



Parish News

**Happy Christmas
to all!**

**December
2018**



Remembrance Exhibition



**Aley Green Pepperstock
Slip End Woodside**

Editors' Notes

The theme of Remembrance and the 100th anniversary of the end of the first World War has dominated November's events around the country as well as social media, radio and TV news and other television programmes.

I have seen many impressive displays created by towns, villages and communities. The community exhibition at St. Andrew's Church was an excellent collection of memorabilia and other displays provided by individuals and groups in our community. Congratulations to Paula Baird who worked hard to put it together and also to other members of the Church and community who helped with the event. A fitting tribute! *Some photos*

of the displays can be found on the cover and on pages 12 and 13. See also Paula's letter below.

We are pleased to announce that we came 13th out of 400 A5 sized publications in the National Parish Magazine Awards. (Larger A4 magazines are now being judged separately.)

Note that Santa is coming to Slip End... weather permitting. I assume that means that he might not make it if he is snowed in up in Lapland! We have also received notification from the Rotary Club in Dunstable that he will be present outside various supermarkets as the festive season approaches—busy man!

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Parish News Team.

On behalf of St Andrew's Church, we would like to thank everyone for supporting our Community WW1 Exhibition on Saturday 10th November.

We are so very grateful to everyone who was kind enough to donate material for the Exhibition and to all the community groups and individuals who made displays.

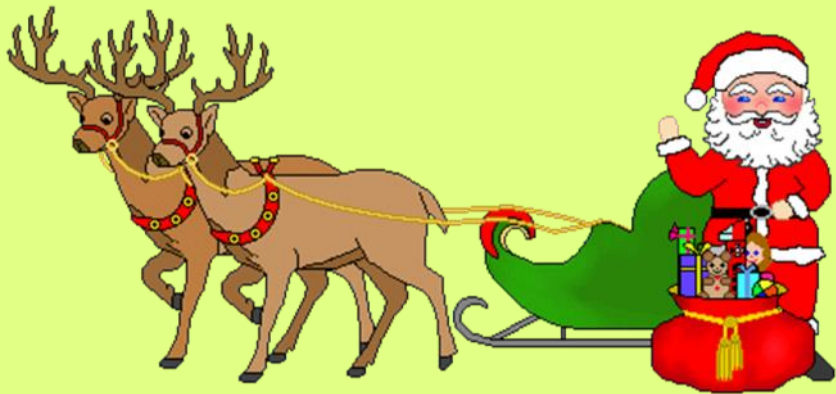
Thank you also to all those who came during the day.

We would also like to say thank you for the generous donations towards our flowers from Harpers Food & Wine, Slip End Garage, The Plough Woodside and Slip End Superstore.

Thanks to your generosity, a fantastic sum of £555.63 was raised from the Exhibition and the Remembrance Service Collection. This will be sent to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Thank you from all at St Andrew's Church.

Paula Baird



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO THE VILLAGES

Look out for him on Thursday and Friday the 13th and 14th December (weather permitting) between 6 pm and 8 pm setting out from the Social Club with his elves, and with treats for the children, making an appearance in a road near you.

The expected route is:

Thursday – Summer Street, Church Road, Markyate Road, Claydown Way, Front Street, Crawley Close and Pepperstock.

Friday – New Street, Front Street, Rossway, St Andrews Close, Prebendal Drive, Farmers View, Woodside Road, Elaine Gardens and The Grove.

This may be subject to some change but you will be sure to hear us coming, and the elves and helpers will be knocking on doors to let you know Santa is on the way, to hand out the treats and to ask for donations in our buckets, which will go to the Community Projects Group fund.

We do need helpers so if you feel you could walk with us one evening, for some or all of the way, please call Mrs Claus on 0795 858 7595 and volunteer to be one of Santa's helpers.

Slip End Gardening Club

Many thanks to those who attended the Quiz Night on Sat 20th Oct, The interesting and challenging quiz was prepared and presented by Steve Wickens, photo below. He was ably assisted with scoring by his wife



Rosemary and sister in law Marian. Congratulations to the winning team "Bloody Clueless", photo below.

Runners up were "The Also Rans".



Everybody enjoyed the fish/chicken and chips supper. Thanks to those who donated raffle prizes. There was a good selection and plenty of prizes. The evening raised £280, which will be used to pay for Speakers at Gardening Club meetings and their travelling expenses.

At our last meeting of the year, in November, speaker, Chris Thorne, gave an interesting and topical talk on "How to look after your Christmas Plants" The talk was followed by the annual social finger buffet, provided by members, along with drinks to finish off the year. The annual programme of garden visits under the National Gardens Scheme is being prepared and will be ready in March.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All.

PN Gardening Correspondent

GARDENING CLUB

**Monday 21st January
AGM**

**Followed by...
a lighthearted
gardening quiz
(8pm Village Hall)**

New Members

Welcome

Guests/Visitors

£2 each





**SLIP END
GOOD NEIGHBOUR
SCHEME**



CHRISTMAS PARTY

**WEDNESDAY 12TH DECEMBER
IN THE VILLAGE HALL 2.30PM
UNTIL 4.00PM**



GRAND RAFFLE

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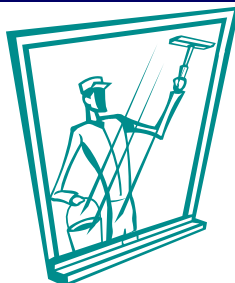
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Aley Green Methodist Church

Services and Diary Dates for December & January

Sunday 2nd Advent 1

No Morning Service

4.00pm Ecumenical Advent
Service



at Aley Green followed by refreshments

Saturday 8th

8.00am Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 9th Advent 2

10.30am Morning Service - Peter Baker

10.30am Sunday School

Tuesday 11th

10.00am - 12.00pm 'Cakes & Company'

10.30am - 11.00am Little Lambs

Friday 14th 'Take Time'

2.30pm *A Celebration of Christmas*

Followed by Seasonal Refreshments

Saturday 15th

10.30am - 1.30pm **Bacon Butty Brunch**

Sunday 16th Advent 3 No Morning Service

4.00pm Nativity Service followed by tea

Monday 17th

7.00pm Christmas Ecumenical Fellowship
led by Jo Prowse

Tuesday 18th

7.30pm Carol Service

Sunday 23rd Advent 4

9.30am Morning Service

- Rev Nigel Bibbings

Tuesday 25th Christmas Day

9.30am Morning Service - Geoff Best

Sunday 30th No Service

2019 January

Saturday 5th

10.30am - 1.30pm **Bacon Butty**

Brunch

Sunday 6th The Epiphany

10.30am Covenant Service - Roger Owers

10.30am Sunday School Communion

Tuesday 8th

10.00am - 12.00pm 'Cakes & Company'

10.30am - 11.00am Little Lambs

Saturday 12th

8.00am Prayer Breakfast



Sunday 13th

10.30am Morning Service - John Enejo

10.30am Sunday School

Sunday 20th

10.30am Morning Service - Ian Horsler

10.30am Sunday School

4.00pm Ecumenical Service at All Saints

Monday 21st

7.30pm Fellowship led by Jo Prowse

Sunday 27th

10.30am Morning Service - Elisabeth

10.30am Sunday School Bibbings

Wednesday 30th

7.30pm Coffee Evening - Action for Children

~~~~~  
We were saddened at the passing of Sybil Yeoman our friend and church member for some 40 years. Our minister, Rev Nigel, led her service at Aley Green. The church made a donation of £50 to the East Anglian Air Ambulance in her name. The Beds & Herts Car Club had a speaker from the charity at their club night at the Recreation club so the donation was presented to Andy, a volunteer of the charity. Also in Sybil's memory, we have purchased an Advent Candelabra.

Our October Coffee Evening for Keech Hospice Care raised £75.

Our second 'Tins for Tea' for the Luton Foodbank was very successful with over 100 tins and packets and forty pounds in cash donated

The Link to Hope shoeboxes were blessed and began their journey to Eastern Europe on Sunday 4th November. We managed to send 44 boxes and kind donations covered the postage costs of £88.

You are invited to our Nativity weekend starting on Friday 14th December with 'Take Time', a Celebration of Christmas at 2.30pm. Saturday is our Bacon Butty Brunch, with Soup and Jacket Potatoes also on the menu. Our Nativity Service rounds everything off on the Sunday at 4pm followed by tea  
We at Aley Green Methodist Church wish you Peace & Joy this Christmas.

Ann Meader Senior Steward

## Gone Fishing!

Perhaps it might be a good idea to start by quoting Rob Beatie, writing in *The Telegraph* in 2014.



*"Fishing may be the most popular participatory sport in the UK, but most people don't have a clue what actually goes on out there on our rivers, lakes, and seas. The average Briton has his or her fair share of preconceptions about fishing, of course. It's boring. It's always raining. Only old people go fishing. Only old blokes go fishing. The only fish you ever catch are tiny (yet in every pond there is a giant pike big enough to swallow a swan whole.)"*

*A popular sport it certainly must be, but numbers are difficult to determine accurately and vary from 1million in the UK to over 2million . The number of licences issued is a reasonable guide, assuming that all anglers buy one, and that number in recent years has hovered around the 1.2million. "*

One of these keen sportsmen is John Moss from Pepperstock. He first attempted fishing at the age of 7 from the canal near his home in Hemel Hempstead. Unusually, perhaps, this was not because his father or elder brother fished. Rather, he picked a piece of cane, waxed a length of cotton and, using a bent pin as a hook, began a love of fishing lasting throughout his life.

By the time he reached his 10th Birthday (sorry but this has to be said somewhere) he was hooked. He went to the local fishing tackle shop and bought a plastic centre pin reel, a decent line and cane rod. He met some keen members of the Hatfield District Angling Club as a Junior Member. He is still, after 40 years, an active member of the Verulam



Angling Club. Considered by many to be a solitary sport, a view which he disputes and which is born out by the many friends he has made and with whom he has kept in contact. There are club activities which all his family could join in with him and so it is a choice each individual makes.



It is often the case that, after a stressful day, nothing could be more restful than to get together all the kit necessary, drive a short distance and take a position on the river, lake or canal bank. Then, open the hip flask and start to fish.

Much of the pleasure which John gains comes from his preparation. Reading the fishing magazines and then selecting the best equipment he can afford. The joy of making rigs has always been one of the most satisfying parts of the sport and something which occupies the closed river months in the Spring and early Summer.

Competition fishing is a part of the pastime which many enjoy. It can be very challenging and intense, but at the end of the day everyone becomes a friend and wishes you better 'luck' next time.

In each of these pieces on Hobbies and Pastimes we have tried to give some idea of costs. Most, if not all such activities, can be expensive and fishing is no exception. As always you buy to suit your wallet. A carbon fibre rod can cost several thousand pounds and with extensions, line and reel many hundreds can be added. However, that is not essential by any means and such numbers should not deter you from starting to fish.

The single, most helpful advice John offers to the aspiring fisherman is **Join A Club**. Meet and take advice from experienced anglers before you invest time and money. Don't be too proud to ask. There is so much more in his story which will appear in a later issue of *Parish News*.

## **November Parish Council Meeting Report**

Routine matters were dealt with and then time was given to reports from Cllr. Minnighan and Mr Prothero who had made the visit to a supplier of Playground Equipment as reported in the last issue of Parish News. The range of equipment available from this outlet had decreased significantly and further investigation would be required. Finance for this programme has been approved and when a suitable supplier is found the various pieces of equipment will be put before the public for selection. This is now anticipated during 2019. The choice will benefit all age groups and abilities, who will find equipment to increase fitness or simply for fun.

The replacement Gritter had been purchased to be used to help clear roads which are not under the CBC road clearance programme in the event of bad weather. Repairs to the seats in the bus shelter would be carried out.

The CPG/GNS events were announced by Cllr. Patterson and details appear elsewhere in this issue.

In response to questions, County Cllrs Stay and Collins told the meeting that a revised plan for the Retirement Village in Markyate Road was in preparation which, it is hoped, will overcome objections raised by the public at an earlier consultation. No plans had been submitted for the construction of a Waste Incinerator but the concerns of Villagers had been reported to the County planning team and would be discussed in detail when and if a plan is submitted.

In reply to a question asking why Central Bedfordshire helped fund the policing at Luton Airport, it was stated that this had historical foundations, which were agreed since the cover included significant vulnerable areas surrounding the airport within the County Council's responsibilities.

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# Remembrance Exhibition 1918—2018





## Caddington WI



Our October meeting had a very interesting and informative talk about some of the 150 churches in Bedfordshire. David Longman has been researching and photographing them since he retired. He is interested in monumental brasses, stained and painted glass, mausoleums, and the different Saints after whom many of the churches are named. A couple of facts from the talk:- The origin of the word steeplechase came from the horse races that used to be held from one church to another, the first of which was in Harlington in 1830. The Black Death in 1349 caused the death of many priests, and in 53 of the Bedfordshire churches there was at least one new incumbent in that year.

Sue Martin and her daughter thoroughly enjoyed the Bedfordshire Denman Weekend in September. Sue showed examples of the Calligraphy she had produced and Lynne showed the many pieces of jewellery she had made.

Three of our Members went to a Group Meeting held at Stockwood Park W I where Cathy Pritchard gave a talk called 'From Rail to Retail'. There are 12 processes from the design of a garment through to it being sold in the shops. Our other Groups gave reports and lovely refreshments were served.

Our Darts team has now won each of their matches so far. There are still 4 matches to play before Christmas. The final will be in March 2019.

Valerie has arranged Christmas Lunch at The Old Red Lion in Bidwell Hill this year which should be a good fun event.

The Christmas Group Meeting will be at Kensworth Village Hall when the Dunstable Ladies Choir will entertain us with their Christmas Songs and the usual sing-along.

There is a Bedfordshire Beauty Rose available and I'm sure a lot of ladies will be buying this.

Our November speaker was unable to attend so we had a Quiz. Sue Martin was our Caller. Valerie Dallinger's table won first prize with Joanne Sherwood, Eileen Smith, Chris Allen and Linda Edwards. We each received a box of Maltesers! Our competition of a *Wartime Recipe* was won by Judith Husbands with Brenda Stones second and Valerie Dallinger third.

On Remembrance Sunday, 11th November, Linda Edwards laid a wreath on behalf of the Women's Institute.

In December we have a social event with everyone bringing a plate of food. Carol Jones will bring the mulled wine. Santa will have his posting box. We all bring a prettily decorated Christmas present and swap between us. An *Unusual Christmas Decoration* is our Competition. We will play some favourite games to round off the evening - maybe even a Christmas sing along!

Everyone from Caddington Women's Institute wishes you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Linda Edwards*

|                     |              |                                                |
|---------------------|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Diary Dates:</b> | 4th December | Social Evening                                 |
| 2019                | 8th January  | Astronomy - John Graham                        |
|                     | 5th February | Chris Ward - Sri Lanka - Jewel of Indian Ocean |

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## Dates for St Andrew's Church - December & January

### December

Sunday 2nd: 10.30am: Cafe Church – Christingle – Keep your lamps burning

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup>: 4pm: We join together for the “*Churches together in Caddington*”  
Advent Service at Aley Green

Sunday 9th: 10.30 am: Informal Communion – John the Baptist prepares the way

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>: 3pm: Blue Christmas – A Carol service for all who have recently been bereaved or for whom Christmas is a difficult time for other reasons, with The Singers

Sunday 16th: 10.30am: Said Communion – Mary & Elizabeth

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup>: 3pm: Family Carol Service

Tuesday 18th: 11.00am: Woodside Care Home Service

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>: 10.30am: Candlelit Christmas Carol Service with The Singers

Monday 24<sup>th</sup>: 11.30pm: Midnight Communion

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>: 10.30am: Christmas Praise Service for all the family

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>: 10.30am: Holy Communion – Jesus Presented at the Temple

### January 2019

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>: 10.30am: Informal Communion – Epiphany

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup>: 10.30am: Morning Praise – The wedding at Cana

Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup>: 11.00am: Woodside Care Home Service

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>: 10.30am: Holy Communion – visiting speaker Ruth Robb from Azalea

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup>: 10.30am: Morning Praise – Jesus rejected at Nazareth



## VILLAGE DEFIBRILLATORS

To access these in an emergency. Dial 999. The call handler will provide you with a code for the lock.

Defibrillators are located at:-

- \* Village Hall, Markyate Road
- \* Peter Edwards Hall, Church Road (accessible through gate)



## Little Stars for December & January

Every Wednesday parents, babies and preschool children gather in the family room at St. Andrew's for chat, a story, crafts and songs – all based round a simple Bible story or theme. All are welcome and we are very relaxed about timing if the morning doesn't pan out quite as expected. If you are new to the village or new to motherhood do come along, you will receive a warm welcome. We serve refreshments from 10am and the session starts at 10.30am.

In December we will meet on the following Wednesdays: 5th, 12th, 19th

In January we will meet on the following Wednesdays: 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th

## Baptism at St Andrew's Church

On Sunday October 28th there was a baptism at St Andrew's Church with a real family occasion. Billy Sam, Alanna and Delsey Witney from Pepperstock were all baptised by Reverend Cathy Pullinger at the morning service.

The photo shows the children with their proud parents Karen and William and also one with Rev Cathy Pullinger and Godparents Sylvia and Andrew Harland. It was a lovely service and the children were welcomed warmly into the Church by the congregation.



## Christmas Biscuits

Well once again it's that time of year when our volunteers will be out and about delivering the Christmas biscuits. These are a seasonal gift from the Community Projects Group to our qualifying residents.



Please remember you need to have lived in the Parish for five years or more and have reached the age of 65. Only one box per household is allowed. We don't automatically know who qualifies and for that reason a previous edition of the Parish News has asked you to let us know, so that the list can be updated. Local businesses, together with the CPG, kindly contribute to this annual gift.

The CPG receives funding from the Parish Council every year and this money is used to support and strengthen our community. Assistance is given to local groups such as the Good Neighbour Scheme or the Friendship Club. Community assets such as the Peter Edwards Playing Field or the village hall may also receive grants when needed. The Parish News which you receive ten months of the year is part funded by the CPG.

Another recent success is the resurgence of Village Day and Santa's Sleigh, which will be going around the village again this December. So, watch out for his itinerary in local publications.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year



*The CPG Committee.*

## Good Neighbour Scheme

For residents who are not aware of the Good Neighbour Scheme we are a team of residents who provide support to fellow residents in Slip End, Aley Green, Pepperstock and Woodside. Support may be requested in the form of transport, for instance to and from medical appointments, prescription collection or shopping trips. We also provide a low level DIY service for simple indoor and out door tasks. If you just fancy a chat and a cup of tea just give us a call. Simple forms of letter writing, or form filling can also be provided.

Our volunteers man a helpline from 9am to 5pm, seven days a week throughout the year. That also includes Christmas! The phone holder will marry up your request with one of our available volunteers – but please try to give us some notice, we're not an emergency service!

Christmas can be a lonely time for many, so please remember we're only a phone call away. This year the Good Neighbours is hosting a Christmas Party in the village hall for village residents and clients on Wednesday 12th December from 2.30 until 4pm. Santa should be in attendance and we also have a bumper Raffle!

For the first time we are also trying to organise lunch on Christmas Day again in the village hall. This is provided for our clients by invitation only. We hope the event will be viable, so we just need to gauge the response!

If you would like any further information about becoming involved in the Good Neighbours, either as a volunteer or client please call either the Helpline 07513 372 415 or myself, Simon Patterson 01582 419 487.

Merry Christmas to everyone.

*The GNS Committee*

## Do you enjoy playing Dominoes?

***Slip End Social Club*** has two teams in local competitions and is always looking for new players.

Serious, but still relaxed competition and friendships. Just go to the club or telephone for more information.

Details at the contacts page at the back of this magazine



**The domino effect!**

### A message from Rev. Cathy Pullinger

This year we are holding what we are calling a “Blue Christmas” Carol service. (Dec 9th at 3pm.) It is for those for whom Christmas will not be easy this year – perhaps because of bereavement or a serious illness, family breakdown or redundancy. If this is you, please feel very warmly invited.

We will be singing a song by Graham Kendrick – it gives Mary’s perspective – the normal joy of bringing a child into the world was tinged with uncertainty and foreboding. When she took the baby Jesus into the temple to present him to the Lord, a man, Simeon, who was in the temple praying had a word of prophecy for Mary. He said that he had now seen God’s salvation and that he could now die in peace, but that a sword would pierce her heart also. One day she would see him dying on a cross, bearing the sins of the world in his flesh.

It was a tremendous privilege for Mary to bear Jesus, to be the means by which God sent his saviour into the world, but it was not without cost. It seems to me that to achieve change for good in this world, to follow God’s saving ways we will have to walk a costly path. A path that is always worth it because then we see the goodness of God in this world – the transformation he can bring into people’s lives - the salvation he came to bring.

The song is called “Thorns in the straw” and repeats the words “so bitter and so sweet” in several of the verses. Included is the phrase *...and as she laid him down to sleep, she wondered - will it always be so bitter and so sweet.*

*Note: Should you wish to hear the song or find out more about the lyrics they can be found on Graham Kendrick’s page on the internet.*

May God be with you this Christmas,  
Cathy



### Co-op Community Fund

FoSELS (PTA to Slip End Village School) would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all those in Slip End who designated us as your Co-op Community Fund Local Cause last year. By simply shopping in the Co-op and swiping your membership card, you helped us to raise the incredible amount of £4,403, which will be used to fund outdoor educational resources for the school. Since the Community Fund started in 2017, FoSELS has received over £6,900 from the Fund to help support various projects in the school, which is a staggering amount! Thank you so much!

The even better news is that FoSELS were asked to re-apply by the Co-op and have been chosen again as a Local Cause until November 2019! This is an amazing opportunity to raise even more money for the school; this time we are raising funds for interactive whiteboards in all of the classrooms.

If you would like to nominate us as your local cause, please visit the membership page to find out more. Please note that your selection does not carry over from one funding round to the next, so you will need to re-select us. **Many thanks, and happy shopping!**

# HARPERS

## *Christmas Food & Wine Fair*

There will be an array of Christmas Food & Wine to try, with a few new products as well as the seasonal favourites



We would like to invite you,  
your family and friends to our  
**Christmas Food & Wine Fair**

ON EITHER:

**Fri 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sat 24<sup>th</sup> November 12 - 2pm**

OR

**Fri 30<sup>th</sup>, Sat 1<sup>st</sup> December 12 - 2pm**

*Harpers are renowned for their hospitality and commitment to produce and source quality Food & Wine.*

## Parking in Slip End

*Parking is a subject about which many people comment, whether they live in a big town or a smaller village... I used to live in central Watford, prior to parking schemes, where leaving your house on a shopping day often meant not being able to return to park until later! This item was received from a local resident and I felt that it needed to be included in our pages. (Ed).*

For those of us lucky enough to live in Slip End's oldest housing we are privileged to enjoy a little slice of history. However, with age comes problems! With the terraced properties being built before the inception of the motorcar no allowances were made for the future innovation we have all come to rely on. This means most of us must park our cars on street and when buying our properties would have considered this a minor inconvenience.

In the last few years Church Road, Summer Street, Front Street as well as some surrounding roads have had designated parking bays applied. This was to ensure both safety and the needs of all residents.

We have had to adjust to a little less space and learn to be considerate 'parkers' to enable our neighbours to park their vehicles as well. Let's face it no one likes carrying bags of shopping halfway down the road in the rain!

Generally, this works well, and I believe we recognise these spaces are for the use of all neighbours. After all they contain no house numbers and have not been assigned to households on an individual basis.

Disputes over parking can become unnecessarily incendiary and we have enough problems with those utilising Slip End streets as free airport parking, so, let's all remember to carry on being good neighbours and acknowledge that none of us have rights over these spaces.

For more information, or if you feel you need to raise a parking issue, visit the Central Bedfordshire Council parking restriction web pages or contact them direct on 0300 300 8301.





## Operation Christmas Child

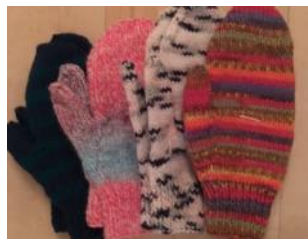


By the time you read this the local shoeboxes will be on their way to Asia to bring some much needed joy to a child this Christmas. We would like to thank several local people for their generous donations this year.

We were extremely lucky to receive some youth football kits from Sam Basye of Summer Street who helps with Creasey's Football Cub in Dunstable. There were items of clothing including football tops, shorts, socks, sweatshirts and some football jackets. The children will be delighted to have them.

Finally, to Joan Duncombe who knits continuously throughout the year making warm, colourful mittens which are gratefully received.

*Some examples are shown here.*



Shoebox Sunday went very well at St Andrew's with Julie. Some of the children can be seen with their boxes before taking them to be blessed by Rev. Cathy Pullinger.



We were also given some lovely warm, soft hats, scarves and dresses from Katrina Doubleday of Pepperstock. The children will love them, I am sure, and they will help keep them warm.

Thank you to anyone who has done a shoebox this year - they really are so appreciated by the children who receive them. Think of them at Christmas.

*By Sue Briggs*



## Crime Statistics for October

### Aley Green

Interference with a motor vehicle – 2

**Total – 2**

### Pepperstock

None

### Slip End

Theft from a Motor Vehicle – 4

Harassment - without violence (course of conduct) - 2

Theft of a Motor Vehicle – 1

Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000) – 1

**Total - 8**

### Woodside

Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter – 1

**Total - 1**

## Crime prevention over the Christmas period

Ensuring the safety of your property is important at all times, however, Christmas and New Year can be a time when those opportunists with ill intent are out and about.

A number of years ago, neighbours of mine had a visiting relative who arrived outside the house and went to greet the family. By the time they went to unpack the car, all the presents had gone! Everyone was understandably quite devastated!

Remember to take care and don't leave presents and goodies easily visible or accessible. Make sure doors and windows are locked. Look out for your neighbours and friends, especially the elderly or those who are alone.

If you are going away over the festive period, try to leave your house and other property as safe as possible.

The wide use of social media these days, tempts us to tell the world when we are off on holiday or away from home. Be wary of this. Maybe it is safer to tell people about it after you have got home again. Surely your friends can wait a few days for those exciting photos to be posted!

In the mean time,... Have an enjoyable, happy and safe Christmas and New Year!

## KEECH HOSPICE

The Hospice would appreciate any used postage stamps.

Please save and drop into one of their Charity shops.  
Thank you



## Gardening Notes *from Russell Sprout*

It's nearly Christmas again and as usual I am still trying to figure out where the year has gone! If the weather is dry, continue digging vacant ground and finish tidying up beds and borders. If you haven't done so already clean and lubricate mowers before putting away for the winter.

Prune climbing roses now, cutting away diseased or damaged growth and tie in any new shoots to their support. Prune older flowered side shoots back by two thirds of their length. Start to winter prune your Wisteria, cutting back summer side shoots to 2 or 3 buds. Leave the faded flower heads on your Hydrangeas until the spring, they will provide frost protection to the swelling buds further down the stems.

Damp leading to botrytis mildew is the major problem in the greenhouse, so ventilate on dry days and reduce any watering to the absolute minimum. Lag outdoor taps and drain hoses and spray guns until dry to prevent frost damage. If we have heavy falls of snow this winter knock the snow off the branches of trees and shrubs to prevent them from breaking under the weight of the snow.

Remove fallen leaves from alpiners and rockeries, fork over between plants with a hand fork and remove weeds. Examine dahlia tubers, if shrivelled plunge in tepid water overnight and if any are starting to rot cut off damaged part and dust with flowers of sulphate. Spray fruit trees with a tar-oil winter wash this month or next to kill eggs of pests laid earlier in the year. Tar-oil can be sprayed on all fruit except strawberries. Keep a check for mice damage amongst stored fruit and vegetables and also amongst autumn sown peas and broad beans and take appropriate action.

Recycle as much waste as you can on the compost heap and burn any woody matter that won't break down, but check carefully for hibernating hedgehogs before starting a bonfire.

The seed catalogues are available now but remember, it is first come first served so get that order in as soon as possible. Remember when comparing a modern F1 hybrid against an older open pollinated type that the F1 will always mature in the same week, whereas the open pollinated varieties will crop over several weeks.

It's time to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, see you in February

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## GLoucester Quays Christmas Market

I have always loved the image of a Victorian Christmas which has been portrayed in Christmas cards, even if not really believing it to have been such a glittering time for everyone. A visit to the Victorian Christmas Market with the **Friendship Club** did much to restore the imagination.

With over 120 stalls offering the most enticing products including chutneys, garlics, cheeses and drinks

made it impossible to pass by without at least sampling some of these delicacies no longer easily available.

The Victorian housewife - and that's not sexist, since it would have been the ladies who did all the hard work and preparation - spent months preparing a meal for her family. Much thought and imagination went into this special occasion and seeing so many delights re-created at this market was exciting and mouth watering.

Seeing a coach full of tired but happy marketeers should make the organisers pleased and our thanks go to all involved, particularly to Ann Higgins.



*Keith Holme*



## Signs and Wonders

### Holiday Fun Day at St Andrew's 26th October

We had a wonderful day with 17 children who attended the fun day in half term. There was a lot of laughter and enjoyment and the children all played and worked very hard. We heard stories of miracles performed, learnt new songs, did many different crafts including making a boat and sailing it, and had a lot of fun with the parachute game. New friendships were formed and the helpers enjoyed it as much as the children. Well done Julie, Sylvia (for the music), Cathy and all the team.

*Sue Briggs*

*Jack with the girls - Sarah, Anna and Evie / Paddy as Jesus and Billy Sam as a disciple in The Calming of The Storm. / Some children try out the boat - supplied by Paddy / Sylvia and Cathy lead the singing*





Parachute fun

**Reminder—our next issue of Parish News comes out at the beginning of February 2019. Please send your contributions for that issue by 15th January**

## Excerpts from LADACAN October Newsletter

*(LADACAN is a local organisation which monitors and campaigns about aeroplane noise. To find out more—visit their website.)*

### **AIRPORT'S AIRSPACE CHANGE IS JUDGED "UNWORKABLE" BY NATS**

For over a year, as members will know, the airport has been meeting Focus Group representatives including LADACAN to design flight path changes to try to alleviate noise on its westerly departure route past Brookmans Park. Delegates were told that aircraft would be able to reach higher altitudes sooner, and that new respite route options were possible to share the load.

After a year's work, the airport checked with air traffic services (NATS) and was told that the plans were unworkable because of conflicts with planes from Heathrow and Stansted. We had frequently raised these potential issues but were told that negotiations with other airports were going well.

In fact they came to nothing, and the best on offer until the whole airspace is redesigned (which will take years) is a slight tweak to the centre line of the track, and the option to climb to 5,000ft rather than holding at 4,000ft.

Meantime the CAA's review of the original RNAV implementation is due by the end of the year: our feeling is that we should wait and see what it says and also to press for a more joined-up airspace planning process.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please encourage your friends and neighbours to visit our website at [www.ladacan.org](http://www.ladacan.org) and to join LADACAN for just a £10 donation. Our quality of life in this region depends on working together to present strong opposition.

## December

Look at the church dates pages for Advent and Christmas services at St Andrew's Church and at Aley Green Methodist Church

- Mon 3rd Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7pm  
Tues 4th Caddington WI Social Evening Baptist Church Hall 7:30pm  
Tues 11th Book Club Frog and Rhubarb 8pm  
Wed 12th GNS Christmas Party Village Hall 2:30 -4:00m (see poster for details)  
Fri 13th Santa Visit *(if you have been good)*  
Sat 14th Santa Visit  
Tues 18th Photography Group Christmas party Social Club 8pm

## January **NO PARISH NEWS THIS MONTH**

- Mon 7th Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7pm  
Tues 8th Caddington WI Speaker Baptist Hall 7:30pm  
Mon 21st Gardening Club AGM (& light hearted gardening quiz) Village Hall 8.00pm

## February **NEXT ISSUE OF PARISH NEWS**

- Mon 4th Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7pm  
Tues 5th Caddington WI Speaker Baptist Hall 7:30pm  
FUTURE DATES for 2019  
Sat 29th June will be Village Day 2019 Save the date

**Christmas bin collections**— The bins will be collected the day after our usual day due to bank holidays earlier in the week. See the notices recently attached to our bins.

**Garden Waste Collections**— These are suspended between **Monday 10th December 2018 and Friday 1st March 2019**. Our last garden waste collection until March is thus Fri 7th December. Don't forget! (You can take it to the tip instead.)

## **Bin collections for December & January**

**Black bin and Glass** - Fri 14th, **Sat 29th** Dec and  
Fri 11th, 25th Jan and 1st Feb

**Orange bin** - Fri 7th, 21st Dec and **Sat 5th**,  
and Fri 18th Jan **Green bin** Fri 7th Dec only







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**Slip End Garage** Markyate Road, 456888  
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**Schools:** **Slip End Village School** 720152 **Manshead** 679400  
**Caddington Village School** 726058 **St Mary's Catholic Primary** 602420

### Churches:-

**St Andrew's Church**  
**Rev. Cathy Pullinger**—  
 vicarage 480391 or  
 07425 148046

#### Wardens:

**Steve Baird** 738205  
**Susan Wiltshire** 727000

**Aley Green Methodist Church. Minister:**

**Rev Nigel Bibbings**  
**Senior Steward:**

**Ann Meader** 733668

### Sport:-

**Bowling Club** 412506  
**Darts League** TBC  
**Football**  
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**Tennis** 733253

**Runners** Peter Baber  
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**Slip End Veterans Football**  
 Wayne Leslie (see football)

### Community:-

**Gardening Club** 423622

**Slip End Stompers Line**

**Dancing**  
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**Women's Institute** 737036

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**Book Club** (look for facebook  
 group) **Slip End**

**Parish Community**  
 is now on Facebook

as well at-  
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**Items for the next issue (February) to us by 15th January**

**(Editor — Keith) Adverts by 10th please**

Any delivery problems? Contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way  
 (01582 724527), [alanjan4546@gmail.com](mailto:alanjan4546@gmail.com)

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 Editors' own.

Articles should be sent by the 15th of the preceding month to the Editor - Alison Wilson,

23 Claydown Way / Keith Holme, 37 Brickhill or e-Mail [parishnews@slipend.co.uk](mailto:parishnews@slipend.co.uk)

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|                                 |              |                                   |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
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| Sarah Minnighan (Vice chairman) | 07868 742904 | s.minnighan@outlook.com           |
| Steve Baird                     | 738205       | Steven.Baird@cooperindustries.com |
| Simon Patterson                 | 07767 615714 | smp@amida.fsworld.co.uk           |
| Carol Brennan                   | 453049       | carolbrennan74@aol.com            |
| Carol Beeton                    | 405597       | cmbeet@gmail.com                  |
| Paul Shaw                       | 07957 188947 | porkypygge@gmail.com              |

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| Water leaks        | 0800 3765325  | Cold Calling    | 0345 4040506  |          |        |
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Kevin.Collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



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