

Slip End & District Parish News

May 2002



St Andrew's Church, Slip End

Good News
Good News



Aley Green Pepperstock
Slip End Woodside

PARISH NEWS
February 2016



SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH
AUGUST 2009 SOP WHERE SOL

Aley Green Pepperstock
Slip End Woodside

PARISH NEWS
March 2015



Belarus memories



WHAT
A GREAT
VILLAGE
DAY!
JULY 25TH



Editors' Notes

I expect you might be wondering about my choice of cover this month. After over fifteen years of Parish News duties I have decided to hang up my Editor's hat and this will be my last 'official' Parish News. I first came on-board to help David Kingston who was jetting off to Dubai to work and needed a replacement. I have enjoyed all the challenges and the many advances we have made over the years.

When I first started, the magazine looked a lot different from how it looks now. An example is the blue picture on the front. It was merely a map of the Parish and every month the colour of the paper would change, but the picture would stay the same. I thought it would be good to introduce photos on the cover which seemed to go down well (picture of the Church in 2002) but my real objective was that we should have a full colour magazine for all the residents of the Parish. We started printing colour covers first (an example is the picture of May and Hilda at the Village Day in 2009). If you look further into the magazine there are plans afoot to resurrect that day, which is brilliant. Finally, with the help of the Parish Council and the CPG we achieved full colour for the magazine of which we on the Parish News committee are all very proud. We have seen committee members come and go, but all have been a great help towards the running of the magazine and the Editors certainly could not achieve such a great magazine

without their help. We all work on a voluntary basis and it does take a lot of time and dedication. My thanks must go to Alison Wilson (my fellow editor), Brian Church, Alan Buttery and Jo Moss our present committee, and of course all the past members and the excellent team of volunteers who deliver your magazine come rain or shine. (not forgetting our proof readers Jan Buttery and Steve Lyons, whose input is invaluable).

Some of you may remember the old style magazine which was approximately 8—12 pages long, plus a front and back page. It was typed in a Microsoft word format and photo-copied, before the internet took over, and was only available by paying a subscription.

This weekend as I was editing the February's edition, Slip End enjoyed a small amount of snow and the

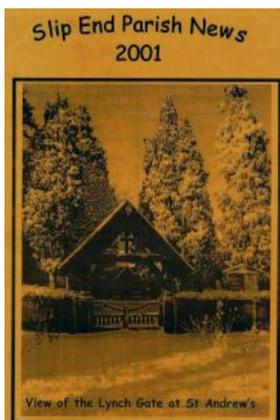


photo here shows the Church—almost the same photo as the one here from 2001 but 15 years later!

The outside of the Church hasn't changed that much—apart from

the new roof of course, but inside there has been lots going on; including recently a newly levelled carpeted chancel floor.

Following our request for editorial assistance recently, Matthew Adams, from Summer Street, kindly volunteered his services. We are meeting with him so he can join in with the team and will introduce him in the next issue. *Welcome aboard Matt and Good Luck!*

Looking back over the years at some of the old issues I see things have not changed, as in July 2000 I was asking for items to be in on time, but unfortunately items were still late or non-existent. Please do try and help the team of willing 'unpaid' workers and I am sure that your Parish News will continue for many years to come.

Parish Magazine for the Partially Sighted

We had a request for a copy to be sent directly to a couple of residents. They have tested both the Website copy and the Printer's version. In both cases it seems that the copy we send to go on the website is perfectly good enough. (The other is very large to download.)

The Website version is available around the start of the month on www.slipend.co.uk

However, we are able to send a link directly to your email if you feel that a copy, enlarged on the screen, would be easier to read.

Please contact parishnews@slipend.co.uk to request this and we will add you to the list.

National Parish Magazine Awards 2015 Results

In December we received the following email from the Awards Coordinator for the National Parish Magazine Awards.

'The results of the 2015 National Parish Magazine Awards have at last been finalised, with the standard this year the highest ever, it has been hard work for the judges to decide the order.

Out of over 600 entries your magazine achieved 30th place in the Awards'.

The overall winner was The Parish Magazine of Charvil, Sonning and Sonning Eye (Berks). Others in the top 10 included magazines from Crediton in Devon and places in Kent, Cornwall, Somerset and Dorset!

It is a real challenge at times to produce a quality, interesting magazine that our readers will enjoy, so the Editors were extremely pleased to see that all their hard work had not gone unnoticed. May it long continue. I feel I leave the magazine in very good hands and will no doubt be sending the odd article in the future (and hopefully on time and before the cut-off date!).

by Sue Briggs



Good Neighbour Scheme

For the Parish of Aley Green, Pepperstock, Slip End, Woodside



Ho! Ho! Ho! Over fifty clients and volunteers were entertained at the GNS Christmas Party held in December. Residents of the village were treated to traditional fayre of mince pies, sausage rolls and cake, all along with a cuppa! Santa arrived with his elf to oversee the mammoth raffle, with over twenty prizes to be won. Seasonal music was provided by Peter Smith and friend on ukulele.



(Photos by Roger Baker)



Our thanks go to the volunteers who helped make the afternoon such as success, and also to the local businesses, such as Harpers and the Frog & Rhubarb who contributed food and prizes.



The next GNS T Party will be around Easter, so keep an eye out for local advertising.

Wishing you all a Happy & Healthy 2016! *GNS Committee*

On another note the GNS needs HELP! with manning the mobile Helpline. We offer a seven day a week, 9 till 5 service. Basically clients call the Helpline when they need assistance and the phone holder then matches that request to our pool of volunteers. If you feel you could contribute two days a month to helping your fellow residents, please contact Simon Patterson on 01582 419 487 or by email smp1511@sky.com



School Council

At the beginning of each academic year, every class in the school from Year 1 through to Year 5 holds elections to choose a boy and girl representative for the School Council.

The children who wish to stand for election explain to the class why they believe they would be a good representative and then the children vote via a secret ballot.

Elected pupils are expected to be excellent role models for the other children and good ambassadors for the school. They meet regularly with Mrs. Howes to give feedback on a range of issues, help to organise charity events and take part in selecting new staff members to the school.

In November, the School Council carried out a fund-raising event for Children in Need by holding a mufti-day; all the children were asked to wear something spotty to school and the event raised £133.10 for the charity. Our Year 5 councillors wrote letters to parents explaining the event and giving them feedback about the grand total.

The School Council also has an important voice when it comes to school improvement. Recently, pupils were asked about the marking and feedback given by teachers in the pupils' exercise books. Our pupils are always honest and incisive and the comments they gave confirmed the high standards of marking and feedback already in place at the school; they have also helped the school to move forward even further in this area.

We would like to thank the School Council members for all their hard work so far this year and we look forward to seeing them continue to grow and develop in their important roles.

Dates for St Andrew's Church — February

Sun 7th: 10.30am: Informal Communion – Hearing and responding

Weds 10th: 7.30pm: Ash Wednesday – Do not receive God's grace in vain

Sun 14th: 10.30am: Cafe Church – Valentine's Day “Love finds a home” (band)

Tuesday 16th: 11.00am: Woodside Care Home service

Sun 21st: 8.30am: Said Communion – Praying for our children

Sun 21st: 10.30am: Morning Praise – Time in God's presence (band)

Sun 28th: 10.30am: Holy Communion: Grace – God's favour (organ & singers)



Christingle service in December with a lovely picture of Sam lighting the way

Beautiful Lucy with her Christmas dress from her Godmother on Christmas Day



Little Stars for February

Weds 3rd: Refreshments from 10am with a 10.30 start: Little Stars: Special Celebrations Pancake Day



Weds 10th: Refreshments from 10am with a 10.30 start: Little Stars: Ash Wednesday

Weds 17th: Refreshments from 10am with a 10.30 start: Little Stars: Love - St Valentine



Weds 24th: Refreshments from 10am with a 10.30 start: Little Stars: Healing – St Luke & Mama Luka story

Little Singing Stars meet Tuesday mornings at 10am prompt



Message from St Andrews

During Lent this year we will be looking at the wonderful characteristic of God's grace.

In ordinary everyday usage the noun grace means: elegance of movement or courteous good will, or a short prayer before a meal.

In the Bible the word grace is generally used to express God's favour towards people. He is positive towards us, he wants to bless us. The Hebrew word expresses the steadfast faithfulness of God towards us, and all this is freely given, given whether we deserve it or not.

The Greek word is Charis which means gift. What would that look like in our lives - how would we experience that?

It would begin with a sense of God's love. That he loves me – that he is pleased with the person he has made me to be – I wasn't something of a mistake, or to be honest he would love me if I was a bit more.... something! Or a bit more like.... somebody. This sort of awareness of God's love is very precious indeed. Some people say **“There is nothing that I can do that will make God love me more, there is nothing I can do that will make God love me less.”** This is true because God is love.

This sense that we are lovable usually gives someone the confidence to be honest with God about weaknesses and shortcomings. If we feel we will be blamed and put down and possibly punished if we are honest about who we are then we tend to put on a good front and protect ourselves. Another precious experience of God's grace is his free forgiveness. Often we are less than we want to be – less than God made us to be and it is a great gift of God that he takes that sense of failure, the guilt or shame, the powerlessness we often feel in the face of bad habits and he

washes us clean, he frees us to be different. He does this through the death and resurrection life of Jesus. Some people say that grace is: **God's riches at Christ's expense**, and that is certainly my experience and reflects the teachings of the Bible.

When we have this sense of God's personal love, of his cleansing and being made new we often want to pass it on, and God's grace is what empowers us to do this. He gives himself to us through his Holy Spirit and gives us everything we need for a new life – a life of passing on some of God's grace to others. You could define grace as **“God's empowering presence – filling you and gifting you for a new life.”** I find this a very exciting experience and many of the first disciples describe life in this way.

When we enter into this sort of life, we find we grow in the experience of God's grace. We are more open to perceive and receive his grace. If a man loves someone – he will have to keep that love in check unless the recipient of his love welcomes it, wants to enter into a relationship of love. So it is with us and God – we can choose to live in such a way as to grow in the experience of his wonderful grace.

This is what we hope to do in Lent, with every blessing,

Cathy





You are invited to
a Family Pancake Party
 at **St Andrew's Church**



Tuesday 9th February drop in between 5.30 and 7.30 p.m.

Food and soft drinks will be available including, of course, pancakes.
 We will have a fun quiz and games including a pancake race.

Local chef, Noel, will be doing cookery demonstrations at 6pm & 7p.m



St Andrew's Church
Big Brew



Fair trade Coffee Morning
 In aid of
Traidcraft Exchange



Saturday 12th March 2016
 10.30 am to noon.

Tea , coffee, cake

Plus fair trade stall — Fun and games



Village Christmas Tree

Residents should have seen our Christmas tree outside the Village Hall which valiantly stood up to the winds and rain over the Christmas period. The tree was erected by Andy Prothero and helpers. He has asked us to thank Barry Hutchins, Seb Prothero and Steve Inns for all their assistance. Thanks also to Simon Patterson who organised the lights on the tree.



Slip End Photography Group

The group is currently meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, with the third Tuesday being the main meeting with a talk or visiting speaker. On the first Tuesday there should be some planned activities. Some members also meet on the weeks in between for a chat.

The talk on Tuesday 16th February is "Wildlife Macro" by Andy Sands. Andy visited last year with a stunning collection of pictures of "creepy crawlies".

KEECH COTTAGE need your used stamps

Don't throw away all those used stamps. Keep them for Keech Cottage.

They can be given in at any Keech Hospice Shop

Thank you



Friendship

Give to the world the best you have
And the best will come back to you
Give of the friendship that we all crave
And your friends will be many and true.
Give love and love to your life will flow,
A strength in your utmost need.
Give faith and a score of friends will show,
their faith in your word and deed.



Take time to listen,
Don't hurry away
When your friends have something
They want to say.
Take time for a kindness,
Keep looking about,
There are lots of ways
You can help someone out.
Give of your friendship
And you'll find its true
The blessings you scatter
Will come back to you.

A quote from the service of a recent funeral I attended of an old friend.

"Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier".
by Mother Teresa

(The world would be a much better place if only this could be true).



Gardening Tips

by Russell Sprout

With all the festivities over and done with for another year it's time to turn our thoughts to the gardening year. With what has been such a wet and windy winter some of the first jobs will be to mend fences and repair sheds, etc., but then you can move on to clearing away any dead plant material and keep on top of weeds as they start into growth. If you have a soil testing kit this is a good time to test to see if lime, nitrogen or potash is required to balance the soil. This is quite easy to do, just follow the instructions that come with the kit, you don't have to be a scientist.

Early potatoes can be arranged in boxes or seed trays with the eyes uppermost in a light frost-free shed, greenhouse or cool bedroom to sprout into growth for an early crop. If you haven't got your seed potatoes yet don't delay or you will be left with the dregs. Early peas and broad beans can be planted in the soil towards the end of the month if it is dry. Shallots can also be planted this month and just cover them with soil to stop birds from pulling them out of the ground. If you plan to plant tomatoes in a cool greenhouse in April now is the time to sow seeds in a propagator or indoors on a windowsill and pot them on when they are about 2" high. Parsley can be sown outdoors if dry and not too cold for a first crop. Prune autumn fruiting raspberries close to the ground by the end of the month.

Check Dahlias in store, cut away any rotted sections of tubers and if they are shriveled plunge them into tepid water for 10-12 hours. Take cuttings of Chrysanthemums that have been over-wintered in the greenhouse or cold frame as soon as the new shoots are big enough. Stools that have been left in the ground will benefit from pushing a fork into the ground around the plant to stop rotting

and clear away any weeds or debris that have accumulated. Any alpiners that have been loosened by frost should be firmed into place and weeded. Move dormant fuchsias, heliotropes and hydrangeas onto the greenhouse staging, if possible in a warm spot where a temperature of 10 degrees centigrade can be maintained. Spray the plants with water on sunny days, and give them increasing amounts of water as growth becomes active.

It's been another wet winter so if the lawn has become wet and boggy with all the rain we have had, aerate with a fork to help drainage and scarify towards the end of the month to remove dead grass and thatch *if conditions are dry enough*.

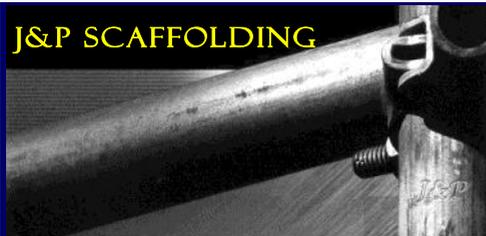
Garden not big enough to grow everything you would like to, then have you thought about taking an allotment? Just ring the number in the Parish News and look forward to enjoying plenty of fresh vegetables throughout the year as well as keeping yourself fit and making new friends!

Talking of new friends, how about joining the Gardening Club where you can swap gardening tips, listen to speakers on all different aspects of gardening four times a year in the Village Hall and visit some interesting gardens with like minded people between the spring and autumn? If you would like to know more before committing yourself give Rosemary Wickens a ring on 01582 423622, she will be happy to talk to you.

Russell Sprout.



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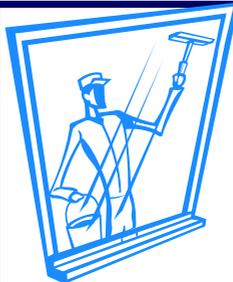
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The **Chatty Club** Christmas Party was held at the Frog and Rhubarb on Tuesday 8th December 2015. It was very enjoyable. Paul and his staff did us proud. Thank you!

Aley Green Nativity Festival



Craft Fayre—Village Hall November 2015



The Brownies were helping too.



It was lovely to catch up with Lily and Dave (ex Rising Sun) at the new Café/Restaurant in Berkhamsted where Lily works part-time. If you are nearby pop in to see her as I am sure you will receive a warm welcome. We had an excellent meal at the Jazz evening when we went there



St Andrew's Nativity Service



Christmas Flowers

School Carol Service at St Andrew's



It was good to see the whole school enjoy their Carol Service at the Church, with individual readings from children from each year and some special 'school' songs.

Grace Roberts made a lovely Christmas Tree

Baptisms at St Andrew's in November and January



Kris and Lydia Watson at the baptism of their beautiful daughter Isabelle at the end of November. Kris grew up in Summer Street and his parents Sheila and Alan still live there. Many friends and family were present and they celebrated later in Dunstable.



Jade and Jake Harris from St Andrew's Walk on the 3rd January with their delightful sons Nathan and Sullivan for their baptisms. Friends and family celebrated with them at The Plough in Woodside after the service.

GARDENING CLUB

Monday 21st March

8pm

Village Hall
Guest Speaker

New Members
Welcome



Guests/Visitors £2 each

The Little Princess Trust

We are happy to include an item on the above Trust which we have featured in the magazine several times before.

The Princess Trust is a charity which makes real hair wigs (free of charge) for children who have lost their own hair due to cancer treatment or other illnesses.

A young girl from Slip End School, Imogen Hoo, aged 7 from Year 3, has decided to donate some of her beautiful hair to this worthy cause. Her hair is due to be cut on the 5th February and her Mum Samantha will be on hand to take some photos, which we will publish next month.

If you would like to find out more about the charity the website is:-

www.littleprincesses.org.uk or if you would like to sponsor Imogen :-

Open House in aid of COPD

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TOMBOLA with
lots of prizes



BOOKS



Please come along and help raise
funds for this worthy cause.

4 The Oaks, Slip End
Tuesday 23rd February
10-4





New daytime Pilates class starting in January in Slip End.

Venue: Peter Edwards Hall

Tuesdays at 9.30am

I have run a successful class in the school for the last 11 years on a Wednesday evening. I have recently celebrated a 'big birthday' and love how Pilates has helped me to maintain a strong & supple body. Let me help you achieve this too!

This will be in the form of a 4 week introductory/refresher course to Pilates & then regular classes.

4 week course £24

To book or to find out more call me on 07811343566 or email Andrea on

andrealynn50@hotmail.com



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Aley Green Methodist Church

Services and Diary dates for February

Tuesday 2nd

7.30pm Bible Study - Rev Bob Forrest

Sunday 7th

No service, Sunday School or Youth Group
We will join the Circuit Service

Tuesday 9th

10.00am/12.30pm 'Pancakes & Company'

Sunday 14th Lent 1

10.30am Morning Service - Geoff Bocutt

10.30am Sunday School & Youth Group

Monday 15th

7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship Wk 1
Led by Mike Bull

Sunday 21st Lent 2

10.30am Morning Service -

10.30am Sunday School & Youth Group

Monday 22nd

7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship Wk 2
Led by Mike Bull

Wednesday 24th

7.30pm Coffee Evening *In aid of L.W.P.T.*

Sunday 28th Lent 3

10.30am Morning Service - Peter Baker

10.30am Sunday School & Youth Group

Monday 29th

7.30pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship Wk 3
Led by Mike Bull

A reminder that our Sunday morning worship now begins at **10.30am**.

The last Coffee Evening of 2015 on November 25th raised £50 for Leaders of Worship & Preachers Trust.

Over the Christmas period we were very busy, our celebrations began with a Christmas wedding on December 12th with the church decorated with candles, a large Christmas tree and our beautiful nativity scene. Next came our Lunch Bunch Christmas lunch at the

Cricketers in Caddington, well supported and greatly enjoyed by all. Several of us joined with other churches and villagers singing 'Carols on the Green' on 17th December.

Aley Green's Nativity Festival started with 'Take Time' a Celebration of Christmas in words and music led by Liz Higgens. A glass of non alcoholic mulled wine welcomed us as we arrived and afterwards we joined together for seasonal refreshments. The collection raised £290 for Tear Fund's 'Toilet Twinning' charity. On the Saturday we served lunches and teas, Christmas carols and songs were played for people to listen to as they viewed the displays. The young folk presented their Nativity on Sunday afternoon to close the festival. The collection and tombola raised £205 which was divided between five Methodist charities. Thank you to all who came along and supported our weekend.

Our Carol service led by Rev Phil Horner and the Aley Green Church Choir was packed, not a spare seat by 7.30. The offering raised £216 for Action for Children.

The Christmas Cake, made and donated by Yvonne Tomlin, was raffled for Methodist Homes for the Aged, raised £110 and was won by Francis.

The Bible Society Christmas Card was signed by lots of people and £40 was sent to the charity. Our Christmas Morning service led by Rev Phil Horner was well attended and the offering for NOAH totalled £102

It seems we have only just finished celebrating Christmas and we see Lent approaching. At our Pancakes and Company on Shrove Tuesday there will be bacon butties and pancakes along with stalls and all the usual goodies. All money raised will go to our church re-pointing fund, Come along and join us for breakfast and browse around the stalls!

We invite you to join our ecumenical Lent Course and to worship with us.

God Bless you from all at Aley Green Ann

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Tony Woodhouse gave us a slide show and talk about the Star of Bethlehem last November. This was quite fascinating and got us thinking about the Star. The Star was the sign the Three Wise Men (Three Kings) saw and followed to Bethlehem where Jesus was born. They had travelled 800 miles to get to Bethlehem. How did they do this, what star was this and where is it? All questions which Tony tried to explain. We asked many questions and certainly needed a cuppa at the end of his explanations.



At our Christmas Meeting we had fun and games and eating (what we do best!). Everyone was in good spirits. On the 16th February we have Alpaca Experience with Sue Watkins. 15th March is Members Night. All sounds good. Our best wishes to all for 2016.

Lyn Edwards

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox update

Just a quick note to bring you up to date with the latest shoebox news. Thanks to all who came and helped with the checking, packing and delivering of the shoeboxes that arrived at Heathfield Community Centre from local Churches, Schools, Companies and families. We were thrilled with the final number of boxes which was 4003, a wonderful number which will bring a lot of happiness to many young children. I remember one year ago when I was in Belarus with Amanda Dervley from Stanton Road Church in Dunstable. The excitement and gratefulness that each child showed makes it all worthwhile. It is a very worthy cause and we hope to be back at Heathfield Centre in November 16.

Final boxes being loaded onto the van and some of the volunteers on the last day.



What a team!

by Sue Briggs



A Home Made Card was our Competition this month. Enid Campbell came First with Joanne Sherwood Second and Third was Helen Turner. A good selection for us all to choose from. Dunstable Ladies Choir gave us their Christmas songs, together with two Clarinet solos from one of their members. Richard, the conductor and the pianist also played a duet on the piano. Carols were sung with us joining in. A very entertaining evening and well attended.

Our Christmas Group Meeting was held at Heathfield - all tables decorated with gold tablecloths, red serviettes made by Studham W.I. and small candles. We were hosted by our Presidents from the Group - a three course meal was served together with drinks. 'It Takes Two' sang lively songs - Martin and Lynne do know how to get us in the party mood. We even danced and sang carols and each member went home with a small gift too. A big thank you to our Presidents for a lovely time.

At the Christmas Tree Festival our Tree represented the Centenary of the W.I. organisation and each Christmas bauble had the name of each of Caddingtons' members since we were founded.

Yet again our Darts Team is doing well and is at the top the League. Let us hope they play well in 2016.

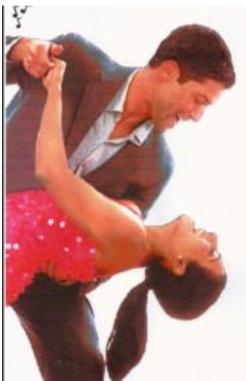
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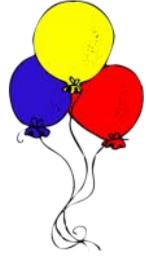
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VILLAGE DAY

SATURDAY 9TH JULY

THE PLAYING FIELDS SLIP END



Save the date – Saturday 9th July for the return of
VILLAGE DAY.

A small group of people from the village have started making plans, and we hope that many groups and individuals from the villages will join in, by having a stall to raise funds for themselves, provide entertainment or games, or manpower to set up the day (womanpower too of course).

At our meeting on 19th January more definite plans should be in place and we will be publicising them via the Parish News, Facebook etc. In the meantime if you have some good ideas or can help in any way you can contact us by leaving a message on 0795 858 7595.



You may have noticed an advance advert for a Flower Festival at St Andrew's Church on the 25th and 26th June called 'Celebrating our Community'. We had been planning to encourage contributions from local businesses and community organisations to represent the richness of our community in the Festival. However, with the news that a much awaited Village Day has been announced we feel it would be a better way of blessing our community if we give full support to the Village Day instead, as we have done in previous years.

We will therefore postpone our Flower Festival for now and look forward to working with the group that has been set up, to ensure that the 9th July is a day to remember for all. We hope it will lead to many more wonderful Village Days which we can celebrate together."





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Where are they now?



What a wonderful class group (1951 to 1957) from Slip End School, Summer Street

Front row L-R

Billy Hastings
 Brian Clark
 Gerald Rachley
 Peter Woodbridge
 Brian Payne
 Not sure?
 Melvyn Downs
 (Dick)
 John Arrenburg

2nd Row

Jack Teal
 Marian Wood
 ?
 ?
 ?
 ?
 Nina Perry
 Roland Dyer

3rd Row Girls

Eunice Peters
 Rosemary Baldock
 ?
 Diane Lawrence
 ?
 ?
 Shirley Nash

4th Row Boys

Brian Martin
 Barry Cooper
 Roger Shepherd
 Timothy
 Anderson
 Terry Lines
 Brian Andrews
 Marsden Collins
 Raymond Roe

5th Row Boys

David Yeomans?,
 John Bicker
 ? Mitcham
 Andrew Garner
 Jeff Wood?

With thanks to Dick (Melvyn) Downs for this great photo, probably taken around 1954. Most of the boys names are there with a few queries but quite a few girls missing—unless anyone can assist? On the right was where Ron Ealing (the Headmaster) lived.

Happy memories I am sure for a lot of youngsters—but it would be nice to know who still lives in the Parish? Looks like an average class was approximately 36 children in those days so more than todays classes at our present Village School. Parish News will be following up with further photographs of the youngsters, and hopefully items about the Parish.

If you have any photos or can fill in the gaps above please contact us.



Girls from the school—no school uniform in those days!

Front row from L- R: Jennifer Martin?, Christine Matherson (now White), Not sure?,

Back: Doreen Bates, Susan Nash, Pat Rolt, Valerie Scales, Shirley Nash, Brenda Ambridge



Break time—perhaps? Wonder what Health & Safety would make of this now?

The school missed being a listed building by one year and closed down in 1976. The new school in Rossway opened in January 1977. With the changes to schools in our area it became a Primary School in 2015, with a total of approximately 145 pupils at the moment.



Pub Pages



The Plough

Just a catch-up of what has been happening recently:

We have had numerous funeral wakes these last few weeks. Hope it's not a sign of the weather. We would like to take the time to say farewell to Harry George Putman on 17th November, Dorothy Ann Durrant on 20th November, Heather Peters on 8th December, also Mary Josephine Cotrell on 2nd December and Jack Bolton who was 95 years old who was married to Violet. His profession as coach sprayer, was last at the Citroen garage in Slip End valeting cars. We would like to thank all of the families who chose The Plough to celebrate their lives with us on those very special days. Also farewell to William John MacLaughlan (Mac) on 20th October, the father of The Plough's next door neighbour Steve and his siblings Colin, David and Ruth.

Our Christmas menu in the restaurant over this period had a very good turnout. We hope everyone had a very good Christmas party, also the meals we did on Christmas day which all went well.

We have also had various parties. On 21st November we had a children's party and a christening on 22nd November, which were both very busy events. Our yearly staff outing went exceptionally well and a lot of fun was had by all on 29th December we had a huge party from Kensworth Community Drop in Centre which was full of high spirits and laughter. Good start to this year;

We had a christening party on 3rd of January when Jade & Jake Harris from Slip End had Nathan & Sullivan

Christened (see photo on page 15). It was a busy event and we thank you for sharing such a special occasion with us.

Over-all we have had a very good year here and all the best for this year.

All Parties can be catered for. Birthdays, Weddings, Baby Showers, Christenings, Funerals etc. The venue is FREE except for Sunday Afternoons before 3pm!!

The marquee is available during the summer months. For more information, please call 01582 720923 and ask for Doug. Check out our website: www.theploughwoodside.co.uk

Oh dear—no news from the others!

Slip End Social Club

1—3 New Street, Slip End

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Facebook page for more information

The Rising Sun

For more information check out—

<http://www.risingsunslipend.co.uk>

Telephone: :01582 721212

The Frog and Rhubarb

For more information—

<http://www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk>

Telephone: 01582 452722

Jason Cunningham update

Jason returns to the ring on Saturday 27th February when he meets Ashley Lane, the Midland area champion, at Doncaster's Dome Arena for the English Bantamweight Title.

Jason previously held this crown when he stopped Scott Gladwin in the fourth round of a title fight in 2014. As he moved on he surrendered this trophy. Following his mixed fortunes last year, he and his team have decided that the best way for him to get back on track will be to regain the crown and go on from there, possibly to battle for the British Title again. Our man is certainly raring to go and confident of taking care of Lane, though the fight will be no pushover.

On the evening, doors will open at 5 p.m. Tickets are now available. £65 ringside including a carvery meal, £40 standard seats. All seating provides good viewing. Jason expects his fight to begin between 9 and 9:30pm. Please call me on 07739295228 for reservations. We will be running a minibus from Slip End Social Club at about 3pm.

This is a crucial fight so please come and offer your support and watch him deliver the sort of victory we know he is capable of achieving. Jason will try to ensure he greets all of you personally. He is very excited to be back in the ring, promising five star action. He knows he needs this as his opponent has a good record, including an unexpected draw against local Yorkshire hero Gavin McDonnell, suggesting that the Midland title holder would be dangerous to underrate. Jason is aware of this and ready for the challenge. This should be his night and an evening for his fans to enjoy.

From Tony Strong

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There is a huge range of health services and people have told us that they do not always know where to go when they fall ill, or have enough information about what different NHS services actually offer. At the same time people want to know more about what they can do to look after their families' and their own health. Using the right health services is not only good for individuals but helps the NHS as a whole by making sure resources are used in the right way. *The NHS belongs to us all - let's use it right.*



For 24-hour health advice only, ring NHS 111.

Luton Walk-in Centre, 14-16 Chapel Street, Luton, LU1 2SE

(Walk in GP appointment are available 12 hours per day, everyday, with anyone welcome to walk in and receive an appointment with the GP and is open Saturdays and Sundays when many surgeries are closed).

Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries. For conditions like backache, earache, coughs and colds, you are best off looking after yourself to begin with then seeking help if your condition doesn't improve.

Be prepared - keep a well stocked medicine cabinet Going to your GP for medicines for things like headaches, hay fever, indigestion, colds, coughs, flu, constipation and diarrhoea costs the NHS millions of pounds each year. Money that the NHS spends on these medicines is money that cannot be used to help patients with more complex health problems. You can be prepared for most common illnesses and ailments by keeping a well stocked medicine cabinet at home. You can buy all the items you need from your local pharmacist or supermarket often at very little cost. You probably won't need to keep all these items in your medicine cabinet "just in case" but you may want to include a selection of those you use most often. You can always ask your local pharmacist for advice on medicines and common ailments. More information on how your pharmacist can help is available on the Ask Your Pharmacist website from the National Pharmacy Association.

We have produced a number of information sheets on how to take care of yourself for a number of common ailments, see www.markyatesurgery99.co.uk

**Lastly, we wish everyone a prosperous and Healthy New Year 2016 from Dr Sepai
and the team at Markyate Surgery.**

We have had a wonderful time at St Matthew's Care Home, with the local community taking part in our lives. We have been to several plays and nativity scenes at the local schools and the Methodist church Harpenden. All our able bodied residents have had an outing funded by local people, they have had so much fun.

We went to St Luke's School Redbourn, where many of the children have special needs (Asperger's, Downs syndrome and many deaf students) but what a wonderful performance they put on for us.

There was a little Down's syndrome child who had some sweets, he gave all my residents a sweet each. They were the chocolate coins you get in the bags. He had about two left when he looked up and down the row. One of my ladies said "You are such a good boy would you like mine back?" The child said "No I'm doing what the Queen does on Maundy Thursday, you all deserve that, you probably have all fought in the war!" The child smiled and skipped away. Two minutes later he returned and one of my residents said "I'm sorry but I've nothing to give you". The child gave a huge smile and said "But you have, you have cheered and clapped me. I was the boy in the suit on the stage. I was the one singing and I performed and I loved I". This was a child with Down's syndrome. I saw tears in the eyes of my dementia resident. She said nothing but on the way home said, "I think I saw a heavenly child today." I'm sure she was right!

Lynda won the hamper for which Dennis Flitton had sold raffle tickets in aid of

St Matthew's Care Home, where his mother had been a resident. They raised £100 for the residents' fund.
Janet Crawley



Friendship Book recollections, from February 1979

There is a very lovely word,
Whose letters number six
It stands for someone who will help
If you are in a fix.
Someone you can always trust
In whom you can confide;
Whose loyalty will never serve,
Of whom you speak with pride;
Whose presence is a blessing,
In times of stress or storm,
Who speaks such words of comfort,
So loving, and so warm;
Whose every work is genuine,
Though other folks pretend—
That lovely word of letters six



Can only be but "Friend".



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

February

- 9th Pancake Party at St Andrew's Church 5.30—7.30pm
- 16th Photographic Group — Wild Life Macro with Andy Sands. Social Club 8pm
- 16th Women's Institute Alpaca Experience Baptist Church Caddington 7.30
- 23rd Open House (in aid of COPD) Tombola, Tea, Cakes, Coffee 10—4 4 The Oaks

MARCH

- 15th Photographic Group — Photoshop by Jane. Social Club 8pm
- 15th Women's Institute Members Night Baptist Church 7.30pm
- 21st Gardening Club Village Hall with Guest Speaker 8pm

APRIL

- 12th Photographic Group — Digital Projection by Naomi Sael. Social Club 8pm



Snowy scenes at the Church Jan 2016



Future dates for your diary

JULY

- 9th **Village Day at The Playing Fields**
- 16th **Parish Open Gardens Day 11-5pm**
- 18th Gardening Club Village Hall with Guest Speaker 8pm

Bin collections

- Black bin and Glass Friday 12th, 26th Feb
- Orange bin / garden Friday 5th, 19th Feb, 4th Mar



Don't forget to advertise your events here!

Please contact us with details of events to add to our diary so that everyone in the community can read about what is on in the Parish and hopefully avoid any clash of dates for events!



YOUR PARISH & CENTRAL BEDS COUNCILLORS

Clerk to Parish Council — Peter Segal 526594 (9am to noon weekdays)

clerk@slipend.co.uk

Parish Councillors:-

Steve Baird	738205	Steven.Baird@cooperindustries.com
Paul Cooper	07703 599006	paul-cooper@indigo-tiger.com
Ken Crossett	414168	kencrossett@slipend.co.uk (<i>Chairman</i>)
Keith Holme	07969 154783	holme@keithjan.fsnet.co.uk
Simon Patterson	07767 615714	smp@amida.fsworld.co.uk
Carol Brennan	453049	carolbrennan74@aol.com
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