



Aley Green    Pepperstock  
Slip End    Woodside  
Parish News - April 2012  
75p where sold

**Welcome!    Parish News Goes Global**



Shrove Tuesday at Aley Green Methodist Church—"Pancakes and Company" was a great success with many visitors and friends dropping in to sample the gift of company as well as the delicious pancakes made by Lorna and Ann, all raising money for a good cause—LAMP





## Editors Column

### Welcome to the Global Parish News!

This April issue is the first to be delivered free to all the households in the Parish. We would like to welcome all our new readers.

Parish News started out a long time ago as a church newsletter and has expanded to become a magazine about the whole community. Previously the Parish News has been distributed to those who requested, and paid for, a copy and also has been available in various places for purchase. A global issue has been produced each July containing the Annual Report from the Parish Council. Following grants from the Parish Council and the Community Projects Group, the magazine is now to be produced as a monthly global copy every time. (10 issues during the year—we take a break in January and August)

The aim is to make sure that people within the Parish can be kept informed of what goes on in the area as well as local services. If the Parish Council or other organisations have information to impart then it can be submitted to the

editors to be included in the magazine and thus available to all.

If you would like to have an article or some photographs included in our pages then please contact the editors at:

Parishnews@slipend.co.uk

Articles and photos should be submitted before the 15th of the month for the next month's magazine. We are always looking for interesting pictures for the front cover too. More contact information can be found at the back of the magazine.

This month we have plenty of information in store for you all from around the parish. You will find news, information and dates from local churches and many other organisations as well as things to do and places to go.

We try to be "all inclusive" but rely on **you** to provide us with the up to date news and views. **Please get in touch!**

*Alison Wilson & Sue Briggs*

The picture shows Ken Crossett, (Parish Council Chairman), Sue Briggs and Alison Wilson (Co-editors of the magazine) and Sarah Minnighan (Parish Councillor and CPG Chairman).



Others (not present for the photo) have been involved in going global. These include Paul Cooper (previous CPG Chairman) and the other Parish News Committee members — Alan Buttery, Brian Church, David Kingston and Katrina Doubleday. Thank you to all for their hard work.

## Alleyway in Parish Gets New Name!



Dog Poo - we've all stepped in it at some time in our lives.

Some of us are unfortunate enough to then walk it through our houses, leaving a trail of devastation in our wake.

It is estimated that the UK dog population (between 6.5 and 7.4 million) produces 1,000 tonnes of excrement per day, according to the dog fouling leaflet available on the Keep Britain Tidy website ([www.keepbritaintidy.org](http://www.keepbritaintidy.org)) and now, thanks to a percentage of those figures, the alleyway that joins Crawley Close with St Andrews Close has been renamed Poo Alley.

Now for the technical bit:-

A Parish Council has the authority to make a Dog Control Order to provide controls on the handling and behaviour of dogs on areas of land within their authority. **There are five different types of dog control offences for which an order can be made. One of these is the 'fouling of Land by Dogs Order - Offence of failing to remove dog faeces'. The MAXIMUM fine in a Magistrates Court is £1,000.**

According to research by ENCAM, those members of the public that let their dog foul the pavement:

- \* don't believe they'll ever be caught
- \* didn't think the fine could be enforced

\* only admit that their dog has fouled the pavement when pressed to admit it

Ever heard of **Toxocariasis**? It is the infection of humans with the larvae of a genus of roundworms, *Toxocara*, of dogs and cats. It can cause swelling of the liver and, sometimes, damage to the eyes, and NO, there isn't a useful treatment OR cure for it.

*Toxocara* eggs are not infectious until they embryonate. This is usually at least 2 - 3 weeks after they have been deposited by a dog. **Therefore freshly deposited faeces are not infectious, and you can safely clear up after your dog.**

Please, therefore, clear up after your dog - Poo Alley has recently received some large deposits which have been invisible to the untrained eye and poor unsuspecting parishioner who has walked in it, taking it with them on their shoes to their home, school, or car.

We all have to live in and walk round the parish, lets make it more pleasurable to do without having to dodge the poo. If your dog poos, clear it up.

"Envirocrime" has been advised of the areas currently suffering from poo build-up and they will be patrolling the areas day and night.

Slip End Parish Council

## Thank you Viv!

Viv Porter was one of the original trustees of the Grace Cook Trust, along with her late husband Bob and the late Joan Austin. Grace was a friend of Joan, and Grace's family set up a trust fund *in memoriam*, for the benefit of elderly parishioners.

Viv felt it was time to retire, having administered taxi hire to the L & D Hospital for many years, helping those with transport needs. This provision is on offer to parish residents in need and 'of an age'; contact Jan (724527) or David (416138) for information. In times gone by, the trust was able to offer rather more, but interest rates on the trust's investments are suffering right now.



In expressing their deep thanks, trustees Jan Buttery, Kevin Collins and David Kingston presented Viv with a bouquet. The PN photographer was on hand to capture Viv, with her charming and habitual smile.

*David Kingston*

## Community Projects Group (CPG)

Sarah Minnighan has been chairman of CPG since January 2012, taking over from Paul Cooper. Prior to that she was Vice Chair from March 2009.

The CPG has significant funds available for projects within the community and parish, and is responsible for the implementation of the recently completed Parish Plan.

By default any resident of the parish is a member of the CPG and therefore welcome along to any of our meetings, which are held on the second Tuesday in the month (with the exception of July and August) at the Slip End Social Club. Please do come along, your input is invaluable. Dates will be in the diary page.

Please see the separate report from the March meeting on page 19.

*Sarah Minnighan*

## What do you want in your magazine?

Going global means more readers. This means that we potentially also have more contributors.

If you have any special celebrations coming up such as big birthdays or anniversaries let us know. Are there any special people in the Parish? We are happy to come and take pictures and talk to people or to accept a piece for our pages. One suggestion, so far has, been to write about special pets.

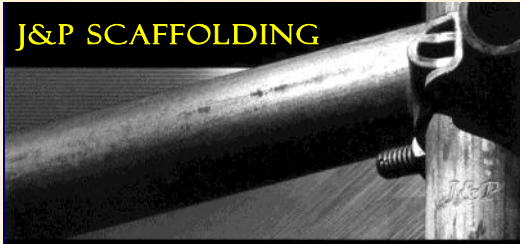
We like to promote local events and charities. If you find you need some local information and it is not here then let us know, maybe we can add it for others to use.

Feel free to contact us with your suggestions.

Please note that sometimes we may exercise editorial rights if we feel any item is inappropriate in some way.

*Editors*

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## *St Andrew's Church Dates for April 2012*

**Sun 1<sup>st</sup>:** 10.30am: Informal Communion Palm Sunday “Transforming Faith: God and my life”

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup>:** 7.30pm: Informal Evening Service for Holy Week in the Family Room

**Tue 3<sup>rd</sup>:** 7.30pm: Informal Evening Service for Holy Week in the Family Room

**Wed 4<sup>th</sup>:** 10am: Little Stars: Jesus in Danger – Making an Easter Garden Picture

**Wed 4<sup>th</sup>:** 7.30pm: Informal Evening Service for Holy Week in the Family Room

**Thur 5<sup>th</sup>:** 7.30pm: Maundy Thursday “Transforming Meal”

**Fri 6<sup>th</sup>:** 11.15am Good Friday. Walk of Witness – Meet outside corner shop at junction of Markyate Road & Front Street. Followed by Reflective Service with singers at 12 noon “Transforming Sacrifice”

**Sun 8<sup>th</sup>:** 10.30am Easter Communion “Transforming Resurrection” (Organ & singers)

**Wed 11<sup>th</sup>:** 10am: Little Stars: The Lord’s Prayer – How we pray & Making a prayer book

**Sun 15<sup>th</sup>:** 10.30am: Morning Praise “That they may know Christ” (band)

**Wed 18<sup>th</sup>:** 10am: Little Stars: Introducing Prayer and the Prayer Wall

**Thur 19<sup>th</sup>:** 9.30am Morning Prayer (A quiet said service of prayer)

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup>:** 10.30am: Holy Communion: “Fullness in Christ” (Organ & singers)

**Wed 25<sup>th</sup>:** 10am: Little Stars: “Praise and Thank you”

**Sun 29<sup>th</sup>:** 8.30am: Said Holy Communion: Through faith in the power of God  
10.30am: Morning Praise “Celebrating Our Children”. (Singers)

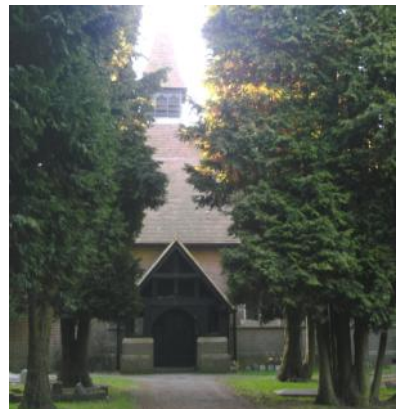
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### **Care Home Services**

Anyone is welcome to attend

**Tues 24<sup>th</sup>:** 2pm : Service at Caddington Hall

**Fri 27<sup>th</sup> :** 2pm: Service at Woodside Home





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## ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Hi Everyone,

Easter is fast approaching and, with it, Spring is also in the air. The longer days, the new life, the promise of Summer ahead is always a very welcome reality.

For Christians the effects of the historic events that we remember and celebrate at Easter are just as real, and just as welcome as they breathe new life into our lives.

There is very good evidence that Jesus was a real man who taught the ordinary people, had a huge following and was crucified. He is mentioned as such by various Roman historians who also report that his followers claimed that he had risen from the dead. No serious scholar would suggest that Jesus was not a real historical figure who lived and died under Roman rule.

Did he really rise from the dead? If he did not then the whole of Christianity is based on a lie and I for one would not want to have anything more to do with it. I became a Christian because I became convinced that it was true and if it was true then it was the most important thing that has ever happened, and it called for a complete change of thinking and lifestyle.

I looked into the evidence for the resurrection and found it compelling.

Everyone agreed that the tomb where Jesus' body had been laid was empty on the following morning. If Jesus had not risen from the dead what could have happened?

Some say that he had not died. Yet it was Roman soldiers who crucified him, it would have been more than their life was worth to make a mistake. They pierced his body to make sure that he was dead and the water and the blood that flowed from his side shows that he had died. The blood begins to separate in the body after someone has died and John carefully records that fact for us.

Some said that the disciples stole the body. Yet they were devastated that Jesus had been

arrested and put to death. They were in despair and had already begun to return to their old lives. Something happened that convinced them to go out and spread the good news, even though many hundreds were martyred as a result.

Maybe the authorities stole the body. But if they had, they would have produced it as evidence to refute Jesus' disciples claims. Neither the Jewish or Roman authorities wanted the upheaval that this new religion was soon to bring.

Maybe robbers stole the body, but what possible motive could they have had, and how would they have overcome the guards? The Roman authorities specifically set guards so that no one would steal the body and start a rumour of resurrection. (see Matt 27v62-66)

No, Jesus died and his body was placed in a stone tomb, a huge stone was placed over the entrance to secure it and a guard was posted. Yet on the morning of the third day the stone was rolled away and the body was gone.

The disciples still did not believe, but over the following few weeks they were convinced. They were convinced by appearances of the risen Jesus, they were so convinced that their lives were turned around, and the whole course of history was changed.

Happy Easter!

*Cathy Pullinger*

**Happy  
Easter**



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# Aley Green Methodist Church

## Services and Diary dates for April

### **Sunday 1st**

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

### **Monday 2nd**

- 7.30pm Lent Meeting - Mike Bull

### **Friday 6th**

- Good Friday Walk of Witness  
Starting at Aley Green at 10.30am

### **Sunday 8th**

#### **Easter Day**

- 11.00am Morning Service - Shepherd Kombo  
11.00am Sunday School

### **Tuesday 10th**

- 10.00am/12.00pm Cakes & Company

### **Sunday 15th**

- 11.00am Morning Service - Richard Armiger  
11.00am Sunday School

### **Tuesday 17th**

- 7.30pm Bible Study - Rev Bob Forrest

### **Saturday 21st**

- 12.00 Noon - 2.30pm Spring Fayre

### **Sunday 22nd**

- 11.00am Morning Service - Brenda Ballantine  
11.00am Sunday School

### **Wednesday 25th**

- 7.30pm Coffee Evening  
In aid of Keech Hospice Care

### **Sunday 29th**

- 11.00am Morning Service - Rev Phil Horner  
11.00am Sunday School Communion

### **Monday 30th**

- 7.00pm Fellowship - Mike Bull

Our Ecumenical Lent meetings got off to a fantastic start, with twenty one people representing all 4 of the village Churches. This year's study is titled "Jesus' Final Week" by Cindy Bunch and we will conclude these studies on April 30th followed by a Fellowship Supper.

We would like to thank everyone who came along to the two Cakes & Company sessions in February. The first was in half term (when snow was on the ground) and the second on Pancake Day, when we cooked off two gallons of batter mix and raised £200.00 for LAMP. Our children's 2x2 Club, held the same week, looked at Lent, played games and ate more pancakes.

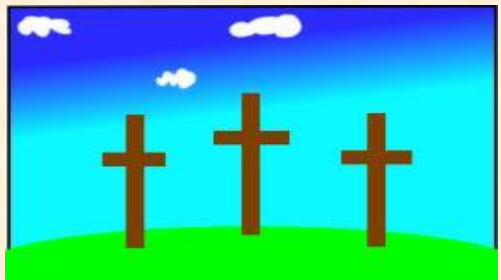
There is always an open invitation to join us for any of our services, studies, Coffee Evenings/Mornings and please, please come along to our Spring Fayre on Saturday 21st April when we will be serving lunches, plus all the usual stalls, home made cakes & preserves. All money raised will be divided between Hospice at Home Volunteers (Dunstable) and the L & D Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Both of which are our chosen charities of the year. We pledge to raise £500.00 for each during the year. Please join us to help us on our way to our targets.

*Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day.*

Sally Koch

With love and prayers from all at Aley Green Methodist Church.

*Ann Meader*





## Village Hall

*Springtime is when the daffodils come out and Annual General meetings are in vogue!*

The Village Hall Management Committee meets once a month to keep the 'show on the road'. Business is generally repetitive, as we look at bookings, the accounts, routine maintenance, upcoming events, etc..

As such, committee duties are not too onerous, although it must be said that we are both appreciative and grateful for all the time put in on a day to day basis by the Plummer Family, what would we do without them?

'New blood' is always welcome, so if you feel you want to take a part in the running of the vital community 'asset', get along to our AGM .

*Incidentally, does anyone have any idea of what the new green box is about, outside our Village Hall? Someone muttered about 'Infinity', whatever that is. Could this be some sort of April Foolery or is Dr Who about to emerge from his 2012 Tardis?*

David Kingston

## The Village Hall AGM

Slip End Village hall Management Committee is holding its AGM on  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.  
All are welcome to attend.



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

**[www.slipend.co.uk](http://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*

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## Gardeners Special

Still time to repair impoverished lawns this month, a light mowing followed by scarifying and then aerate to improve drainage. Overseed any bad areas and rake in well, apply a spring fertiliser and level any bumps or hollows.

Complete pruning of roses as soon as possible and apply fertiliser at approximately a handful to the square yard, but leave a six inch circle around the actual plant itself, and hoe into the surface. After a good downpour mulch around the plants with a one inch layer of manure or bark chippings to hold moisture.

Divide any large clumps of herbaceous plants that are unsightly and replant the outer strongest shoots discarding the middle weaker ones. Dahlias started in boxes can be divided with a sharp knife, making sure that cutting has a bud or shoot on it. Carry on planting gladioli for a succession of flowers.

Carnations and pinks will benefit from an application of fertiliser to established plants, border plants should be planted by the middle of the month, tall growing varieties can be staked with twigg sticks pushed into the soil so that the stems can grow up through them. Sweet peas sown in the spring can be planted out as soon as they are growing strongly. Many border annuals can be sown directly into the soil this month to provide a good display of colour and help to suppress weeds.

Tomato plants can be planted in a cool greenhouse now and sow seeds indoors for outdoor tomatoes to plant out when danger of frosts has passed.

Plant onion sets in shallow drills and just cover the tops to stop birds pulling them out. Salad crops can be sown as soon as the soil is dry enough to work into a fine tilth but sow little and often, every 2-3 weeks so that you get a continuous supply of crops such as lettuce, radish, spring onion and beetroot and harvest as soon as they are large enough to eat, don't wait to get large woody ones.

Carrots can be planted this month, main crop can be sown the middle of next month, sow seeds of late summer cauliflowers and wrinkled seeded varieties of peas which will be ready for picking in approximately 12 weeks. Sow winter cabbages for planting out in June and set out summer cabbages sown last month.

As early potatoes start to shoot from the middle of the month protect the leaves from frost either by drawing the soil over them or cover them with straw or newspaper. Check rhubarb and remove any seed heads as soon as they appear, cut them off as near to the base as possible, if left the plant will stop producing edible sticks, they will become dry and woody very quickly.

Sow melons and cucumbers in a propagator, prick out as soon as they are large enough to handle. Keep an eye on fruit trees and bushes as they start to blossom and take action against pests and diseases.

That's all for now.

*Russell Sprout*



### 1st Woodside Brownies

The pack is now being run by Paula Fowler with the help of Debbie, who runs a Brownie pack in Luton. She has two young leaders, Courtney and Ellie, helping as well.

We do have a waiting list for any girl who would like to join. Please ring WISE OWL on 01582 723109 for more information..

We have just finished the Road Safety Badge, which was done in the evening. Our thanks to Mrs Allnutt who took the girls out.

Our next challenge will be the Environment, when Michelle from "Recycle" will be coming along for the evening. We will also be doing First Aid.

We will be taking part in the Village Day and celebrating the Queen's Jubilee.

*Gillian Plummer, Wise Owl*

# S.E.A.D.A.

## Car Boot / Table Top Sale Slip End Village Hall Easter Monday April 9th From 10:00am

In aid of the Senior Citizens Outing  
For pitch or stall please contact 01582 414796 or 723109

The SEADA Senior Citizens Outing this year will be on **Saturday 9th June** due to the Jubilee Celebrations.

**Names should be given in at the Car Boot Sale on Easter Monday.**



*Gillian Plummer*

### Charity Tandem Skydive

I am doing a Tandem Skydive on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2012, in aid of Keech Hospice Care.

For those of you who know me, you already had an inkling that I have a mad streak in me, and this just caught my eye as a 'fun' thing to do. The strangest thing is that my partner, Martin, is doing it too.....so he IS as mad as me!

If you wanted to help me raise money for our local Hospice, (many of us have had experience of the wonderful care that they give to the people who spend some time there), please pop into Charisma Hair Salon where there is a sponsor form, or go online and pledge an amount to:-

[www.justgiving.com/kaymcilroy](http://www.justgiving.com/kaymcilroy) Many Thanks,  
*Kay McIlroy*

### CADDINGTON TWINNING ASSOCIATION

At this moment in time, there are eight Children and 2 Adults going to Oststeinbek during July on the Youth Exchange Trip. We are busy getting together to make plans for it.

We will have had our Quiz Night by the time you read this, so, hopefully our next report will tell you that we had a fun and successful event..

Happy Easter to you all / Frohe Ostern alle,  
Tschuss, Kay

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## Craft Club

### Cards for Papworth Hospital



Margo, who makes up packs of cards to sell at special coffee and cake mornings and evening 'wine and nibble' events, raised £600 last year for Papworth so remember to look out for her next coffee morning which will be advertised in the Parish News, and go along to support this very worthwhile cause.

The craft club meets in Caddington every Monday afternoon undertaking various crafts, knitting, sewing, patchwork and especially card making. They decided they would like to do something to help the valuable work carried out at Papworth Hospital as one of their members was a fund-raiser for the charity. Jeff, who leads the group, offered to provide some lunch and refreshments and all the necessary crafts needed whilst the ladies made special cards to be sold in aid of the hospital. At the beginning of March the group met and began their day of card making, which went very well. A large variety of cards were made – suitable for different occasions and including blank cards to be used for any event.

With special thanks to Jeff for the continuous refreshments and delicious lunch supplied and for donating all the crafts used on the day.



Over 60 cards were made in all, plus some cards donated by people who were unable to help on the day – an excellent effort by all.

*Some of the finished results are shown above*

*Sue Briggs*



*Some of the ladies working*



## Community Projects Group

The CPG meets monthly at the Social Club in New Street, Slip End. These meetings are attended by a good number of residents who are interested in the way our community is developing.

Last year's survey, conducted throughout the Parish, resulted in much feedback which aimed at addressing many issues, specific to us in our community here and now. The "Parish Plan" was drawn up which is being used to guide the CPG in implementing what we want to see done. Much is achievable in the short term, but "heavier" items will take longer!

### *Parish News*

***This issue of Parish News is very significant, being the first issue to be distributed free to every dwelling in the Parish.***

Many existing readers will be aware that the magazine reflects news, views and information about much of what is happening in the parish. As such, PN ticks many boxes relating to publicity and information in the Parish Plan, so ways were found to provide it at no direct cost to all of our local residents. *Costs are met by direct grants from the Parish Council and CPG and by advertising income, roughly a three way split.*

The team which faithfully produced PN every month over many years, was also keen to see a full colour product. This was costed and, although more expensive than previous printing methods, came within budget. Two full colour issues preceded this one which were extremely well received by about the 50% of the community who read it.

Today, **100%** of the community will have access to PN, thus achieving to a significant extent, the substance of the Parish Plan. *(I mentioned that this step was 'easily achievable', but it should be recognised that the small PN team has worked its socks off over the last 6 months or so!)*

### *What next?*

Other aspects of the Parish Plan are a bit more difficult to achieve! At last month's meeting, for example, we heard from Steve Fuell about the joys of bringing traffic calming and lower speeds to the parish. Steve has been using his persistent talent to "get things done". He has been faced with many barriers against our objectives, such as reducing budgets, the climate of ever changing regulations, "elf'n'safety", data protection, political correctness, etc. etc. (not to mention "some" bureaucratic inefficiency which has existed and still does within some levels of government!)

In that context, it may be understandable to some extent that little appears to have been achieved, but sad none the less.

However, Steve continues undeterred. His latest pursuit, from within his remit as a Parish Councillor, follows a jumble of schemes aimed at scourging speeding motorists. We wish him well!

### *Who cares?*

The increasing numbers at CPG meetings suggests that many do care and are not resigned to take the "easy approach" by just putting up with what is imposed on us. (A cynical view might suggest that those people head the list of whingers, surely not true in our parish?)

At the last meeting there were some new faces, people who have interests in local groups, young and not-so-young and it was great to welcome them. Still more are wanted, both individuals and others representing more of those groups and organisations. Our meetings, conducted efficiently by Sarah Minnighan are only a bit formal but everyone gets a say!

***Get along to the next meeting at the Social Club on April 10th at 7.30: you're welcome!***

*David Kingston*



# THE RISING SUN



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## Gardening Club

At the meeting on Mon 19th March, the Programme of Events for 2012 was given to members.

Following the meeting, Rosemary introduced Brian Yetts, who gave an interesting presentation on "The Four RHS Gardens" Wisley, Surrey; Rosemoor, Devon; Hyde Hall, Chelmsford and Harlow Carr, N Yorks. Tea, coffee and biscuit refreshments followed.

The programme of visits for the next two months is as follows:-

**Sun. 22 Apr.** - NGS Amwell Cottage, Wheathampstead. Entry £3

**Sun. 13 May.** - The Old Vicarage, Westoning. Entry £5 including light refreshments.

(Meet 1.30pm Rising Sun Car Park for both trips)

We could do with a couple more gardens for the Parish Open Gardens Day on Saturday 30 June. (See below for more information)

*PN Gardening Correspondent*

### OPEN GARDENS 2012

The 2012 event will be held on **Saturday 30th June 2012.**

We are looking for some new gardens, big or small and would emphasise that it is not a competition.

Your garden does not have to be anything special; we just want you to be enthusiastic about it. Visitors will learn from seeing different styles.

If you live in the Parish and would be interested in opening your garden, please complete your details below and return by the end of March to:-

Carol Beeton, 50 Front Street

Tel. 405597

e-mail [carolynmary@cbeeton.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:carolynmary@cbeeton.wanadoo.co.uk)

I would like to 'open my garden' on **Saturday 30th June 2012**

I need more information

Name .....

Address .....

Telephone number .....

e-mail address .....

## Farley Hill Methodists

There was a lovely scene at FHM Lunch Club on Wednesday 14th. Three strangers walked in and introduced themselves to Ken. June Francis had married in the Church in 1963 and her brother John Berry knew Rev Geoffrey Fletcher who conducted June's ceremony. June mentioned a few names of old friends in their early days, one person being Lorna McRobbie, who was inside the hall waiting to be served lunch. The two ladies recognised each other straight away and a grand reunion followed to the delight of all in attendance. June and her brother had been away from Luton for many years and were travelling down memory lane (Vauxhall of course) to see how the town had changed! They were delighted to learn that this was the 50th anniversary year and a special Service is being held on 22nd September which Rev Geoffrey Fletcher is leading and they have 'booked' in!. Lunch was then served.

Five Farley Hill Churches will take part in the Walk of Witness on Good Friday April 6th. FHM, World Wide Church, Luton UMC, St. Margaret Church of Scotland, St John Anglicans. The Walk, led this year by Pastor Harry Sullivan of the World Wide Church, commences at the Catholic Church in Bolingbroke Road at 9.30am. It proceeds to the Quad for a short service then on, via St. John , to Farley Methodists in North Drift Way for coffee and hot cross buns.

The April Lunch Club will have the usual St George's Theme on Wednesday 11th April 12.30 for 1pm usual singing etc. Two course lunch and tea £3.50.

Ken W Cameron M. 07852424628

khubsurat1@xlnbb.co.uk



## Treading the Boards!

Parish residents may recognize at least one face in these pictures taken at one of the final rehearsals for the latest production put on by Dunstable Rep at the Little Theatre on High Street South.



Blithe Spirit ran for just over a week at the end of March, directed by Joe Butcher who recently won a Dunstable Gazette Award for Play of the Year in 2011.

The play is about Charles Condomine (played by Matt Flitton—see the photo above, seated beside the aforementioned Spirit) who is trying to prove that Madame Arcati, an eccentric medium, is a fraud. During the séance she manages to summon the ghost of his late wife whom he can see but no-one else can! This leads to much hilarity and obviously upsets his second wife....

If anyone is interested in taking part in amateur theatre, either on stage or behind the scenes, it is worth finding out more about the Rep. Mervyn and I are involved, in set building and publicity photos, as well as being season ticket holders and we see other village residents there too regularly.

To find out more visit [www.littletheatre.org.uk](http://www.littletheatre.org.uk) or email [dunstablereppublicity@gmail.com](mailto:dunstablereppublicity@gmail.com)



*Alison Wilson*



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# Pub Pages



## The Plough

We would like to wish both our Darts & Domino Teams “Good Luck”, in the Knock Out rounds coming up. Let’s keep our fingers & toes crossed they bring a trophy home for the cabinet!!

Last month we enjoyed having a group of around 30 retired cyclists who had travelled over 25 miles around Luton. They all enjoyed their well deserved lunch. We also we had a group of 14 Walkers who came in for lunch after their walk around Woodside/Caddington and they also came back on a Sunday lunchtime after another enjoyable walk. We hope to see both groups again.

The Horse Racing outing to Towcester for staff and customers was a great day out, everyone enjoyed themselves and had a lovely day. They then came back to The Plough, for a buffet. They have now arranged for a trip to Henlow Dog Racing, let’s hope they all have just as much fun as they did at the horses!

We would like to wish Mr Joe Vallyon a Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday!! He enjoyed his birthday party here at The Plough. They had a 6 piece band and all of his friends & family had a wonderful time.

We can arrange any special occasion or party. Venue Free!! We can arrange a buffet or you can bring your own! For more details, please ask for Doug or Melissa on 01582 720923.

Why not join us for a game of bingo on a Monday afternoon. Eyes down at 3pm. Everyone welcome!

More good reasons to visit us:-

St George’s Day Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April

Easter Weekend Good Friday through to Easter Monday 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April

Mayday Bank Holiday 7<sup>th</sup> May

The Queens Diamond Jubilee Weekend Celebrations Friday 1<sup>st</sup> to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June

## Rising Sun

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April live music:-

Jazz and Soul afternoon with Miss Victoria Strange from 5.30pm, all welcome and seating on a first come, first served basis on the day or why not book a Sunday roast before the performance!



Elvis is alive and well and coming to Slip End on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June. Music night – all welcome.

Queens Jubilee Celebrations:-

Retro tea party 1950’s & 60’s on 3<sup>rd</sup> June. Fancy dress (Retro) Admission by ticket available from the Rising Sun during May including food of the day.

Enquiries at the pub.



*Examples of retro dress!*



Car Boot sale in the car park on Bank Holiday Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> May from 11 – 3pm (weather permitting). Advanced bookings required, Car £6 Van £10. Refreshments available.

From April there will be a takeaway service offered on Friday's at the pub, freshly cooked meals (deep fried/grilled fish and varied menu available)

Coming soon – New wood-fired pizza oven to be built in the garden, available for parties and events.

### **Frog and Rhubarb**

Congratulations to the team at the Frog & Rhubarb on retaining their **Four Star food hygiene rating**. The ratings are awarded by the Local Authority Environmental Health Department when they carry out their periodic inspections. They show how hygienic and well managed the food preparation is at an establishment. This allows members of the public to make informed choices about where to eat.

**Takeaway food** is available from the Frog every day 12 noon – 10pm. The pub has a fish and chip shop menu at the same prices as the chippy including cod, haddock, Pukka pies, burgers and sausages. Alternatively, you can order anything from their extensive menu to eat at home.

**2 Courses For £10**, Sunday through to Thursday from 5pm until 10pm. There is a huge choice of dishes to choose from and for those with a really big appetite, there is the option to have 3 courses for just £13.

The Frog & Rhubarb has a computer with **internet access** which is free for all customers to use. If you don't have use of a computer at home, why not make use of this facility while enjoying a coffee or pint. They also have **free WiFi** for use by those with laptops or smart phones.

**Mothers Day** was a huge success this year with the flowers on every table looking

fantastic. All Mums enjoyed a free glass of bubbly with their meal, making it a really special occasion.

### **Forthcoming Events @ The Frog**



The annual **Charity Egg Hunt** is on Saturday 7th April. 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 Free 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 must be purchased before 5th April from the pub.

**Drinks Party Night** returns to the Frog on Saturday 21st April. Make the most of this amazing value night. Entry is free and all drinks will be £2.50 from 9pm until midnight. There will be a disco to ensure this is yet another fantastic night at the Frog.

There is a **Live Music** night at the Frog & Rhubarb on Saturday 26th May. The



entertainment is being provided by "Banned" who many of you will remember from their performances at Village Day.

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.

Up to date information on events and offers can be found on the pub's website:-

**[www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk](http://www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk)**

**NOTE** All pubs and the social club have events for special occasions and for charity. See their notice boards for more details.

## Parish Council Notes

### Community Payback

Work has now been completed throughout the Parish, the team cutting back the overhangs, grass on the verges and cutting back the vegetation to restore the footpaths to their full width. These are people, you will recall, who are non residents and are giving back to society some constructive use of their time and effort.

Our thanks go to them for the hard work they have put in and many have expressed appreciation for the work they have done in tidying up the place. Even I was surprised at the volume of litter and cans they collected, not all of which I suspect was dropped by passing motorists! The scheme has been so successful, it is hoped the work may be performed every six months in future.

### Bus Shelters

Contrary to a rumour circulating round the Parish the bus shelters were not damaged by an earthquake. One had been destroyed by a car and the other suffered damage to its roof. At the time of going to press plans had been made for the repair work to be completed and hopefully that has now been completed.

### Superfast Broadband

It appears BT have installed a green box out side the Village Hall to accommodate the wiring for the new fast broadband system. My concern is that there should be other similar boxes popping up by the side of the existing smaller green boxes. Maybe I am being a bit premature and we are still a year or so away from us having a similar service to parts of Caddington. .

### Gas Works In Woodside

In the summer there is going to be major gas work in Manor Road from Caddington to Woodside Road. A meeting with the Gas Company, Steve Fuell, Andy Prothero (resident of Woodside) and myself is planned. Look out for more details in next month's Parish News.

## Street Watch & Speed Watch

PCSO's Mapp and Clark attended the February Parish Council meeting to explain these two schemes. These rely on volunteers to come forward. In the case of Street Watch, pairs of residents would stroll around areas in the Parish at a time of their choosing to observe what is going on and report matters of concern. Similar really, to what we all do now but with the added advantage the patrols are highly visible. This scheme has provided a high deterrent effect in other areas locally.

Similarly, with Speed Watch, two residents would use a piece of kit to determine the speed of passing motorists. Those found to be speeding would be reported to the Police, who in turn would write to or visit offenders. For persistent offenders the Police would be asked to visit with their radar equipment, at the appropriate time to catch the individual. The other option is that we will have access to our 'rent-a-cop' scheme to catch regular offenders.

Street Watch & Speed Watch will be organised through the Community Projects Group if you are interested in volunteering for this please get in touch with either myself or Sarah Minnighan, the Chair of the Projects Group.

### Planning Application Newlands Road

You may have seen in last months PN that a planning application had been submitted to Luton Borough Council for a development of 230 units in Newlands Road.

The Parish Council submitted an objection to Luton on the following grounds: adverse effects of additional traffic on Newlands Road particularly at its 3 junctions, impact on the Village School as there is no capacity in the nearby Luton Schools, excessive density of housing of which there is none classed as affordable, no section 106 funds to enhance existing or provide new community facilities. Proposal falls outside existing LBC planning policies. A planning decision has not yet been made, however, I shall let you know the outcome.

## Public Meeting: Airport Expansion Ideas

Ken Crossett, Chairman

Since Luton Airport did not feel that the first Parish outside the Borough on the Westerly Departure route was important enough to come and tell us about their thoughts, we decided to tell you ourselves.

Not wishing to pre-judge the outcome of the meeting, I have a strong feeling residents are very concerned. Mention will have been made at the meeting of the CASE4 group, which was formed several years ago jointly with Caddington.

Please refer to both the CASE4 web site: [www.case4.org.uk](http://www.case4.org.uk) and the Slip End site: [www.slipend.co.uk](http://www.slipend.co.uk) for up to date information.

### STOP PRESS

The original consultation which gave rise to the Public Meeting was undertaken by consultants acting on behalf of the owners of the Airport Luton Borough Council.

I received details today of what appears to be a separate and different proposal from the Company which operates Luton Airport. The headline difference appears to be that the owners wish to increase passenger numbers to 18 million whereas the operators are looking at 15 million.

If you missed the Public Meeting, the Airport Operator is holding a six week consultation on their Master Plan., which will run to 25 April. See [www.london-luton.co.uk/masterplan/](http://www.london-luton.co.uk/masterplan/)

Consultation on the owners' (LBC) proposal ended on 26th Marc. However, if you haven't done so already, it may still be worth commenting. Their web site is [www.futureluton.co.uk/optimisation](http://www.futureluton.co.uk/optimisation) If that has closed hold your comments as there will be plenty of opportunities to make them, if and when the owner submits a planning application.

## Caddington WI



What an enjoyable evening we had.

Carol Jones prepared and made hot cross buns. We all got a taster at tea break - delicious.

Carol also showed us how to work with chocolate. Although many of us are cake makers, we all learned a selection of new techniques. Samples of Carol's work in chocolate were passed among us with little 'tasters' as they went round.... lots of Easter biscuits and Easter cakes too. A big thank you to Carol for a very successful evening.

Our competition was a decorated egg. Carol won 1st prize, Joan Ship 2nd, and I was 3rd! As our meeting was on Pancake Day we gave pancake ingredients away as raffle prizes.

We are looking forward to Members' Night in March, giving our Committee a night off. Members are to make a home made Easter card for the competition. Some of our members are going to a shoe sale also a millionaires quiz.

In April Gillian Ashwell will talk to us about Beads & Beadwork Jewellery.

A date for your diary—the Dunstable Ladies Choir will join us on 12th June when we shall have a very entertaining evening. Look forward to you joining us - we meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Baptist Church Hall in Dunstable Road starting at 7.30pm.

Linda  
Edwards





## Earthquake strikes Slip End...

Slip End is a normally tranquil village in rural South Bedfordshire but the peace was shattered by significant seismic activity last month. Registering 5.7 on the Richter Scale, the 'quake epicentre was close to the 'community hub'; the crossroads in the centre of the Village. Considerable structural damage was caused to two single story buildings, used by villagers mainly as bus shelters.



This information came in a written statement by a spokesperson for the 'Asset Holders'. "In restoring these buildings for use by the Villagers of Slip End and District, the EC statutory regulations relating to proofing public buildings against structural damage caused by earthquake must be taken into consideration. As such, substantial costs will be sought from grant assistance and other sources. ***It is our intention that repairs will be in place by noon on April 1st.***"

*A Slip End Resident*

## Slip End Toddler Group

Unfortunately the Toddler group will be closing due to lack of funding. Our numbers have decreased massively so it is impossible to keep it open. We are hoping to open a brand new group in September with a new name and venue. More information about this will follow.

The final session of the toddler group will be Tuesday 27th March.

*Jenny Neale*

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Orchids at Kew Gardens  
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Spring.  
Photos by Alison Wilson



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

### **April**

- Sat 7th *Frog & Rhubarb Egg Hunt—Start at School 12 noon*  
Sun 8th *Easter Day Services at all our local churches*  
Sun 8th  
& Mon 9th *Country Fair— Stockwood Discovery Centre - 11:00am—4:30pm*  
Mon 9th *SEADA Car boot / Table Top Sale - Village Hall - 10:00 am*  
Tues 10th *CPG meeting Slip End Social Club 7:30pm*  
Mon 16th *Village Hall AGM—7:30*  
Sat 21st *Spring Fayre — Aley Green Methodist Church - 12 noon*  
*Drinks Party Night - Frog & Rhubarb - from 9:00pm*  
Sun 29th *Live Jazz and Soul Music — Rising Sun - 5:30pm*

### **May**

- Mon 7th *Car Boot Sale—Rising Sun Car Park - 11—3pm*  
Tues 8th *CPG Meeting Slip End Social Club 7:30pm*  
Tues 15th *Women's Institute meeting Baptist Hall Caddington*  
Sat 26th *Banned - Live Music Night - Frog & Rhubarb*

### **June**

- Sat 2nd *Elvis — Music Night —Rising Sun*  
Sun 3rd *Retro Tea Party—Jubilee Celebrations— Rising Sun*  
12th Jun *CPG Meeting Slip End Social Club 7:30pm*  
Sat 30th *Parish Open Gardens Day*

### **July**

- Sat 21st *Village Day*

### **Wheelie Bins: see below:-**

**Black Bins & glass:** Put out on Friday 13th, 27th April

**Green and Orange Bins:** Put out on Friday 6th, 20th April



### **Items for the next issue to us by 15th April**

Any delivery problems? Contact Alan BATTERY 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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## Useful information from around the Parish

### PARISH COUNCILLORS:-

**Clerk to Parish Council** — **Peter Segal** 526594 (9am to noon weekdays) clerk@slipend.co.uk

**Steve Baird** 738205 Steven.Baird@cooperindustries.com

**Paul Cooper** paul-cooper@indigo-tiger.com

**Ken Crossett** 414168 kencrossett@slipend.co.uk (*Chairman*)

**Stephen Fuell** 417792 stevefuell@f2s.com

**Keith Holme** 07969 154783 holme@keithjan.fsnet.co.uk

**Sarah Minnighan** 07868 742904 s.minnighan@btinternet.com (*CPG Chairman*)

### CENTRAL BEDS COUNCILLORS:-

**Richard Stay** 0300 300 4230 Richard.Stay@centralbeds.gov.uk

**Ruth Gammons** 01582 738398 ruth.gammons@centralbeds.gov.uk

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:- Gavin Shuker** 020 7219 500 or 07505 738666

### WHO DO I CALL?

**Fly Tipping (CBC)** 0300 300 8000 wasteservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

**Road issues** (potholes etc) Highways@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

**Police** 473211 or 101

**Airparks** 01582 749495

**Aircraft noise** 395382

**Water leaks** 0845 7823333

### COMMUNITY AND SERVICES

**HALLS:- Village Hall** 723109

**Peter Edwards Hall** 767916

### SHOPS & SERVICES:-

**At the Crossroads** 401069 Open Mon - Fri 7.00 to 21.00 Sat 7.00 - 21.00 - Sun 7.30 - 21.00

**Slip End Garage** Markeyate Road 456888

**Doctor** (Caddington Surgery) 725673

### Schools:

**Slip End Lower** 720152

**Caddington Village School** 726058

**Streetfield Middle** 613421

**Ashton Middle** 663511

**Manshead Upper** 679400

### CHURCHES:-

**St Andrew's Church**

**Rev. Cathy Pullinger** 725061 or

Mob 07425 148046

**Wardens: Tony Willson** 482681

and **Susan Wiltshire** 727477

**Aley Green Methodist Church**

**Minister: Rev Philip Horner**

**Senior Steward: Ann Meader** 733668

### COMMUNITY:-

**Brownies** 723109

**Beavers** 07956 833488

**Cubs** 07972 916626

**Scouts** 07780 676861

**Allotments** 736892

**Friendship Club** 452978

**Mother's Union** 738435

**Playgroup** 728865

**Slip End Assoc.** 414796

**Toddler Group** 405931

**FoSELS (PTA)** 07787 401937

**Women's Institute** 737036

### SPORT:-

**Bowling Club** 412506

**Tennis** 733253

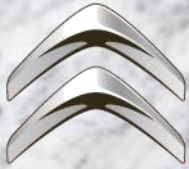
**Darts League** 425323

**Football** 01582 517042 - 07515687160

**Pepperstock Archers** 615216

Email LBP121@aol.com (Lee Prebble)





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