

SLIP END ALEY GREEN

PARISH NEWS

PEPPERSTOCK WOODSIDE

JULY 2011

75P WHERE SOLD





Pupils from each school year on the 'trim trail' - which looks an interesting piece of equipment. (Read all the latest school news inside). Airparks goes hi-tech and Star Wars arrives in Slip End.



'And God saw that it was good' Environmental Day at St Andrew's with home-made produce, games, quiz and interesting speakers.

Chris & Terry at the Rising Sun dressed as 1st World War cavalry soldiers collecting money for the British Legion in the pouring rain!

The Parish @ Large

SCHOOLS

Slip End Lower: 720152
Caddington Village School: 726058
Streetfield: 613421
Ashton: 663511
Manshead: 679400

SPORT

Bowling Club: 412506
Tennis: 733253
Darts League: 425323
Football: 418494

HALLS

Village Hall: 723109
Peter Edwards Hall: 767916

COMMUNITY

Brownies: 723109
Beavers: 07956 833488
Cubs: 07972 916626
Scouts: 07780 676861
Fly Tipping (CBC): 0300 300 8000
Friendship Club: 452978
Slip End Assoc: 414796
Mother's Union: 738435
Playgroup: 728865
Toddler Group 405931
Allotments: 736892
FoSELS (PTA):
07787 401937
Women's Institute: 421034
Police: 473211
Aircraft noise: 395382
Airparks: 01582 749495
Water leaks: 0845 7823333

PARISH COUNCILLORS

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stevefuell@f2s.com
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Steven.Baird@cooperindustries.com
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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Gavin Shuker
020 7219 500 or 07505 738666

CHURCHES

St Andrew's Church

Rev. Cathy Pullinger: 725061 Mob 07425 148046
Wardens: Tony Willson 482681
Susan Wiltshire 727477

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

GREETINGS FROM CATHY PULLINGER

Hello everyone,

I have been enjoying getting out and about and chatting to folk in the village and I have found that people are surprised to hear about what we do at St. Andrew's, so I thought I'd say a little bit about what the church can offer you.



We have a **variety of styles of worship** so that people with different preferences, backgrounds and personalities can all find a place within our worshipping community.

Our **“Holy Communion”** is a traditional service, where we use the Communion Table at the East End of the Church and kneel at the rail to receive. The organ, with a small choir called the St Andrew's singers lead our hymns and worship, and some words from the service are also sung. During this service the children have their own activities in the family room, but join us for communion. This is a quieter more reflective service.

Our **“Family Communion”** reflects the fact that we experience our Church community as a family. The children stay in throughout and our communion is led from a communion table in the centre of the church. There are songs and a little talk or activity specially for the children. Our worship is led by piano, flute and violin.

Bi-monthly we have **“Morning Praise”** In this, many modern worship songs are usually led by our band. The children join us for part of the service and there's a children's focus especially for them, before they go to the family room for their **“Kidztime.”** This is a flexible service giving us more time for teaching and family celebration.

“Cafe Church” is our most “alternative” form of worship, where we usually eat together for breakfast or lunch and sit round little tables. This enables us to look together

at a specific topic, and to explore this in a variety of ways, like crafts and quizzes. There is always lots for the children to do.

The style of our worship on any particular Sunday is always advertised in the Parish News. Occasionally the leading musicians are swapped around depending on their availability. All the words of our services are on Power Point so you don't have to find you way round lots of service books.

We also have a meeting for Mums and Toddlers, **“Little Stars”** on Wednesday mornings, where we explore a theme to do with our faith, with songs, a story, activities and some little prayers that the children can join in with. There are also drinks and plenty of time to chat.

At the other end of the spectrum we take **services in the care homes** at Woodside and Caddington Hall.

At St. Andrew's we think of ourselves as a family and **we love to celebrate family occasions.** Over the last month we've celebrated, two wedding anniversaries, a 90th birthday, and a thanksgiving for a baby. You would be so welcome if you would like to come along for a **baptism**, or blessing of a wedding Anniversary or marriage.

St Andrew's is a lovely building and many couples have been married here over the years. We have just completed a much appreciated **marriage preparation course** for three couples who will be getting married at St. Andrew's where, we spent time chatting over a meal, before thinking together about some aspect of marriage.

Weddings of course are governed by legal requirements. However the law has been relaxed about who can marry in the Church of England, so that it is no longer just those who live in the Parish, or who are members (on the Electoral Roll). Anyone with family connections to the church or village may now be eligible, so please do come and talk to us if you are thinking about a wedding or know someone who is.

We also take **funerals**, either in the church, at another burial ground or at the crematorium. Once again we are very glad to do this whether or not you come along to church. There are two of us you can speak to about funerals.

As the village community is small, I have been appointed as a part time Priest-in-Charge and I also work at a school in Luton on Mondays and Tuesdays. However I have a colleague, **Chris Barnes who is a Licensed Reader** who has been preaching and leading services very ably at St. Andrew's for over 10 years. He is very experienced and is available to take funerals on Mondays and Tuesdays.



This is your Church and where we are able we will be very pleased to accommodate your wishes. So please do contact us if we can be of any help.

Chris can be contacted on: 01582 725448

Cathy can be contacted on: 01582 725061
(Wed or Thur) Mob: 07425 148046

God Bless & have a wonderful Summer

Cathy Pullinger

Overleaf is the report from the recent Café Church Environment Day which was a great success. The food was plentiful and delicious. The speakers were very interesting and it was good to hear about the work on Pepsal End Farm as some of their fields are opposite the church. We learnt about the important work A Rocha UK is doing from Steve Hughes pictured on the left with Lynne and Nick Sandle and visitor farmer Gary Speirs is on the right with some fresh cut barley from his field.



DATES FOR JULY AND AUGUST

Over the summer we will be looking at the difference faith makes in our life, and how God helps us to come to a place of faith. During School holidays our Little Stars will be out and about, please see separate page for meeting place and contact details. Everything is at 10.30am unless otherwise stated.

Services in July:

- Sunday 3rd: Family Communion:
A community of Faith
- Wed 6th: Little Stars:
The Parable of the Lost Coin
- Sunday 10th: Morning Praise: Faith is a gift
- Wed 13th: Little Stars: Parable of Prayer
- Sunday 17th: Holy Communion: Giving with Faith
- Wed 20th: Little Stars: The Parable of the mustard seed
- Sunday 24th: Morning Praise & Baptism:
David grows in Faith
- Sunday 31st: Morning Praise: David and Goliath - Faith to fight giants

Services in August:

- Sunday 7th: Family Communion: Faith to persist in prayer
- Sunday 14th: Morning Praise: Faith that never gives up
- Sunday 21st: Morning Praise: The shield of Faith
- Sunday 28th: Holy Communion: Stepping out in Faith

ENVIRONMENT SUNDAY AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

On 5th June St Andrew's marked Environment Day with a special programme of talks and activities on the theme of FOOD. Tea and coffee was served on arrival with a selection of cakes and biscuits on each table and quizzes about food. Julie and Sue then started the children on their food-themed activities; potato printing and planting sunflower seeds.

Steve Hughes, CEO of A Rocha UK, a Christian environmental organisation involved in research, education and community-based conservation projects, spoke about the true cost of food; how we want more of it at ever lower prices and the effect this has on our relationship with God, people and the land. He reminded us that 'the earth is the Lord's and everything in it' and everything we eat comes as a gift from God. We should not be greedy or wasteful but restrained in our use of the earth's resources, showing respect for all creatures and for the earth itself.

Gary Speirs of Pepsal End Farm then gave us a fascinating insight into the challenges facing farmers today. As he is growing barley in the field opposite the church, the children have been watching it grow, and he brought along a barley plant in a pot, as well as lots of food items which use barley (Milky Way and Mars bars, Malted drinks, Maltesers, Malties, Soreen malt loaf). Gary has also set aside a small field for wild flowers and this we explored after lunch.



Gary with Vicar Cathy and Val Church

Matt Russell spoke on the urgency of reducing our carbon footprint, and ways of doing it, including solar energy and growing your own vegetables. All three speakers were engaging and informative and everyone learnt something they could put into action straightaway to help reduce waste of food and energy.

After prayers and grace sung with the children, we enjoyed a feast of a variety of foods grown or made at, or close to, home, seasonal foods – including the first strawberries! – or fair trade goods. Lynne had made a beautiful 'earth' cake iced with the verse '...and God saw that it was good'.



The children hunted outside for 'treasure', matching up foods with their original source; we all know what chocolate looks like but apparently nobody knew what a cocoa bean looks like! During lunch the speakers were kept busy chatting with people and Nikki West also shared her experiences of keeping chickens. A guide was handed out to those who wanted to walk to the Flower Meadow, and people picked up sorrel plants on the way out to plant in their gardens and provide salad and vegetables year after year.

Overall the day was judged a great success and a donation was sent to A Rocha UK to support it's work. For more information go to their website www.arocha.org.uk or ring 02085745935

*Sally Gray, St Andrew's Action
on Climate Change*

Slip End Lower School - 2011 Update

The past school year has flown by and with the Summer term coming to a close, it is a good time to review what's been happening at Slip End Lower School. This year has seen a focus on creativity, looking at new and fun ways to bring the curriculum alive. Whether through activity days, school trips or from visiting guests, each has contributed to a richer and more fulfilling timetable for the children. As usual I am always pleasantly surprised at the wide array of activities such a small school manages to cram into it's calendar and I hope you'll enjoy reading about some of them here.

Getting out and About!

School trips are an excellent opportunity for learning and, in the case of Year 4, developing a sense of adventure and independence. This year's residential trip to Hautbois House took place slightly earlier than usual with the Year 4 class going off to Norfolk in March. The weather was kind allowing them to take part in the zip wire, archery, abseiling, climbing activities as well as a fun camp fire evening where they cooked food and sung songs. For most, this was their first experience of being away from home without their parents and although this can seem daunting at first, it certainly has benefitted the children. Teachers have seen this especially in the increased confidence and a greater independence in the weeks after they returned.

Although the residential trip is reserved for the oldest children at SELS, even the youngest get a chance to see more of the outside world. Foundation and nursery class had a lovely day out at the end of March at Woodside Animal Park just outside the village. This was their first school outing and what could be more exciting than to see all the animals, handle the pets and having a packed lunch outdoors. There were a lot of very happy, excited and tired children that day.

Years 1 and 2 had their own educational trip to the Roald Dahl Museum and Buckingham museum. Linked to literacy work in their curriculum the children had the chance to see some of the author's classic stories brought to life. They enjoyed role play, acting out scenes from Charlie & the Chocolate Factory, climbed through Fantastic Mr Fox's tunnel and explored James' Giant Peach. The children have developed a love of these stories through their school work and this trip helped stretch their imaginations further with a creative writing challenge on their return based on what they had seen during the visit. You can see some of the results of their writing in the special display, created in the school reception (based on their visit).

History also came to life for Years 3 & 4 when they got a taste of what life was like for children in World War II. They all came to school dressed in clothes from the period and were "evacuated" to the village hall. During the re-enactment they got to see what it was like for the children sent away from home during the war to live with strangers.

A special mention also to the Year 1 children who spent the day at Caddington Village School for a multi-school PE festival led by the school's Year 8s. Many compliments were received about SELS children's behaviour who were a credit to the school.



Dressing up at Roald Dahl museum"

Celebrations Galore!

Educating children that there is a whole wide world outside of Slip End doesn't just mean having to take them out to visit new places. The school works hard to bring new experiences into the classrooms for the children to enjoy. As part of the drive to attain the full International School accreditation, SELS ran another highly successful International Day. Celebrating different cultures and traditions from around the world gives pupils the chance to widen their knowledge of how others live. The whole school took part in the day learning about languages, food, money and much more. This year the activities and countries included folk dancing from Germany and decorating biscuits from Italy with the Italian flag. Then on to Ireland where the children made potato prints and learned about Irish myths and legends before moving to Bolivia where great fun was had dressing up in traditional costumes. The International travels ended in Mexico where the children made a woollen God's Eye.

They all came together at the end of the day to share and celebrate their new knowledge.

Parents continue to play a big part in this sharing of knowledge and celebration of differences. Chinese New Year was just such occasion that pupils enjoyed, thanks to Mrs Yi-Hardie who told us some interesting facts about China, it's population and traditions relating to their New Year celebrations. Her daughter, Skye, from Year 1 then helped her by showing everyone the traditional Chinese dress. Mrs Yi-Hardie finished with a quiz for the children and parents in the audience to see who had been listening! We are very grateful to her for giving us an insight into Chinese culture.

It's not just the wider world that pupils investigated this year. The school held a Best of British day to celebrate all the good things they have at home including food, arts and crafts and history. Children took part in food tastings, creative activities and

the day culminated in a dramatic re-enactment of St George and the Dragon at a special all school assembly.



A Right Royal Time

Of course the biggest celebration this year was the Royal Wedding and the school didn't let this historic occasion pass without a special day for the children. The kingdom of Slip End Lower School was home to kings, queens, princesses, soldiers and even a royal executioner as the children dressed up on a regal theme for the day. Cross curricular activities took place all day long around the royal theme from crown making to designing a school, and personal coat of arms. Of course the day wouldn't be complete without a party, so with the sun shining, flags and bunting waving, the children had their own version of a street party. The day culminated in a parade and wedding banquet, complete with wedding cake, fit for all the little princes and princesses out on the school field. Surely a day they'll all remember.



A Musical Experience

Recently we were lucky to have Bedfordshire Woodwind Group visit us to perform a concert playing a variety of instruments including clarinet, soprano, alto and baritone saxophone and flutes. They taught the children how each instrument worked and how sounds were made, playing a variety of instruments to showcase each type of sound. This was the first time our very youngest Nursery children had been into the hall and considering some had then only been at school for 2 weeks, they were beautifully behaved and thoroughly enjoyed their first 'Concert' experience.

Coming up is another special musical performance, this time by our Key Stage 2 children who will be singing in a celebration concert at the Grove theatre along with 300 children from the local area.

School Update

The school continues to grow and change with children moving on to Middle schools and new arrivals starting. This year we are

particularly pleased to see growing numbers in our Foundation Unit with more children lined up to join us over the coming months.

Our PTA, FoSELS has lots of fund raising activities planned for the months ahead. Whether you are a parent or not, it's always worth keeping an eye on our website for news of events to attend such as the recent successful Pamper Evening or Pub Quiz.

Mrs Casson has been working hard on the "Sustainable Schools" challenge. She, with the children's help, is creating a school greenhouse made entirely from plastic drinks bottles. Having collected an astounding 1500 bottles the plan is to build a greenhouse for the children to use to grow seedlings and plants to study and for fun.

It is not just children who move on. We have recently said goodbye to two long standing staff members. Mary Barker has supported children and staff in a variety of roles for over 20 years. She started as a parent helper moving on to midday supervisor, school governor and library supervisor. More recently she has been a teaching assistant, helping children in a variety of classes. We thank her for her dedication and the support she has given so many generations of children.

Also we say goodbye after 10 years to Chris Buckel. Chris mainly worked with Year 1 although many children have come to know her as she helped them along during her time with us. We wish her a relaxing retirement and again, pass on our sincere thanks for all she has done for us.

Whilst it is sad to say goodbye to staff we also welcome some new additions to our team. Mrs Jenny Lewsey and Miss Denise Cooper who will both be working in Sycamore Class as Early Years Foundation Stage Assistants. Also, Mrs Lesley Dixon who will be working as a Teaching Assistant in the main school. We wish them all luck and a warm welcome to our school.

Year 4 - Moving On

Our current year 4 children (pictured on the front cover and below) will shortly be coming to the end of their time with us here at SELS. Next term they will start at their new middle schools so we wanted to say a fond farewell and wish them the very best as they continue their education. We asked them to tell us some of their favourite memories of their time here at SELS and some of their comments are recorded here.



"I like it so much here that I don't want to go"

"I like the way all the teachers are very kind and we get to have lots of fun."

"I like playtime because you can chat to your friends."

I like Special Days and school trips the best!

"I like Slip End Lower School because people are very nice to me"

"I love playing with my friends because they are reassuring, friendly and thoughtful."

"I like the field because it's very big!"

"I like playtime because I like playing with my friends ."

"I like school trips because it means you're not inside all day."

"I liked going to Hautbois House because we had great fun."

"I like the times we get to do Special Days like the World War Two evacuation. "

"I liked Hautbois house because all of the activities were fun and extreme but at night, the walk and the star watching were calm and beautiful."

"I like the playground trolley because we get nice toys to play with."

"Swimming is good because when it's hot, you get to cool down."

"I liked going to Woburn Safari Park and seeing all of the animals because I would like to be a vet when I grow up."

"I like playing on the field because there are goal nets to play football with ."

"I like the clubs after school because they are fun."

"In History, I liked it when Ewan was turned into a mummy because it was fascinating to see what it is like to be mummified."

"I like playing with my friends because we get along with each other."

You can keep up to date with all the school news by checking out the school website at www.slipend.beds.sch.uk.

Sandra Collins

AIRPARKS GOES HI-TECH!

Flagship Airparks Luton is a driving force with the launch of its automated ticketing system

The Star Wars themed party saw guests mingling with the likes of Darth Vader and R2D2 while they sipped cocktails served by a team of Princess Leia's and Storm Troopers.



The innovative automated check-in is another step towards Airparks' goal of exemplary customer service with queue-busting check-ins and smoother check-outs.

Howard Dove, (on inside cover with Darth & R2D2) CEO of Airparks, said: "Luton is one of our largest car parks which serves over 250,000 passengers using Luton Airport each year. We are so delighted to offer this phenomenal fully automated check-in and check-out system to our valued customers.



Dennis & Geoff Flitton check out the new system

"The team at Airparks has devoted nine months to developing this secure automated system. It is part of a £1.5million project to revamp our sites across the UK and revolutionise our customer experience". "Airparks' customers park in the arrivals area, check in at one of the six simple/convenient check-in machines, deposit their car keys in the secure box near to the waiting shelter before being whisked off to the airport in a fleet of safe, modern buses. "When they return from the airport they scan their receipt in our innovative automatic key dispenser, which delivers their keys in a few seconds before starting on their journey home."



Some of the Airparks team with Star Wars friends

I was invited along to the recent opening with some of the local councillors etc., and had a very interesting afternoon at the Airparks site where we were shown how the new service will work. It all seemed very impressive and we wish them good luck with their new creative venture.



Our local police & community police seem to have met their match with Darth Vader!

Sue Briggs



Kevin McFeeley, (Location Manager), above is originally from Luton and his family still live in the local area. He moved away through work and promotion while in the logistics industry (Exel and DHL Supply Chain). Recently he decided to move back to Luton (well, the surrounding areas) and saw the investment that Airparks was making in it's facilities so he decided to take the plunge. He is currently living between Maulden and his house in Birmingham, although is looking to move very close to the area in the next 3 months. Kevin continues below.....

'I am very aware of the relationship between Airparks, the parish, its residents and the

challenges that our presence brings to the local area. One of the first things on my list is the speed limit through the village and as such have instructed bus drivers to reduce from 30mph to 20mph while in the built up area. I am very confident that we can maintain this speed and still meet our required transport schedule.

I am aware that some passengers using the airport may be parking in the village and then using our scheduled bus service to travel to the airport and will look into this, however, the issue I have is that if someone boards the bus under our scheduled service with lots of bags its very difficult to turn them away as they may well be residents.

Lastly I have been approached with regard to our bus service calling at Parkway train station during peak commuter hours. This issue remains on the table for me to look at, both in impact to the scheduled service and cost analysis. I will address this again once I have settled in and honed the service that we provide currently.

My email address for the Parish to contact me is Kevin.McFeeley@airparks.co.uk and my phone number is 01582 749495

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.

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GARDENING CLUB

The biennial Parish Plant Sale was held on Saturday 21 May from 11.0am - 3.0pm at the Old Bakery, 2 Summer Street, Slip End. Once again the event proved very popular, both with locals and some people from surrounding villages and towns. There was a good variety of bedding plants, perennials, vegetable plants and hanging baskets, plus some produce for sale. (See photo, prior to sale of plants with committee members, who had put in a tremendous amount of hard work to ensure a success)



In addition many thanks to other “helpers” who also contributed to the success, both prior to and on the day of sale. Many thanks also to local businesses, Slip End Garage, Frog & Rhubarb, Rising Sun, Air Parks & Village Stores, plus other locals who donated raffle prizes. (See photo of Cathy Pullinger local Vicar, with Reg & Nan Philpot, drawing the first raffle prize. The event raised £655 for Gardening Club funds. The Committee has agreed to the annual sponsorship of plants for the Crawley Close Garden, in front of bungalows.

Finally a special thank you to Brian & Valerie Church for the use of



their very attractive courtyard premises for the sale.

Advance news: provisional date for the 2012 Parish Open Gardens Day is Sat. 23 June.

Visit to Ashridge Gardens

A small group of Slip End gardening club members went to Ashridge Gardens on Sunday 5th June. The sun tried very hard to shine but we dodged the rain by having an excellent cream tea in the conservatory. We all agreed that some weeding should have been done prior to the opening (we thought of offering our services until we realised how huge the gardens were, 190 acres in all).

The rose gardens had similar roses as when it was first designed. Some beautiful old fashioned roses, divine perfumes, in all colours even a pink and white stripe. There were poppies of all colours and lots of lovely plants and flowers. Most of the rhododendrons were in full bloom. The college has fantastic vistas of lawns, avenues of trees and lovely gardens.

A delightful afternoon. *By Carol Beeton*

Visits for the next two months below:-

Sun. 17 July. - Chenies Manor Plant Fair, Weather permitting. Admission £6, House £4 extra. (Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park)

Sun. 24 July. - Hitchin Lavender Farm - Weather permitting. Entrance to field £4. (Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park)

Sun. 7 Aug. - Beesonend Gardens, Harpenden. Admission £3.50. (Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park)

Thurs. 25 Aug. Bressingham Steam & Gardens. (Tates coaches) Adults £28, Seniors £27

SLIP END GARDENING CLUB

Next Meeting

MONDAY 18 JULY

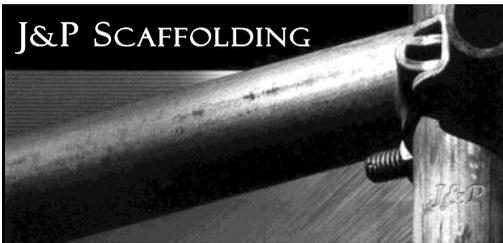
8pm Village Hall

Guest Speaker - Jude Hirstwood
(Bedfordshire Bat Group)

Followed by local “Bat Walk”
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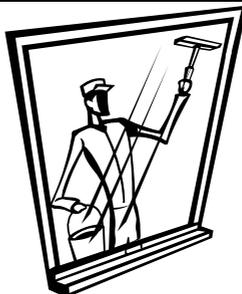
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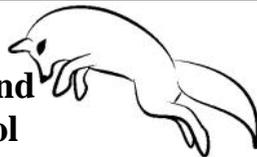
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GARDENERS SPECIAL

July is usually the warmest month of the year, lawns will start to dry out unless watered regularly, aerating by spiking with a fork will help the water to penetrate well below the surface where it's needed to keep it looking green.

When cutting roses for a vase keep the stems short and deadhead on a regular basis to encourage a second flush in the autumn. Tie young stems of dahlias to their supports with soft string or raffia and if large blooms are required then disbud the lower buds to get long stems for cutting and arranging in a vase. Chrysanthemums can be treated the same way, but spray varieties should be left, although stake and tie-in shoots to avoid wind damage.

Gladioli will not need staking for normal garden use but keep well watered and weed free. Irises can be divided and replanted this month and cut the top half of the leaves off to avoid wind damage. July is the month when lilies are at their best and unless you want to save the seed they should be dead-headed as the flowers fade, water carnations and pinks if the weather is dry. Early this month sow sweet williams and wall flowers for colour in the spring. Rock gardens will look somewhat drab from now until the autumn but best to keep the weeds down to prevent the alpines from being overwhelmed. Patio containers and hanging baskets will require watering at least once a day and deadhead to keep them looking their best.

In the greenhouse tomatoes and cucumbers should be bearing fruit; a liquid fertiliser should be applied every 7-10 days to encourage the fruits to ripen. Blackcurrants can be pruned after fruiting, cutting out the old wood, tie in new shoots of blackberries and loganberries but keep them separate from the fruiting shoots. Summer fruiting raspberries can be cut down as the fruiting canes are finished, but leave the new shoots because

they will bear next year's crop. Tidy up the strawberry bed when the fruits are finished.

Plant leeks this month as well as Brussel sprouts, winter cabbage and spring broccoli, also plant swedes by the middle of the month. Keep pinching out the side shoots of tomato plants to get decent size fruits.

Now is the time to enjoy the fruits of your labour as plenty of fresh vegetables, such as lettuce, carrots, beetroot, potatoes, cabbage and broad beans are large enough to harvest and the garden should be in full colour as mother nature amazes us once again, so till September, happy gardening.

Don't forget to e-mail me if you have a question at: russell.sprout1@hotmail.co.uk

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Annual Report 2010-11

The Parish Council's key aim is to improve the quality of life for everyone in the Parish, from our youngest to our oldest members. This report sets out to describe the work of the Council over the last twelve months towards achieving that objective.

Background

The Parish Councillors are: Paul Cooper (Vice Chairman), Janet Crawley, Ken Crossett (Chairman), Steve Fuell, Keith Holme, Sarah Minnighan, and Philip Penman. Keith took over from Geoff Daniel who retired in July 2010. During the year we were supported by the Parish Clerk Peter Segal, the Council very much appreciates the hard work and support Peter has given.

The principle organisations that have helped are: various officers of Central Bedfordshire District Council, Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity, Country Gardens, CASE4 and the Police. The Council is also grateful to Councillors Richard Stay and Ruth Gammons, for their assistance and, to a number of residents who have provided their time and specialist knowledge, including Richard Gurney, Andy and Debbie Prothero and Mike Sanders.

Roads

Throughout the year, Cllr Fuell has worked closely with Central Beds Highways Department to ensure the roads are kept to a high standard. Following the cold spell, a close watch was kept on the resultant potholes to ensure they were reported swiftly for repair once the hole had reached the prescribed depth. In the main Highways responded quickly keeping disruption and the potential for accidents and damage to vehicles to a minimum?

Pepperstock Junction

This is a junction which has safety issues for residents. After many years of campaigning, Cllr Fuell in consultation with Cllr Penman and Brickhill and Downlands Residents Association (BADRA), had been in discussions with Central Beds Highways. Highways agreed to close, for a trial period initially, the short section of road extending from Pepsal End Lane to its junction with Half Moon adjacent to the house opposite the Half Moon.

This experiment proved to be unsuccessful and the junction was restored to its original layout. Unfortunately, the cost of replacing the junction is very high and in comparison to other roads issues, has a relatively low priority from Central Beds point of view, and therefore alterations, cannot be expected

Major Works began at the end of April to replace many of the water pipes in Slip End; Cllr Fuell has been in contact with the Water Company to ensure disruption to traffic is kept to a minimum and that the road surfaces are returned to an acceptable standard once the works have been completed.

Road Safety:

Speeding, holiday parking by non-residents on our streets, illegal and inconsiderate parking at road junctions and in close proximity to the school remain major concerns.

A speed survey was carried out by the Police, at the Council's request, to determine if a reduction in the speed limit to 40 mph from the Pepperstock Bridge to the 30 limit in Front Street was necessary. The request followed a number of concerns received from residents about the speed of vehicles negotiating the bend and the potential danger to motorists and pedestrians crossing the junction at the old Half Moon Public House. The survey showed that by far the majority of vehicles negotiating the bend were doing so at an appropriate speed. However, when considering the results it was felt that the few vehicles travelling at excessive speed would not be deterred by a reduced speed limit and so new restrictions will not be brought in. The results of a survey in Upper Woodside are still awaited.

Cllrs Crossett and Fuell had a meeting with Highways Dept to discuss the introduction of parking restrictions within the Parish at all the problem areas. It was discovered that for regulations to be enforceable a Traffic Regulation Order must first be obtained. Normally the Highways Dept would commission and fund the work that needs to be undertaken to secure an order. However, owing to budget constraints it is not in a position to help. Most of the expense is taken up by the cost of a survey which has to be undertaken as part of the process in obtaining the Order which is estimated to be in the region of £3500. During the meeting some steps were established that the Parish Council could undertake to reduce some of this cost. The matter has now been deferred until the results of the Parish Plan have been published in order for it to be prioritised within the other actions residents have identified.

Following two severe winters, the Council is looking into the possibility of a joint venture with Caddington Parish Council to buy a road gritter. The machine is in the form of trailer which can be towed by a large car or van. District Councillor Richard Stay has negotiated favourable terms with Central Beds for the cost of the grit. He has also been successful in negotiating a pilot policy with an insurance company through Central Beds as this is a unique venture for a Parish Council. At present we are waiting to receive the details of the policy. A gritter would enable the Council to treat all the roads in the Parish which are not covered by Highways.

Footpaths

The Council is grateful to Don Burford who continues to provide a monthly report on the condition of our local public footpaths. The report is helpful with the Council's petitioning of Central Beds to ensure they remain accessible and clearly marked.

Drainage

Work has been undertaken to ease the problems in Grove Road and it is understood further work will be carried out later this year to complete the project. Cllr Fuell planted some willow tree saplings in the affected area at the bend in Upper Woodside and in Grove Road to help alleviate the excess water which accumulates. Following the flooding earlier this year in Aley Green, Cllr Fuell is liaising with both Caddington Parish Council and Central

Beds to ensure work is undertaken as quickly as possible to prevent a reoccurrence. The cause of the flooding originates within Caddington's Parish boundary.

Street Lighting

The Central Beds policy on lamp replacement has meant most of the lanterns within the Parish have been replaced. Overall the new lanterns have not been well received as they do not appear to emit as much light as the previous lamps, however, the running costs are lower.

A survey, carried out by resident Mike Sanders and Cllr Fuell, of Front & Summer Streets and Pepperstock showed that there were many damaged lamps and posts. These have been replaced and Cllr Fuell has met with the lighting officer at Central Beds regarding the poor level of lighting due to the irregular positioning of the existing street lamps and discussions are ongoing in order to improve the situation.

Discussions have also taken place throughout the year with both Central Beds and Luton Borough Council to transfer the responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the lights under the bridge in Church Road and at its junction with Newlands Road from the Highways Agency. Work has taken place to change the power supply from the motorway to the two local authorities. The position is continuing to be followed up at regular intervals.

Aley Green Cemetery

The Management Committee comprises two Councillors from this Parish, which holds the Chair, and from the Parishes of Caddington and Markyate. The Council contributes £991 per year towards the upkeep of the cemetery.

Earlier this year, Peter Segal took over the role of Clerk to the Management Committee.

Features and Gardens

The Rossway garden feature, Coronation Gardens, Crawley Play Ground and the lawn in front of the bungalows in Crawley Close and the gardens of St Andrews have been maintained by the Prothero's of Country Gardens. The Council appreciates the hard work and dedication Andy & Debbie put in to keep these areas and other parts of the Parish in good condition.

Policing

During the year the Safer Neighbourhood Police Team was restructured so that we are now patrolled by a team of twenty officers who do cover a wider area rather than just our original PC and two PCSO's. Nevertheless the relationship with the Police remains good. As part of the restructure we no longer have regular visits by the police to our monthly Parish Council Meetings.

Generally, crime within the Parish is at a low level in terms of volume. The most common offences relate to cars and house burglary.

The pilot scheme with the police to provide additional speed enforcement activity began last summer. Caddington Parish Council accepted our invitation to join with us for the project, although results have been mixed, much has been learned both by us and the police. In view of this it has been decided to continue with the project.

The scheme involves the Council paying for an officer to visit the Parish at times and locations determined by the Parish Council. Visits have been made to locations in Lower Woodside, Church Road, Markyate Road and Front Street. It should be remembered these visits are in addition to normal enforcement visits by both the camera van and police patrols.

Housing Development Proposals

The Council has continued to support CASE4, an organisation set up by residents of both this Parish and Caddington initially to protest against the proposed Bushwood development. The scheme was not recognised within the core strategy put forward by representatives of Central Beds and Luton Borough Councils. The next stage is for the Core Strategy to be examined in public and the government inspector is due to hold this later in the year.

We are also watching a proposed solar power farm project in Caddington which may have benefits for buildings and power supply in our Parish if the plan goes ahead.

Finance

The Council's financial base remained strong and continued to operate within budget under the control of Cllr Penman. This Council continued with its policy adopted last year of reducing the General Reserve to £15000 over a three year period. It is planned this draw down will allow the Council to increase its spending over the three year period at the rate of 3% per annum but limit the Parish Council Tax increase to 2% per year.

Previously the Council had not specified an amount for the general fund and so this new procedure will improve overall financial management.

The income received in Council Tax was £38,199 for 2010/11. At the end of the last financial year, £25,000 was carried forward and earmarked for expenditure on capital projects identified in the forthcoming Parish Plan.

The Council's expenditure for 2010/11:

Administration including staff costs	£ 17299.58
Highways & Amenity Areas	£ 5498.50
Crawley Playground	£ 2203.00
Subscriptions	£ 484.00
Aley Green Cemetery	£ 991.00
Planning and Public Consultation	£ 1000.00
Crime Prevention & Speeding Enforcement	£ 2350.00
Community Projects Group	£ 9600.00
Total	£ 39,426.06

N.B these are estimated figures to give an indication of expenditure and will be confirmed on completion of the accounts.

The Parish Council transferred its responsibilities towards awarding grants to local organisations and Christmas presents to our senior residents, to the Community Projects Group.

Community

The Council has given its full support to the Community Projects Group which it set up two years ago. Cllrs Cooper and Minnighan have given a lot of their time to ensure the continued success of the new organisation.

Last summer, members of the group formed a committee led by Cllr Minnighan which produced another very enjoyable and memorable Village Day.

The projects group is able to do more for the community than the Council because of its legal restrictions and obtain grants which a local authority is excluded from. The Council is also grateful to the many residents who make up the group and for the time they have given.

Like the Council, the Community Projects Group is waiting for the outcome of the Parish Plan in order that it can begin its work of setting up new initiatives that residents would like to see.

Parish Plan

This is another initiative set up by the Council two years ago and which has had its full support. The Steering Committee is chaired by Rosemary Wickens and the group has been assisted very much with both advice and grants from the Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity.

The Steering Committee has almost completed its work at the time of writing this report and it is anticipated a leaflet outlining the plan will be distributed to every house in the Parish in July.

Parish Website

The web site continues to be managed by Cllr Minnighan and the webmaster Peter King. It is important that it is now kept up to date and so there is a responsibility for all of us involved in clubs, organisations and the Council to keep our pages up to date. It is proving a useful tool for passing on information quickly. For example, there was little notice of the extensive water works which began at the end of April. When this first came to light Cllr Minnighan and Cllr Fuell were able to put important information on the front page. May I suggest for those using the internet they make slipend.co.uk their home page.?

Youth Club

The Youth Club, which ran successfully for some time, closed recently due to falling numbers. However, it is hoped that the club may be re-instated in the near future.

District Councillors

Cllrs Gammons and Stay attend most of our monthly meetings in which they report on news and items of interest from Central Beds. Their slot gives Parish Councillors an opportunity to ask questions and put forward requests for assistance. Both Councillors are receptive to new ideas and are very supportive to the Parish.

Chairman's Closing Remarks

This report is a summary of the work carried out by the Council over the last twelve months. Much has been achieved by the dedication, hard work and time given not just by my colleagues but also a growing number of residents who are coming forward to help in our community. This encourages me to look forward to the next twelve months with confidence as the work load of the Council increases.

We are beginning to see the effects of the budget reductions introduced this April by Central Beds, and I feel this is going to bring about a different way of working for the Council. We have found working with our neighbours in Caddington, sharing resources, skills and knowledge has produced benefits in the joint ventures we have undertaken.

We are also finding that officers and Councillors at Central Beds are open to new ideas and are keen to help when we look to do those jobs 'in house' that previously we would have relied on Central Beds carrying out. It is likely that the Localism Bill, if passed later in the year, will provide us with new powers to carry out additional services.

The Parish Plan will bring its challenges as we look forward to carrying out what you have asked us to do. Some aspects of the plan we will be able to action over the coming months others may need to wait until budgets allow.

If you would like to help and haven't done so already in the Plan questionnaire, please get in touch with either myself or one of the other Councillors and we will point you in the right direction. Our contact details are at the front of this issue.

You are most welcome to come and hear what we do at our Monthly Meetings, which are normally held at 7.30pm on the first Monday in the month at the Village Hall. There are opportunities for you to have a say. We shall not be offended if you do not stay for the hour or so that our official business takes but if you do you never know one of us might buy you a pint afterwards!

Finally, I would like to say thank you to Cllr Philip Penman as he steps down. Philip has given over twenty years' service to the community as a Councillor here and at South Beds District Council where he was also Deputy Leader for some time.

Over the years he has helped many residents with their individual problems. We will miss the depth of knowledge and experience Philip has brought to our meetings.



A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR OUR VILLAGES

The Core Strategy (CS) for Luton and Southern Central Bedfordshire is a key planning policy document that outlines all of the development that will take place in our part of the world over the next 20 years or so and it was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate recently in advance of an Examination in Public chaired by a Planning Inspector, David Vickery. It did **not** include a recommendation for significant development to the West of Luton including Bushwood. However, since then there have been some complex developments:-

- The Planning Inspector has raised concerns about the CS's compliance with the last government's Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)
- Central Bedfordshire Council is putting forward a strong case that the Core Strategy **is** in general conformity to the RSS
- Central government has announced plans to scrap the RSS and bring in the Decentralisation and Localism Bill (due to receive Royal Assent in November) to shift power from central government back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils
- Ministers have given high priority to the A5/M1 link road, which is closely linked with housing development north of Luton – a key element of the CS and crucial for the economy of our region
- The developers behind Bushwood are actively campaigning to build on the Green Belt west of Luton and have employed high calibre experts including a QC to plead their case. We are all aware that some development in our villages is necessary, so that our communities are vibrant and healthy but this development needs to be sustainable.

We are opposed to large scale, inappropriate development that would destroy the essential identity and character of our villages.

CaSE4 has been advised that a **Neighbourhood Plan** would carry great weight with the Planning Inspector and would be in the best interests of our local community. It would strengthen the protection we seek from opportunistic developers proposing unsustainable and inappropriate development. It would build on existing Parish Plans like the one recently produced in Slip End but would be wider in scope. It would represent views of local people and identify what sort of housing is required, why it is needed, how much development and where it could be built. CaSE4 is to co-ordinate the development of the Neighbourhood Plan, with support from Central Beds Council and working closely with the Parish

CaSE4 is a non-political action group set up to take forward the views of residents.

This is just a short note to keep you in the picture, as you may be wondering what all the different plans are about. No doubt you will have seen the leaflet delivered with this magazine outlining the Parish Plan: which deals with the issues affecting residents inside the Parish including housing. There is also an article from CaSE4 above, which talks of a Neighbourhood Plan, the scope of this is to draw up a plan over a wider area for both residential and commercial development. Neighbourhood Plans are a new initiative which will be introduced in the Localism Bill that comes into effect later in the year and gives local people the power to decide on the scale of development they wish to see in their community. The Neighbourhood Plan will enable residents of this Parish to have a say in the development that goes on not just in the Parish but also in the surrounding area which impacts on us. Much of the work in this Parish's contribution to a Neighbourhood Plan has already been covered by the research carried out for both the Parish Plan and the Housing Survey you were asked to complete a couple of years ago. As work gets underway you will be kept informed and your views sought on the additional aspects covered by the Neighbourhood Plan.

Ken Crossett

Rising Sun



The event held on Sunday 12th June was kindly laid on by Lily to raise funds for the Royal British Legions 90th Anniversary and took place as planned, in spite of the inclement weather. The intrepid first World War Cavalry soldiers turned up complete with their mounts albeit rather wet but determined that a little bit of rain wouldn't put them off! Local resident, Reg Philpott, Chairman of Chorleywood & Chenies Branch of the Legion, was delighted to support Lily and Dave's generous effort, but unfortunately, probably due to the awful weather, the response was disappointing for such a great cause. There was a collection and together with one held on Wednesday 15th June at the Quiz Night the proceeds will be donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Chris Phillips & Terry Buxton then continued on to the other local pubs.

Monday 4th July American themed lunch & dinner at £11.90 Marinade rib of pork rump steak etc from 12 to 2.30pm & 6 to 9pm

Rising Sun Fun Day & mini beer festival
Saturday 16th July with Bouncy Castle from 11am — All welcome

- Pimms & Cocktails
- Burger & hotdog stall
- Fun stalls selling cakes, jewellery etc
- Live Band

30th July— Killer Darts tournament at 7pm with bacon roll supper. Entry fee £3 each. Winners trophy & £50 prize money. Interested parties to register by July 23rd

Saturday August 28th Back by popular demand "cockney nite" with free supper from 8.00pm All welcome.

New at the Rising Sun: from July every second Wednesday of month, we are holding a fun quiz night with table snacks starting at 8.00pm. 4 people to a team @ £5.00 1st prize-winner takes all. Last - booby prize!!

Friday evenings - complimentary late evening bar supper - pizza, potatoes and also a raffle of the evening

Sunday evenings - complimentary cheese and biscuit board and Lily's "first taste" snack to share.

Frog and Rhubarb

Golfers enjoyed a fantastic day courtesy of the pub at the end of May. They were treated to a bacon butty and coffee before heading off to the exclusive Luton Hoo Golf Club where they played 18 holes. In the evening, everyone returned to enjoy a few drinks and a mouth-watering three-course meal.

A Night at the Movies took place at the Frog



on Saturday 18 June. Sing Out Sisters who sang all the biggest tracks of the silver screen provided live music. Everyone enjoyed dancing the night away while tucking into free hot dogs and popcorn.

During the evening the Frog Academy Awards were presented. Customers at the pub voted for the winners and all received a statuette trophy.

The categories and winners were Best Comedian – Adam Thrift, Best Dressed - Becca Durrant, Best Couple – Chris Arrenburg & Terry Soper, Best Smooth Talker – Luke Brown, Most Eligible Bachelorette – Jayne Sayers, Biggest Drama Queen – Gareth Farr.



The annual **Darts Tournament** takes place on 7 July. It is open for anyone and entry is free. There will be £40 in vouchers for the overall winner plus £20 for every 180 scored. No matter how experienced you are, take part and enjoy the free buffet. Get involved and be at the pub by 8pm on the night.

On Saturday 23 July the pub is holding a **Mad Hatters Kids Tea Party**. Entertainment will be provided by Mrs Marvel and will include a magic show, balloon animals, puppet show, party games, a live rabbit and a disco. The fun starts at 3pm and all children will get a snack tea at 5.30pm and goody bag to take home. There will also be a prize for the maddest hat with the winner receiving £15 to spend at Toys 'R' Us. Tickets £6 available in advance from the pub. Also on the 23 July, Slip End Scout Group will be holding a **Charity Car Wash** in the car park. Just take your car along and let the lads give it a real sparkle for the summer. All money raised will be used to buy much needed

equipment for the Scouts. To finish off a packed day of fun at the Frog there is a **Beach Party** for the adults in the evening with pitchers of cocktails, a cook your own barbecue and a limbo contest accompanied by the sounds of the Caribbean. Starts at 8pm wear beach wear and join in with the fun.

There is a **Live Music** night at the Frog on Saturday 13 August. The entertainment is being provided by 'Banned' who many of you will remember from their performances at Village Day the past two years. This promises to be an amazing night, as always. Make sure you are there by 9pm so that you don't miss any of the fun.

£2 Drinks Party Night returns to the Frog on Sunday 28 August. There is no better way to celebrate the Bank Holiday weekend than by making the most of this amazing value night. Drinks will be £2 from 9pm until midnight and tickets are just £2 in advance. Alternatively, you can go along for free and pay normal prices whilst enjoying the disco.

Visit www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk

Plough

Congratulations to Ian and Leslie Brand on being grandparents for the first time, to triplets. All three are girls, Chloe, Ella and Lilly and are doing great.

Wishing Barrie a Happy 60th Birthday which he celebrated in the marquee at the Plough with a live band and BBQ for all the guests. We all had a great time. We also wish Tony a Happy 70th Birthday which joined in with Barrie's birthday celebrations. Both of the above are neighbours of ours. We realised the band was a tad too loud when the police had a couple of complaints' from the neighbours. We always assure neighbours that we close down any kind of noisy music in the garden at 11pm approx. I wish these neighbours concerned would come round and have a chat so we can apologise personally. Darren also celebrated his 30th birthday in

the marquee, with a buffet and music and a bouncy castle. We would like to also congratulate Darren and Sarah on their delightful twins Jessica Leigh and Joel Louis who were born on 17th March.

We have had some wedding receptions this month. Jack and Sally celebrated by having a 2 course meal and champagne for all their guests. The restaurant was set in romantic candle light. We wish them all the best.

Peter and Angela also held their wedding reception in the Marquee, with a meat buffet and lots of champagne. Everyone had a wonderful time and we would like to wish them a very long happy marriage.

Friends and family of Mr Martin from Markyate who recently died, celebrated his life, with bacon sandwiches, apple pie and custard, as it was his favourite food.

A BIG THANK YOU from myself (Liz Meleady) and son Daniel. We did a 10km walk for the cystic fibrosis trust and thanks to the generosity of everyone in Slip End who sponsored us we raised a total of £465.00. This is a charity close to my heart as I am a children's community nurse looking after children with cystic fibrosis in Luton and Central Beds. Thank you also to the many sponsors from the locals in the Rising Sun and the Frog and Rhubarb.

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Garden & Play area

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Booking Advisable

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

We take bookings for large parties
in the restaurant.

Summer Days:

Our marquee is available for weddings
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7 July
Darts Tournament

23 July
Mad Hatters Kids Tea Party

23 July
Beach Party

23 July
Charity Car Wash

27 July
Charity Quiz Night

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ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH

Services and Diary dates for July

Saturday 2nd

Caddington Village Carnival
Aley Green Church taking part in the
procession and running a preserve stall

Sunday 3rd

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

Sunday 10th

No Morning Service
3.30pm Sunday School Anniversary
Jonahman Jazz
Afternoon Tea - Offering for JMA

Tuesday 12th

10.00am/12.00pm 'Cakes & Company'

Sunday 17th July

11.00am Morning Service - Geoff Bocutt
11.00am Sunday School
1.30pm Sunday School Barbeque

Monday 18th

7.30pm Fellowship Meeting

Wednesday 20th

7.30pm Coffee Evening
In aid of Action for Children

Sunday 24th

9.30am Morning Service - Jean Forrest

Tuesday 26th

7.30pm Bible Study led by Rev Bob Forrest

Thursday 28th

1.00am Lunch Bunch
with Flower Arranging Demonstration

Sunday 31st

9.30am Morning Service - Rev Phil Horner

Christian Aid week in May found us very busy at Aley Green. We began with a raffle at Cakes & Company which raised £36.00. The Coffee Evening was well supported by both circuit & village friends and raised £136.00. Because the weather was so good we decided to have a Yard Sale on Saturday 21st, in my front garden and we raised a further £136.00. That evening at the Baptist Church there was an Ecumenical Beetle Drive where Aley Green ran a tombola (a prize every time) and

raised £70.00, ticket sales and donations raised a further £80.00. Our pew envelopes totalled £76.00. All in all an excellent result.

Our All Age Sunday School on 22nd May was well supported with everyone joining together to learn about King David.

At our Lunch Bunch we had an interesting and moving talk by Karen from LAMP about the charity and it's work. Sadly Luton Borough Council has withdrawn funding due to cuts which will have a big impact on the work of the charity, so now more than ever our gifts really count. We then all tucked into a roast chicken lunch and dessert. Donation for lunch totalled £158.00. The Brunch and Browse on 2nd June raised £315.60 and cake sales on the Sunday £26.40, so we reached our target of £500.00. for this very worthy cause. If you wish to learn more about LAMP there are leaflets at the Church. Please support LAMP in prayer.

Services & Diary Dates for August

Sunday 7th

9.30am Morning Service - Rev Bob Forrest

Tuesday 9th

10.00am/12.00pm 'Cakes & Company'

Sunday 14th

9.30am Morning Service - Rev Phil Horner
(Communion)

Wednesday 17th

7.30pm Coffee Evening in aid of
World Vision

Sunday 21st

9.30am Morning Service -
Ann Corner & Lorna Martin

Sunday 28th

9.30am Morning Service - Mike Bull

Sunday 4th September

11.00am Morning Service
11.00am Sunday School reopen
- Bring & Sing

Gerard Buckle from St. Thomas' Catholic Church, took our June Fellowship meeting (the last of our Lent Ecumenical course) when

we looked at Pentecost. Madeline kindly invited us to hold the meeting at her home where drinks, nibbles and friendship were shared afterwards.

Due to holidays we do not have Sunday School, Bible Study or Fellowship meetings in August, but we continue our morning service at the earlier time of 9.30am. This way we are able to worship together and then have the day with our families. Cakes & Company and Coffee Evenings continue as usual, so take a walk or ride to see us. Lots of books for sale at a mere 30p and a super range of marmalades, chutneys etc including some tasty new ones. Come and see.

Coffee & tea free - Company Priceless!

*We hope you will have a restful summer
whether on holiday or at home.*

May God be with you

From all at Aley Green Methodist Church

Ann Meader

FARLEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH

The June Lunch Club was well attended and an excellent chicken supreme enjoyed by all. Helper Margaret Gibbon was a popular winner of the free raffle and enjoyed the afternoon with some champagne truffles!

The July Lunch is on Wednesday 13th 12.30 for 1pm. Ploughman's and salad followed by fresh 'exotic' fruit salad and cream.

His Worship the Mayor of Luton, Councillor Don Worliding will be guest of honour along with other dignitaries' at FHM's annual charity concert on Saturday 16th July, 7pm start. The charity chosen by the Mayor is Action for Kids. Bedfordshire Police Choir provide the entertainment and another great night of music at FHM is assured. Admission is still £3.00 and concession are £2, but as usual at the charity concert there will be a retiring bucket collection.

All of Farley Hill hoped for good weather on Saturday 18th June (details too late for the Parish news) the 3 Churches Garden Fete promoted by FHM, St. John Anglicans, and World Wide Church of God. Full details of all the excitement next month.

*Ken W Cameron
07852474628*

khubsurat1@xlnbb.co.uk

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Although Christmas is still some way off the charity Samaritans Purse that runs the annual shoebox appeal, Operation Christmas Child, is now trying to plan for this year's collections of shoeboxes in our area which covers Luton and Hemel Hempstead. These are gifts that are destined for less fortunate children in some of the eastern European countries and Africa. Although there is a "band" of volunteers we are short of one very key helper and that is the person who can co-ordinate via telephone and/or e-mail, all the collections from schools and churches so the drivers can organise the various pick-ups and deliver them to a centre for processing. If there is anyone within our Parish who feels they could spare a little time to help on this co-ordination role we would be very grateful.



By way of some information the collections are usually carried out over the last 2 weeks of November commencing 14th November, so the co-ordination role would start around the beginning of November. However if there is anyone who feels they could help and would like to discuss the details they can contact either -

Alan Buttery (01582 724527),

e-mail alanjan@buttery400.fsnet.co.uk or

Sue Briggs (01582 733507),

e-mail cowells83@aol.com.



Mission Rescue

Coming soon !

Our next exciting holiday club here at St Andrew's Church.

See the September Parish News magazine for booking forms and full details.

Dates will be 27th & 28th October

Don't miss the date!



HAPPY 80TH JOSIE—1ST JULY

Josie Worsley who has lived in Slip End for many years has a special message—



Happy 80th Birthday to you Grandma
You really are the best cake maker around!! Thank you for everything, you're very special to us both.

All our love, as always, Louise and Rachael xx



The photograph is of some cakes Josie made us recently



Summer holidays with St Andrew's Little Stars

Each Wednesday of each week in the school holidays we will meet at various public venues to have a grand morning out!

27th July @ Stockwood Park

Meet at the play area inside the Discovery centre

3rd August @ Dunstable Downs

Meet on the grass near the front of the visitor centre

10th August @ Ashridge

Meet at the monument

17th August @ Wardown Park

Meet at the children's play area

24th August @ St Albans Abbey

Text/contact Charlotte if you go and she will advise you of the meeting spot

31st August @ Dunstable Downs

Meet on the grass near the front of the visitor centre

We aim to arrive at about 10:30 am

Looking forward to your company

for further details – including help with transport (if needed)

Please contact Charlotte on 07850126021 or Lynne on 07967509314.



The Big Fight!

There's been a big fight in the biscuit tin. A Bandit called Rocky, who was a Cracker, hit a Penguin over the head with a Club, tied him to a Wagon Wheel with a Blue Riband and made his Breakaway in a Taxi. Police say Rocky was last seen After Eight by a Viscount from Maryland, Hobnobbing with a Ginger Nut, and two accomplices, one known as Gary Baldi and the other known only as Rich T. Unfortunately, they don't have a crumb of evidence, so -

The Jammie Dodger might get away with it!

MOSES AND THE RED SEA

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he learned in Sunday School. 'Well, Mum, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines to rescue the Israelites and lead them out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he had his army build a pontoon bridge and everyone walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved.' 'Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?' his Mother asked. 'Well, no, Mum. But, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!'

SLIP END PLAYGROUP

With all the sunny weather we have had this term so far the children have been able to play outside the Village Hall in the safety of the garden. They all enjoy the outdoors and we have moved many activities into the garden each sunny morning.

The potatoes, lettuces, beans and onions we planted are doing well and we look forward to harvesting them. The flowers are also growing and making a pretty sight. The children love to water them as I am sure you can imagine.

On Tuesday 14th June we held a Sponsored Fun Run around the children's Playground as usual. This was combined with an open morning for parents to come and join in the play. We served tea and coffee with homemade cakes and had a raffle. The children all did really well with their running and the money raised will pay to go to Woodside

Animal farm in July and we hope there will be some left to do a bit more to the garden.

We have received a £150 grant from the Community projects Group and this will be put to good use for the outside area too as will the Tesco and Sainsbury vouchers that people kindly saved for us. We hope you will soon notice more things happening to improve the Village Hall garden.

FRIENDSHIP CLUB

If you are a pensioner and looking for something local to do, why not come along and join us at the Village Hall on Thursday afternoons from 2—4pm. It's only £10 a year for membership and 40p for tea and biscuits every week. We have plenty of coach outings from May til September and have a trip planned for Bourton on the Water. In July we are off to Southend. For any more information please ring Pam on 01582 452978.

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preferably local, although some things can be posted.

SLIP END VILLAGE HALL

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For bookings contact

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9 Markyate Road, Slip End

*** PARISH PLAN ***

Don't forget to look out for the Parish Plan leaflet that will be arriving with your Parish News. The full plan will be available later on the Slip End website (www.slipend.co.uk) and you will be able to view hard copies in the local pubs, churches, village shop and at the mobile home offices.



MP's Contact details

*Gavin Shuker's
local office is located at:
3 Union Street
Luton
LU1 3AN*

Email: gavin@gavinshuker.org
Website: www.gavinshuker.org

*For advice surgery appointments
call 01582 457 774*



SLIP END PARISH PLAN 2011 - 2016

Central Beds Councillor's Surgery

*Heathfield School
Caddington*



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

July

- 2nd *Meet Central Beds Councillors: Heathfield School Caddington, 10am to noon*
7th *Darts Tournament— Frog and Rhubarb*
16th *Fun Fete and Mini Beer Festival 11:00am - Rising Sun*
17th *Chenies Manor Plant Fair with SEGC Meet 1.30pm at Rising Sun car park*
18th *SEGC Village Hall 8pm—Bedfordshire Bat Group*
19th *Women's Institute meeting 7.30pm*
23rd *Day of Events - Frog and Rhubarb—see item inside*
24th *Hitchin Lavender Farm with SEGC Meet 1.30pm at Rising Sun car park*
27th *Little Stars at Stockwood Park 10:30am*
30th *Killer Darts tournament (register by 23rd July)*

August

- 3rd *Little Stars at Dunstable Downs 10:30am*
7th *Beesonend Gardens, Harpenden with SEGC Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun car park*
10th *Little Stars at Ashridge 10:30am*
13th *Live Music by Banned at Frog & Rhubarb 9pm*
16th *Women's Institute meeting 7.30pm*
17th *Little Stars at Wardown Park 10:30am*
24th *Little Stars at St Albans Abbey 10:30am*
25th *Bressingham Steam & Gardens with SEGC*
28th *Drinks Party £2 at Frog & Rhubarb*
Cockney Nite with free supper—8pm Rising Sun
31st *Little Stars at Dunstable Downs 10:30am*

September

- 3rd *Meet Central Beds Councillors: Heathfield School Caddington, 10am to noon*
13th *Community Projects Group meet at the Slip End Social Club 7.30. All welcome!*
20th *Women's Institute Birthday Party*

Wheelite Bins: see below:-

Black Bins & glass: Put out on Friday 8th, 22nd July + 5th, 19th Aug

Green and Orange Bins: Put out on Friday 15th, 29th July + 12th, 26th Aug



Items for the next issue to us by 15th August

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

Advertising queries to Katrina Doubleday 07753 168443 or email hatsbydoo@btinternet.com

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Plenty to celebrate in the village during June. On the right Gill & Dick Downs celebrated 40 years of marriage and above Chris & Hilary Barnes from St Andrew's enjoyed their 25th wedding anniversary.

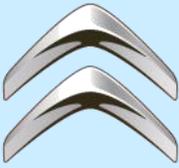


Dorie Strong of St Andrews on the left, celebrated her 90th Birthday with family and friends on June 12th.

The interesting flower display below was arranged for Pentecost Sunday to show the Holy Spirit rising up.

There was a special service of thanksgiving for Primrose Storey on 28 May, pictured with parents Ben & Gayle and proud grandparents





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