte Slade (*below*) is one of the latest trainees and has already qualified to Level 1 and will soon have completed her Level 2 training. Charlotte joined Charisma in November 2007 as a Saturday girl. She started her hairdressing training in September 2009 at Dunstable College. She attends college from Monday to Thursday and works in the salon on Friday and Saturday. She can offer cut and blow-dry, highlights, perms and colours.

Kay and Charlotte would like to encourage some younger clients into the salon in order that Charlotte may extend her range of more fashionable styles.

At the moment the salon is offering a special offer of 15% off all appointments with Charlotte. Please phone 01582 722801 to arrange an appointment.



SLIP END VILLAGE HALL

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Gill Plummer 723109

9 Markyate Road, Slip End



MP's Contact details

Gavin Shuker's

local office is located at:

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Luton

LU1 3AN

Email: gavin@gavinshuker.org

Website: www.gavinshuker.org

*For advice surgery appointments
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DIARY - *If you would like your events included, please contact the Editor*

April

- 1st-3rd *Aley Green Methodist Church - Flower Festival*
2nd *Meet Central Beds Councillors: Heathfield School Caddington, 10am to noon*
3rd *Mothering Sunday - All pubs have lunches for this day*
12th *Community Projects Group meets at the Rising Sun 7.30. All welcome!*
15th *Rock & Roll Evening - Social Club 8pm*
16th *Unlock Walk*
17th *St Andrew's - Palm Sunday Café Church*
19th *Caddington WI - talk about St Paul's Cathedral 7:30*
23rd *St George's Day*
24th *Charity Dog Show - Village Hall 11:00 - 3:30*
25th *SEADA Car Boot Sale - Village Hall*
24th/25th *Stockwood Discovery Centre - Stockwood Country Fayre*
28th *Charity Quiz - Frog & Rhubarb*
29th *Royal Wedding - Activities at pubs - Rising Sun and Frog & Rhubarb*
30th *Rising Sun - St George's Day meal*

May

- 5th **Local Council Elections**
7th *Meet Central Beds Councillors: Heathfield School Caddington, 10am to noon*
10th *Community Projects Group meets at the Plough 7.30. All welcome!*
17th *Caddington WI - AGM*
21st *Village Plant Sale - 2 Summer Street - 11am-3pm*
Golf Day - Frog & Rhubarb
Farley Hill Methodist Church - Cantata Ladies Choir in Concert 7pm

June

- 4th *Meet Central Beds Councillors: Heathfield School Caddington, 10am to noon*
SEADA Senior Citizens Outing

Wheelie Bins: see below

Black Bins & glass: Put out on Friday 1st, 15th & 29th April

Green and Orange Bins: Put out on Friday 8th, 22nd April



Mobile Library: Sadly this service stops on 2nd April

Items for the next issue to us by 15th April

Want 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 Alison Wilson 23 Claydown Way, Slip End or e-Mail parishnews@slipend.co.uk

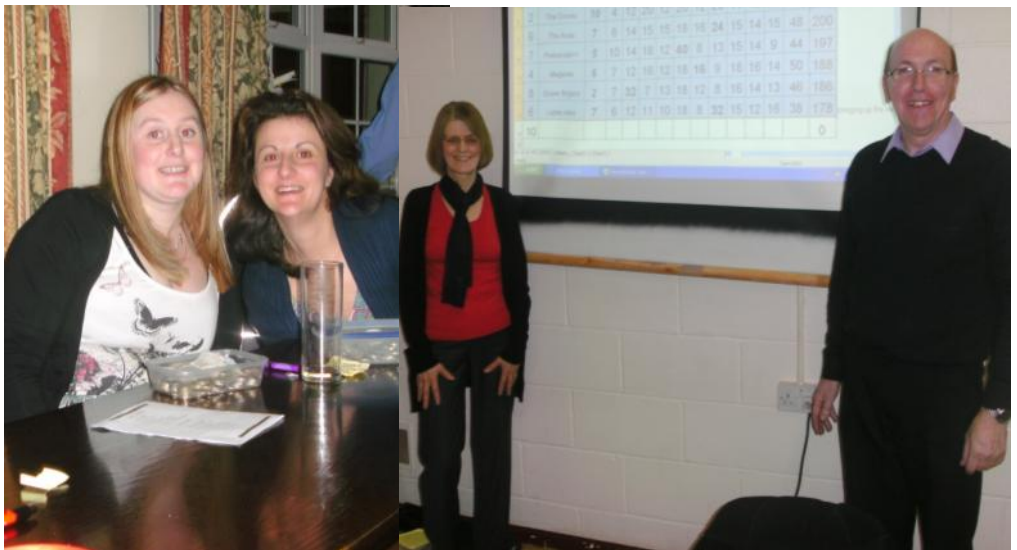
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Above— The Brownies celebrate Thinking Day.

Below— A busy fund raising month. Julie and Jenny take money for the bets on the horses at the Race Night at the Social Club raising money for Playgroup. Pete and Margaret Smith kept



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