

Aley Green
Slip End

Pepperstock
Woodside

Slip End Village

• PARISH NEWS •

December 2020



Merry Christmas to all!
Stay safe!

Hands, Face, space.

Date: _____
2020



Designed by: Eleanor Jarvis

December 2020

Editors' Notes

It's been a funny old month. As I write this we sit in yet another National lockdown and I can't help but feel like I'm in an episode of Big Brother, the old Channel 4 and later Channel 5 game show. Locked in a house with my "housemates", the daily tasks have become somewhat mundane, although the weekly tasks of clearing the leaves and washing windows etc give some excitement I suppose, although, unlike Big Brother, it doesn't seem to contribute towards increasing our shopping budget for the week!

Zoom and Skype calls have become the lockdown version of trips to the diary room to talk about your ills and complain about your other "housemates", although I am happy to say none of us are up for eviction just yet!

As I look out of the window it seems as though Winter is coming and with it the season finale of 2020. I wonder what the rest of the year has in store for us? A Zombie apocalypse, Godzilla rising from the sea or perhaps Boris Johnson getting through an address to the nation without stuttering (this seems the less likely of the bunch)

As December arrives and the naughty elves leave the North Pole to wreak havoc upon homes up and down the country with their cheeky japes, the nights draw colder and darker we begin to realise that it may not be the Christmas that we are all used to this year now that Covid-19 is upon us.

It gives me pause for thought and reason to ask what Christmas really means to us. The birth of Jesus Christ is the reason we celebrate but, to me, it is more than that, Christmas is a time to spend with family, it is not about where we go for the season, the gifts we receive or the food (although pigs in blankets are amazing!) on our dinner tables, it is a time to reflect on what we have, our health, our happiness and to be thankful for what we do have and who is in our lives.

With this in mind, I'd like to take the opportunity to wish all of you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year, I hope that you can get to spend it with your loved ones.

Matt's Musing

The downside of having a bomb disposal technician in the family is that it takes six hours to open Christmas presents.....

Slip End Parish Christmas Biscuits 2020

Our Parish has a Christmas Gift tradition started by Slip End Parish Council many, many years ago whereby any of our residents within the parish who are over the age of 65 and have lived here for 5 years or more receive a tin of biscuits. This tradition is now run by the Community Projects Group and we need to start getting our distribution list up to date.

Please bear in mind that to be eligible for your Christmas gift you need to have **lived in the Parish for 5 years or more and have reached the age of 65**. Only one tin is given per couple.

To help us keep the CPG list up to date, **if you are newly qualified**, please contact Simon Patterson on 01582 419 487 or email: s.patterson@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

Please note that by responding to this advert you are giving CPG permission to hold your data for the purpose of receiving Christmas Biscuits. For a copy of the Parish Councils data protection policy please see the Slip End Community web site.

Christmas Cover Competition

A competition was hosted on the Slip Enders Facebook group to create a Christmas front cover for this month's edition of the Parish News.

The criteria was that it should be a bright, colourful Christmas themed picture, we had a rush of entries towards the closing date of the competition and it was really hard to judge an over all winner.

The Winner is....

After much deliberation, the winner was declared as **Eleanor Jarvis** and you can see her fantastic work of art on our cover this month.

Well done Eleanor you will receive your prize of **£25** of Entertainer vouchers this month, graciously donated by **Fergus McLardy**

It was incredibly hard to pick an overall winner as they were all so different and so good As such, **all** entrants will be receiving a prize to thank them for their hard work.

You can see all of the amazing entries on pages 28—29

Congratulations, and, again, a big Parish News thank you to Fergus

Parish Council Update

The latest Parish Council Meeting was held on **Monday 2nd November** as a virtual Zoom Meeting.

One Planning Application was discussed this month:

CB/20/03894/FULL – Land next to 66 Woodside Road, Woodside – Erection of two detached bungalows.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should lodge a “No Objection” comment to CBC Planning.

Several residents had expressed concerns that the Woodside Park Homes estate was working on constructing new concrete bases on the site. It was agreed the Vice Chair would write to CBC Planning Enforcement asking for clarification.

Crawley Playground

Despite the new Covid-19 restrictions the Playground will stay open.

Five youths had been seen on CCTV spraying drinks on to the playground equipment. The Vice Chair said she will speak to them when she sees them again.

Grass Cutting Contract

Two potential bidders have now been shown around the sites. At the time of the meeting one bid had been received.

This year the Parish Council will be distributing **215** boxes of biscuits to residents who are over retirement age.

The Parish Council has not received replies to emails sent to CBC regarding outline costs for a residents parking scheme, flooding and overgrown footpaths in Newlands Road. The Parish Clerk was asked to chase these issues up again with our Ward Councillors. The recent pictures of flooding shown in the Parish News will be used to add weight to our request to get CBC to fix this problem.

The Parish Council has successfully completed its 2019/20 Audit.

The 2021/22 budget is likely to be discussed at the next December Parish Council meeting.

The Parish Council will be making a formal response to the Luton Airport consultation regarding increasing the number of passengers every year.

All About Planning

Planning applications submitted within the Parish since 15th October 2020

Application CB/20/03894/full submitted 28th October 2020

Land adjacent to 66 Woodside Road, LU1 4DQ

Erection of 2 new bungalows with shared vehicular/pedestrian access.

Decision: Not yet decided

For further information on applications visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk >view planning applications. If you wish to comment on an application email: planning@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



Yes we did it - we received our certificates and medals for our recent Keech Challenge (Scoot, Bike or Trike for 100 days) and my grandchildren Ted, Evie & Elizabeth who all attend Slip End Village School were sent a special t-shirt as we managed to raise such a large amount - £365 for the Keech Hospice in Luton. Thank you to all our friends and family for supporting us.

We are so lucky to have Keech Hospice nearby with it's wonderful facilities to help us in times of need, and they made a huge difference to me when I lost Allan, through my lovely counsellor Ela and the Silver Linings support group I am in. The hospice offers bereavement support for the whole family for as long as you need it, and through the Silver Linings monthly group you meet people in a similar situation to yourself. We have been able to continue meeting throughout lockdown via Zoom which has been a Godsend to us, as we have been able to support each other.

2021 will see Keech celebrates its 30th birthday of helping patients and reassuring loved ones - a great achievement I'm sure you will agree. If you would like to find out more about Keech, for volunteering opportunities, or specific requests they have a support desk - letmehelp@keech.org.uk or go to their website - Keech.org.uk

Very grateful, **Sue Briggs**



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YULE

Yule or Yuletide is a festival that was originally observed by the Germanic and Anglo-Saxon peoples. Scholars have connected the original celebrations of Yule to the Wild Hunt of the God Odin (Woden). Later, Yule was Christianised. Many present-day Christmas customs and traditions such as the Yule log, Yule singing and others originally come from pagan Yule traditions.

It was originally a fertility festival to welcome back the Sun King, held on the winter solstice, the shortest day and longest night, which usually falls on or around 21st December. The following days would start getting longer and the earth would start getting warmer, so crops would begin to prepare for growth. It was also a time for rejoicing and making merry and for friends neighbours and family to get together. In Roman times, Saturnalia was the equivalent winter celebration, celebrating the Emperor as a god along with Saturn their chief god. It was a time of partying, over eating and drinking and was the day when slaves were given the day off and allowed to rule over their masters.

Christmas trees and Yule logs stem from Germanic tradition. The Yule Log was originally lit by the remains of last years hearth fire and was also a symbol of rebirth. Over time that tradition fell by the way side and the chocolate covered Swiss Roll became popular. While a fir tree was cut down and brought in to the house to be decorated and lit as a symbol of fertility.

The Christmas cards we now exchange were a Victorian invention and the giving of presents became popular. In fact in Europe, the Scandinavian countries exchange their presents on Christmas Eve, while the rest of Europe exchange theirs on Christmas Day, this is except for the Eastern Orthodox community who give their presents out on January 1st St Basils Day (or Agios Vasilis). In fact in Greece, where I lived for many years, Christmas is hardly noticed and Easter is their biggest Christian celebration.

Here in England our custom of decorating Christmas trees started during Queen Victoria's reign, as her consort Prince Albert is credited with bringing the first Christmas tree. The large Christmas tree that is in Trafalgar Square is a gift from the people of Oslo, Norway as a thank you for our support in World War II and has been an annual gift since 1947, although the first one arrived in 1942.

The Mistletoe was a plant sacred to the druids it had no roots, they believed it was a gift from the gods and was used in medicine as a cure. Kissing under Mistletoe was regarded as a good luck and as a fertility rite to help conceive a healthy baby. Pine Trees, Holly and Ivy were all regarded as symbols of life as they stayed green all year round. The Holly was also sacred because of its red berries. While the ivy was sacred as it was like the Fir tree green all year round.

Finally in modern Germanic speaking areas and some Scandinavian countries, *Yule* denotes the Christmas holiday season. Examples include *jul* in Sweden, Denmark and Norway, *jól* in Iceland and the Faroe Islands, *joulu* in Finland, *Joelfest* in Friesland, *Joelfeest* in the Netherlands and *jõulud* in Estonia.

John Larsen

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The Rotary Club of Dunstable

Since this dreadful pandemic started way back in March, The Rotary Club of Dunstable has been donating money to Dunstable Foodbank. The members of our club have given generously over this period and have donated a substantial amount of money.

President David said that our Rotary Club has been a long term supporter of the Dunstable Foodbank.

We have heard many examples of people who unexpectedly find themselves without an income, through illness or redundancy. The foodbank is a life saver for so many people, and we are pleased to be able to help, especially in this unprecedented year.

This is Rotary at its finest!



Caddington W.I.



The Caddington W.I. is trying to get together once a month. We recently ran a bingo session which was greatly received and a good time was had by all.

On the back of our successful quiz night in November we will also be looking at running another one in December for Christmas

We hope that you all have good Christmas and hope that 2021 will be a better year than this year.

New changes for everyone which we are all getting used to!

Happy New Year!

Linda Edwards.

FRIGHT NIGHT

Halloween this year saw a host of ghosts and ghouls gather for a pumpkin hunt around the village, with 27 pumpkins to spot, families set off around Slip End to find them all.

The hunt was expertly put together by Kimberley Utley, the event went down brilliantly with fun had by all and it was great to see so many people out enjoying it.







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SANTA CLAUS IS ON HIS WAY TO SLIP END, PEPPERSTOCK AND WOODSIDE

Thursday 17th and Friday 18th December

(weather permitting)

Santa will be making an appearance in a road near you with his elves and helpers between 5 and 8pm.

Coronavirus has made Santa's visit more difficult to arrange this year as we need to keep everyone safe. We have plans to stop at various places around the village, so you can come out to see us, or wave from your windows as we pass.

We will have treats for the children that the elves will hand out - they will be wearing their gloves. We will still have our collection buckets if you would like to donate to Keech and local village groups.

We have decided that it won't be possible to knock on all the doors this year so please listen out for us and keep your eyes peeled for Santa's arrival in your street,

The expected route is below. Times are approximate but we will get to each road.

Thursday 17 th December	Friday 18 th December
Summer St – 17:15	New Street – 17:15
Church Road – 17:45	Rossway/St Andrews Close – 17:45
Markyate Road – 17:50	Prebendal Drive – 17:45
Claydown Way – 18:20	Farmers View – 18:10
Front Street – 18:50	The Plough/Woodside – 18:35
Crawley Close – 19:10	Woodside Rd/Elaine Gdns – 18:50
Pepperstock – 19:30	The Grove – 19:10



We don't know the covid rules as yet, but if you would like to help us for some or all the evening call **0795 858 7595** and we will make contact nearer the time to let you know the arrangements.



St Andrews Church **Advent** *Window Trail*



For all of the 24 days of Advent (December), 24 different houses around the village will have a poster in a window.

Each poster has a different number, one to match each days date. On each day of Advent the next numbered Poster will reveal a word or two. These words will eventually make the first verse of a well-known children's Christmas carol.

Also in the windows will be a Christmas object or a picture of a Christmas object.



Those wishing to take part will need to record the words and pictures they see around the village, so that on Christmas Eve they will be able to know what the carol is and if they wish, create a Christmas picture of the Carol using as many of the objects they saw as they can.

Keep an eye out around the village each day in December for each numbered poster and the special words to help you work out the secret Christmas Carol!

For more information, message Mary Barker through Facebook



100 LINES OF CRANIAL CONUNDRUMS SUPPORTING ORACLE CANCER TRUST



Thank you to my loyal Slip End quizzers for supporting the cranial conundrums quiz. I do hope that you weren't driven *too* mad and that you enjoyed participating.

We raised a fantastic £480 for Oracle Cancer Trust!

This quiz threw up a few challenges, in that a couple of the conundrums had several options! Thank goodness for Google!

The winning and joint second team both came from Slip End!

Congratulations to Lesley Horn & Sarah, team 2 P N S (C & M O)

Debra, Paul and 2 uncles team, That's Magic

I am looking forward to being able to hold my usual quiz again, or has this become the normal?



Katrina & Phil

COMMUNITY CORNER

On Saturday the 7th November, when I came out of my front door I saw 5 year old Amelija Viazovskyte and her dad Aleksas collecting the rubbish in our street,

What a good turn.

Well done!

Barbara Ray



FoSELS (PTA to Slip End Village School) has been chosen to be part of the next round of the Co-op's Local Community Fund, from now until October 2021.

Whenever Members buy selected Co-op branded products and services, the Co-op will give local causes a helping hand.

Any funds raised via the Local Community Fund will be used by FoSELS to regenerate an overgrown nature area in the school grounds, providing a high-quality outdoor learning experience for the school pupils and wider youth community - visit <https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/43682> to find out more about how the funds will be spent.

All you need to do to help raise money is:

- become a Co-op member (if you aren't one already) by picking up a card in store;
- log into your online account at www.coop.co.uk/membership or call the membership helpline on 0800 0234708;
- choose FoSELS – Friends of Slip End Village School as your local cause; and
- remember to swipe your membership card every time you shop in the Co-op.

It really is as simple as that!

To date, local Co-op members have helped FoSELS raise over **£7,000** for the school, which has been used to help fund indoor PE equipment, interactive whiteboards and outdoor educational resources. Please also ask friends and family to designate us as their chosen local cause too - this really is a brilliant opportunity to potentially raise a **LOT** of money for minimal effort.

Your support is invaluable – thank you so much!





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In November our children have paid their respects on Armistice Day. In each class the children made poppy wreaths and as part of our whole school virtual assembly we learnt about the poppy and why it is important. We honoured a 2-minute silence in our classrooms whilst the School Council and Year 6 went outside to lay the class wreaths under our magnificent oak tree.

At the beginning of this term we shared a whole school text called *Flotsom* by David Wiesner. There are lots of wonderful displays throughout the school of a vast array of learning based around this book. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and even allowed siblings to chat and share with each other at home.



Lockdown has brought further adjustments to our routines but we are proud and thankful to our whole school community for their efforts in keeping everyone safe. We are determined to ensure Christmas is still alive in our school, with planning taking place in the background. Yet again, our wonderful parent team – FoSELS have come together to raise money for the school with Christmas tea towel and card orders.

We wish the whole Slip End community all the best for the next few weeks.

Helen Brind
Head of School



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Gardening Notes

by *Russell Sprout*

It's nearly Christmas again and what a strange and disruptive year it has been. I hope that by the time you are reading this we have come out of lock-down for the second time and that we can all have some semblance of a normal festive season. 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

Remove fallen leaves from alpine 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.**

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.

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.

The allotments in Slip End were due to close at the end of September but have had a stay of execution until next September, the only positive thing to come out of covid! There has been a lot of pilfering this year which has been very upsetting for the people affected. So I would ask everyone to respect the hard work that allotment holders put in and leave their produce alone. If you don't have an allotment you should not be in there unless invited by one of the allotment holders who should be present with you.

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



A Message from St Andrew's



Jesus understands

The Bible says that Jesus was made to be like his brothers and sisters. He is able to sympathise with our weaknesses because he has been tempted in every way just as we have. He became like us, he came to share with us in our experience of life.

It looks as if we are going to have a very strange Christmas this year. Family sized turkeys without the usual family gatherings to enjoy them, Carol services without being able to sing any Carols.

One of the Carols we probably would have sung and will probably listen to is: Once in Royal David's City. This includes the words, "Day by day like us he grew; he was little weak and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness."

In his Son Jesus, God takes upon himself the limitations and struggles of ordinary human life. This is what we celebrate at Christmas. That in Jesus He was willing to lay aside his majesty, his sovereignty, all the riches of heaven to become as weak and helpless and vulnerable as any new-born infant. Or any of us during the restrictions and uncertainties of the pandemic!

Right from the start Jesus knew isolation and insecurity. The fact that Mary was found to be expecting a child before she was married would have been extremely isolating and traumatic for Mary, and without Josephs support she would have been at risk of being stoned for adultery. They lived in an occupied state and the Census demanded by the Romans meant that they had to travel, by donkey or foot about 100 miles, right at the end of her pregnancy. Then of course there was no hospital, or midwife, or even an inn waiting for them, they would have been pretty much alone. That was not the end of their troubles, the puppet King Herod, got wind of a new King being born and commanded the death of all the boys under two. The family had to flee to a foreign land to live an insecure and isolated life as exiles.

Jesus was born into a dangerous, unstable and cruel world. Yet he grew up to trust in his heavenly Father. The one difference between Jesus and us is that despite the difficulties and temptations of his earthly life, he never sinned, he managed to walk with love and courage, and obedience to God, throughout them all. However he doesn't judge us – he comes alongside us to help us.

And so the great thing about the Christian faith is that we worship a God who doesn't stand aloof from our troubles but comes down and shares with us in them. Jesus had so much to deal with throughout his short life that he is able to sympathise with us in our weakness, our struggles, our difficulties in life. Although obviously his unique life experience can't be exactly the same as our unique life experience still he has great understanding of our human condition. This can give us huge

strength and comfort.

He is with us, he empathises with us and yet he is able to lead us forward and show us a way to live in faith in the midst of our difficulties.

To experience this, all we need to do is to turn to him and ask him for help.

Although we will hugely miss the usual ways of celebrating Christmas we don't need to lose our experience of this message of Christmas.

So I wish you a Christmas full of Jesus presence and may God be with us all as we move into what will hopefully be a New Year in which we begin to come through the challenges of the pandemic,

Cathy

St Andrew's Church—Dates for December & January

If church is closed due to Covid – most of these services will be replaced by Zoom services – please contact Cathy for the number in order to join the Zoom meeting.

December 6th 10.30am: Informal Communion – Advent – Baptism in the Holy Spirit (followed by a Zoom service at 11.30am)

December 13th 10.30am: Morning Praise – Advent – Witness to the Light

December 13th 3.00pm: Bereavement Service (By invitation to those bereaved this year, due to social distancing – please ring Cathy if you would like to come but don't receive an invitation in case there are spaces available)

December 20th 10.30am: Carol Service & Nine Lessons (Please contact Cathy or Julie Taylor to get a ticket for this as we are limited as to how many we will be able to seat – as with all our services, we are not able to sing so we will remain seated and listen to the carols during all our Christmas services.)

December 24th 11.30pm: Midnight Communion

December 25th 10.30am: Christmas Praise

December 27th 10.30am: Morning Praise – Christmas as it has been told to them (followed by a Zoom service at 11.30am)

If the Covid situation returns to what it was in the summer, all these services should be followed by the same service on Zoom at 11.30am

January 3rd 10.30am: Informal Communion – Jesus, a little boy in the temple

January 10th 10.30am: Morning Praise – The baptism of Jesus

January 17th 10.30am: Holy Communion – Come and see

January 24th 10.30am: Morning Praise – Jesus changes water into wine

January 31st 10.30am: Morning Praise – Jesus is revealed to Simeon and Anna

If you are unable to join us in person for any of our services in December and January, we will be holding a Zoom service most Sundays at 11.30am on the same theme as the actual service – all are welcome at both.

However there will not be a Zoom service for Services from 13th December to 25th December.



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Christmas QUIZ

Test your Christmas knowledge with these 10 festive themed questions, answers can be found on page 36.

1. According to the song, what did my true love give to me on the eighth day of Christmas?
2. Which country started the tradition of putting up a Christmas tree?
3. In which modern-day country was St. Nicholas born in?
4. In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, what was the first name of Scrooge?
5. In which classic novel does the protagonist set sail for a sea voyage on a cold Christmas day?
6. Which Christmas hit originally released in 1984 has been no.1 in the UK charts three times?
7. According to 1946's Christmas classic *It's Wonderful Life*, what happens every time a bell rings?
8. A Christmas Couronne is a rich sweet bread and a speciality of Lyon. What does Couronne mean in English?
9. Which carol contains the line: "Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled"?
10. The line "Let earth receive her King / Let every heart / Prepare Him room / And heaven and nature sing" is taken from which carol?

Christmas

Wordsearch

Can you find the 12 hidden Christmas words in the grid below?
Answers can be found on page 36

U	C	N	I	N	D	L	W	F	I	S	Z	V	O	K	M	L
U	L	K	V	C	E	R	E	J	I	Y	G	K	U	R	E	C
Y	J	W	U	G	B	F	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	J
B	W	F	N	Q	A	A	U	I	X	M	O	D	R	N	F	Z
A	C	A	S	O	X	Q	S	D	X	L	C	K	U	F	O	Z
M	Y	X	D	U	S	D	E	A	R	E	I	N	D	E	E	R
O	D	T	F	F	K	U	J	U	J	N	Y	F	A	U	T	U
Y	P	X	L	Y	D	I	F	I	S	K	A	P	R	E	E	J
X	T	L	K	C	B	V	T	H	L	X	H	M	J	X	T	J
N	Q	I	Q	B	R	L	S	C	O	Z	J	I	W	N	U	X
I	X	L	V	P	G	L	O	A	R	T	N	R	D	O	F	O
A	B	G	P	I	E	Y	T	Y	A	Y	M	L	Y	P	N	Z
E	E	G	E	I	T	R	N	I	C	D	O	G	A	N	Y	S
E	L	Q	G	Q	E	A	W	E	I	T	P	R	M	R	Z	N
Y	L	H	P	E	V	V	N	D	X	E	L	D	N	A	C	E
E	S	Q	K	I	G	X	C	K	J	S	R	I	U	T	I	G
C	B	C	K	O	Z	Z	M	A	T	N	A	S	J	T	E	N

ANGEL	BELLS	CANDLE	CAROLS
CHRISTMAS	JESUS	NATIVITY	REINDEER
SLEIGH	SNOWMAN	SANTA	TREE



At the start of the pandemic we were concerned that we might struggle to keep pace with requests for shopping and prescription collections, especially as some of our regular volunteers were in the vulnerable group and had to take a step back. All face to face appointments ceased which was a good thing from our point of view because I don't think anyone would have been happy to offer a lift back then.

Fortunately quite a few people came forward to volunteer on a temporary basis because they had been furloughed and this allowed us to keep pace with the requests coming in which were fast and furious to begin with. Things did calm down over time, in part because the government food parcels started to arrive and gradually people were able to get slots with the supermarkets to deliver their shopping, and in some cases families stepped up their support where they were able to do so.

Things are much calmer now and although some people are getting face to face appointments again we have been able to cope so far. A lot of the temporary volunteers are now back at work but we were extremely grateful for their contribution, and some of our regular volunteers are back on board now. We have gained three new volunteers from those who volunteered on a temporary basis initially which is great. **One area that we could do with some help is taking the phone calls requesting help and finding a volunteer to do the job, if you think you would like to have a go then please do contact us, you can do this by using the helpline number – 07513 372 415, or contact one of the committee.**

Sadly, we have lost several clients during this period – **Susan Ball, Roy Thomson, Tom Reid, Mary Wildman and Marjorie Aldous**, their names may be familiar to some of you. As far as we know none of them were COVID-19 related.

Just to give you some idea of the number of jobs we have done during this awful pandemic:

March to June	161 Jobs
July to October	115 Jobs

For 62 different people, some existing clients and some new because they were told to shield.

We have been unable to do our regular tea parties at the village hall this year which are extremely popular and we know from feedback that clients have missed them, as we all have. Let us hope we will be able to commence again in the not too distant future.



Let us hope that a vaccine is found soon and we can all get back to some sort of normality!

Rosemary Wickens

*Slip End & District Good Neighbour Scheme
On behalf of the Committee:*



**Simon & Carol Patterson, Rosemary Wickens,
Carol Beeton
Joan Duncombe, Nikki West, Carolyn Martin**





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Christmas cover

Competition

We ran a Christmas Cover competition on the Facebook, Slip Enders Group this month and had a great response with some amazing pieces of art. The entries were all very different but all wonderful and festive, below are the entries that we received.



Isobel McLellan (7)



Bella Ryan (9)



Indi Childs (9)



Lizzie Scott



Myla Ryan (7)



Hannah Mason (11)



Seth Mason (6)



Hannah Day (8)

Photography Group

Here is a selection of this months photos from the Photography Group—this month's topic was "Arches".





To find out more about us, please contact Parish News or Andy Prothero at countrygardensAP@outlook.com

Sunday 13th December



BREAKFAST OR ROAST WITH SANTA

Breakfast

tables from 10am

Full English Breakfast

Adults £10

includes tea or coffee

Children £7

includes juice box &
chocolate selection box gift

Roast Dinner

tables from 12.30pm

Traditional Roast Beef or Chicken

Adults £14

includes tea or coffee

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includes juice box &
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CRIME REPORT



Aley Green

Burglary - Residential – Dwelling – 1

Total – 1

Pepperstock

None

Total – 0

Slip End

Theft from a motor vehicle – 2

Assault occasioning actual bodily harm (ABH) – 2

Aggravated vehicle taking - 1

Total – 5

Woodside

None

Total – 0

Caddington

Theft if not classified elsewhere – 3

Interference with a motor vehicle – 3

Assault without Injury - Common assault and battery – 2

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

Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle – 1

Theft of a motor vehicle – 1

Criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling – 1

Burglary - Business And Community – 1

Making off without payment – 1

Total – 14

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIM

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Christmas Quiz and Wordsearch Answers

1. **Answer:** Eight maids a milking

2. **Answer:** Germany

3. **Answer:** Turkey (*originally Patara, a city in the ancient district of Lycia, in Asia Minor*)

4. **Answer:** Ebenezer

5. **Answer:** Moby Dick

6. **Answer:** Do They Know it's Christmas

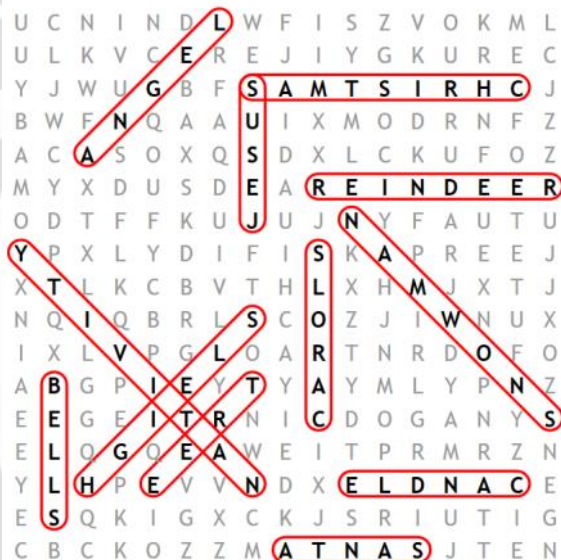
7. **Answer:** An Angel gets its wings

8. **Answer:** Crown

9. **Answer:** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

10. **Answer:** Joy to the World

Christmas Wordsearch



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

Until restrictions are lifted, we do not know which future activities to include... We will update you as soon as we are able.

December

Mon 7th Parish Council Meeting - via Zoom (Contact Clerk if you wish to join)

TBA "Santa" will hopefully be visiting our streets again this year!

January

Mon 4th Parish Council Meeting - via Zoom (Contact Clerk if you wish to join)

Remember—the next Parish News is the February issue to give us a break around Christmas time!

Parish News Online

For those who like to read magazines on tablet / screen, Parish News can be found online at:-

www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk and
www.slipend.co.uk where historical copies can also be found.

Bin Collections— December & January

Orange bin **December:** 4th, 18th, 31st
January: 5th, 29th

Black bin and Glass **December:** 11th, 24th
January: 9th, 22nd



Bin dates according to Central Beds at time of publishing. To check please visit www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Garden Waste collections will be suspended from Monday, 7 December 2020 until Friday, 26 February 2021 inclusive. The last collection date for our area will be on Friday 4th Dec. Collections will resume again from Monday 1st March 2021.

COMMUNITY AND SERVICES

Services:-	Good Neighbour Scheme: 07513 37 24 15	
Shop at the Crossroads	401069 Mon—Sun 7.00 to 19:30	
Slip End Garage	Markyate Road, 456888	
Doctor	Caddington Surgery 725673	
Doctor	Markyate Surgery 841559	
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:-

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Football
 517042 or 07515687160
wayne@dngsales.co.uk
Pepperstock Archers
 615216
 Email LBP121@aol.com
 (Lee Prebble)

Tennis 733253
Runners Peter Barber 737036
 07587 89260.

Slip End Veterans Football
 Wayne Leslie (see football)

Community:-

Gardening Club 423622
Photography Group
countrygardensAP@outlook.com

Brownies 723109
Beavers 07956 833488
Cubs & Scouts 418014
Allotments 736892
Friendship Club TBC
 Ann (07753 635654) or
 Sharon (07469 931204)

Playgroup/Pre-school
 Julie Brocklehurst
 07791354541
S.E.A.D.A 414796
FoSELS 07810 02942(PTA)

Women's Institute

737036

Chatty Club

Jean Turner 01582 421304
 or Cathy Rose 01582 457362

Book Club (look for facebook group)

Slip End Parish
 Community is now on
 Facebook as well as at
www.slipend.co.uk and
www.slipendparishcouncil.co.uk



Items for the next issue (March) to us by 15th February
(Editor — Alison) Adverts by 10th please

Any delivery problems? Contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way
 (01582 724527), 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 Editors - Alison
 Wilson, 23 Claydown Way or Matt Freeman 20 Crawley Close or e-Mail
parishnews@slipend.co.uk Advertising queries to Jo Moss 01582484373 or
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YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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

clerk@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk

Paul Cooper - p.cooper@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	07703 599006 (Chairman)
Sarah Minnighan - s.minnighan@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	07868 742904 (Vice-chairman)
Carol Beeton - c.beeton@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	405597
Carol Brennan - c.brennan@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	453049
Trefor Hooker - t.hooker@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	07773 159275
Simon Patterson - s.patterson@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	07767 615714
Paul Shaw - p.shaw@slipendparishcouncil.co.uk	07957 188947

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Cllr Kevin Collins



Contact
details



Cllr Eddie Perry

kevin.collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

eddie.perry@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

MP's

Contact details
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