

**February
2026**

**Parish
News**

**Aley Green Pepperstock
Slip End Woodside**

**THE COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR YOU!
WITH INFORMATION AND NEWS FROM YOU**

delivered to the whole of the Parish

Editors' Notes

I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year. The start of this year was not very good with the snow and freezing temperatures. However as I write this depending on which weather forecaster you read, there is a likelihood of more of the same.

We have an apology to make, the report in the December issue about the opening of Costcutters we spelt Bhavani Vallabhaneni incorrectly. For this we apologise.

Soup and Sarnie (see poster on page 5) and the Chatty club have restarted in The Rising Sun whose landlady Laura has now left. We welcome Emma who has taken over.

There are now two vacancies on the Parish Council as both Laura Clark and Stuart Durndell have both resigned. Please see the Parish Council notice on the opposite page.

The Good Neighbour Scheme holds its Annual General Meeting on Friday March 20th at 7:30 in the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Slip End Social Club has a programme of events planned. See their poster on page 31.

The Parish News Magazine is looking for volunteers to help by proof reading the magazine, If you are interested please email the editors on the email address at the back of this issue.

Finally Easter is fast approaching with Shrove Tuesday (Pancake Day) on Tuesday 17th February, Ash Wednesday on Wednesday 18th and Good Friday and Easter Day on the 3rd and 5th April.

Finally a quote for the Month.

We, not externals, are the masters of our judgement.

Epictetus

VACANCY FOR CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLOR SLIP END PARISH COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that two vacancies have arisen in the Office of Councillor for Slip End Parish Council and we invite applicants to apply for co-option.

Do you care about the Parish

*Do you have time or expertise which could benefit
your Community?*

*Do you want to make a difference to all those around you?
Are you concerned about your local
area and the environment?*

*Do you want to represent the views of local people?
Would you like to comment on planning applications*

If you would like to make a difference, and be involved in shaping the future of your local Community, why not step forward and apply to become a Slip End Parish Councillor?

Applicants should note that Councillors are expected to attend monthly meetings and to represent the electors of Slip End in raising and discussing issues of interest on which the Parish Council is empowered to act.

Interested persons must have British or qualifying citizenship, aged 18 years or over and:

**Have lived in the Parish or within three miles of it for the
preceding twelve months**

be a registered elector in the Parish: or

**Have occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises
in the Parish for the preceding twelve months: or**

**Have their principal or only place of work in the Parish
for the preceding twelve months**

Must not be disqualified from holding office as a Councillor.

Any person wishing to apply for this vacancy should contact the Clerk for an application form by email

to clerk@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk or call: 07487 850249

Any applications must be received by noon
on **Friday 27th February 2026.**

The final Soup and Sarnie before Christmas at The Rising Sun.

The last Soup and Sarnie was held on the December 13th. The soup of the day was Carrot and Pumpkin followed by a selection of sandwiches, cake and mince pies with tea or coffee. After this there was a singalong with Liz Higgins on the keyboard.

Before we left there was a free raffle with each person being given a ticket, and a selection of prizes,



Christmas Party

On December 23rd, a Free Christmas Party was held in the village hall, there was free Bingo, Raffle and a buffet lunch, with music supplied by the St Andrew's church choir.

There was a varied selection of foods and desserts supplied as well as white and red wine along with soft drinks and tea or coffee.

Finally we had a visit from Santa, My thanks to all who helped in the preparation as well as the sponsors.

More photos on pages 6, 9 and 21.



The Good Neighbour Scheme

Soup and a Sarnie

at The Rising Sun

TUESDAYS 12.00pm to 2.00pm

13th, 20th, 27th January 2026

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th February

3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st March

(Easter break, returns 14th April 2026)

QUIZ

BINGO

£3.00 SOUP & SARNIE

£1.00 TEA OR COFFEE

**FOR TRANSPORT PLEASE CALL
07513 372415**

Soup and Sarnie, Farewell to Keith Harris and Laura Clark

At Christmas the guests and volunteers at Soup and Sandwiches said a fond farewell to Keith Harris. Keith has produced and hosted entertaining and challenging biweekly quizzes, which at times have been very competitive. The last quiz he compiled included all the tricky questions teams struggled with on previous occasions. Although scores were high, no team achieved 100%

Keith will be moving to Salisbury, where he already has plans to become involved in local activities. We wish him every happiness in his new home and will greatly miss him.

From the onset of Soup and Sandwiches Laura has welcomed and hosted the group of on Tuesday at The Rising Sun. She has given freely of her time and support and often joined in with activities.

We wish Laura every success in her future and send her on her way with many happy memories. We look forward to working alongside Emma who will be taking over from her.

This Autumn we welcomed Mick Plummer who replaced our good friend Josie as the

Bingo Caller. Mick not only entertains guests with his 'Bingo Lingo' but has read humorous extracts by Cyril Fletcher. We are very grateful to Mick for his continuing support in this role.



Soup and Sandwiches welcomes Seniors within the Parish for a nutritional lunch of homemade soup, assorted sandwiches and cake on a Tuesday.

See the Village Noticeboard and this magazine for details.

Christmas Party Buffet, First table of two.



SLIP END VILLAGE DAY ASSOCIATION

Firstly, we would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped and supported the Christmas Light Switch On and the Santa Float during November and December.

Christmas Light Switch On

Using some of the funds raised from Village Day, we were able to purchase new Christmas lights for the Village Hall and Coronation Garden, as well as hire the Snow Globe for the Village Hall garden on the day of the switch-on event.

Thank you to all the children and parents who came along to enjoy the Snow Globe, visit the craft fayre in the hall, and see the lights being switched on by Santa Claus. It was also lovely to have the Rising Sun and the village shop join in by lighting up their premises.

Our thanks go to the Rising Sun for hosting the hog roast, the church choir for the carol singing, and a special thank you to James Handley for scaling the heights to put the lights up on the Village Hall.

The Santa Float

We were delighted to welcome Santa Claus back to the village again this year to brighten up two evenings in December. Santa brought chocolate treats and the promise to return on Christmas Eve to visit all the children.

Thank you to Santa himself, Sean for driving the truck, and to the penguin, polar bear, reindeer and elves who accompanied Santa as they travelled around the village handing out chocolates and collecting donations.



Thank you to everyone for your generous donations, which are being shared between Keech Hospice and the Village Day Association.

Village Day

Finally, we would like to let you know that we will not be holding Village Day this year. We are taking a year off, with plans to return in 2027 refreshed and ready to continue supporting the village. In the meantime, please do let us know if you have any ideas or suggestions on how we can improve or develop Village Day in the future.

Money raised from Village Day helps fund the Santa Float, the next Village Day, and provides 'extras' such as the new Christmas lights purchased this year.

Parish Council Update



Fly Tipping

We have seen significant fly tipping again in Pepperstock and Woodside. Cllr Malone has confirmed that Central Beds Council has deployed covert CCTV cameras across fly-tipping hotspots in Central Bedfordshire. Caddington Ward was selected as one of the trial areas, supported by the database of hotspot locations compiled from residents' reports. Slip End residents who are reporting fly tipping on **FIX MY STREET** need to also email Cllr Malone the details to be put on the database to be considered for cameras in those areas.

Ward Councillor Vicky Malone, continues to urge residents to report flying tipping on **FIX MY STREET** and send the details to her as she is working with the environmental teams. Please can you email your reports to vicky.malone@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Funding for Central Bedfordshire Council

The government conducted an exercise for funding, for local governments. They focused on areas of deprivation and moving money from some local governments to others. This has affected Central Bedfordshire Council with a decrease in funding. This will of course have a direct impact on parish councils. At our meeting in January, it was confirmed that the shortfall to Central Bedfordshire Council will be £17 million. CBC are holding draft budget meetings with local town and parish councils and will be holding their main budget meeting in February 2026. This meeting will be open to the public (not for participation) but to hear discussions on future budgets. It will also be streamed online. Further details to follow.

Fiber One Company in Woodside

The parish council has over the last year had several reports from concerned residents about the conduct of Fiber One staff based in Woodside Road. This has been taken up by the council and Cllr. Vicky Malone who has worked tirelessly liaising with the company and the police to get these issues resolved. Unfortunately, the company ceased to communicate with Cllr. Malone or the parish council and the problems continued. There is a big concern recently when it has been reported by local residents that company vans were speeding up and down local streets. Further communications went to the company and the police and the parish council and a response was given. We are monitoring progress with Cllr. Malone. Should any residents witness this behaviour, we would urge them to report it to the Clerk at Slip End Parish Council. Clerk@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk

Grass Cutting in the Parish

Grass cutting season has come to an end for the winter and will resume again in the Spring. We previously had a separate contractor for the grass cutting but due to them being no longer able to continue, the work will be incorporated into our Gardening Contractors role.

Newlands Road Junction

Cllr Malone has continued to follow up on progress regarding the signalled junction at Newlands Road. Highways attended an on-site meeting with both the designer and the developer to resolve the remaining design issues. The meeting was productive, and they are hopeful the design would have been fully signed off by Christmas, allowing road space to be booked for early next year. The left-turn filter lane towards the airport from Newlands Road was reopened, which should significantly improve the traffic flow. A request, for no further full road closures to take place during the works, and that temporary traffic lights be used instead to manage traffic wherever possible.

Highways Capital Works Scheme 2025/26

As part of the 2025/26 Capital Works Programme, Summer Street is scheduled for footpath resurfacing. This programme is dependent on an estimated Department for Transport grant. Cllr Malone will continue to press to ensure the works proceed once funding is confirmed.

Traffic Restrictions - Manor Road / Woodside Road

After receiving numerous complaints about vehicles parking on the verges at the corner of Manor Road and Woodside Road, and some accidents occurring as a result of drivers not being able to see properly at the junction, Cllr Malone approached Traffic Management regarding the introduction of "No Waiting at Any Time" restrictions. These restrictions would apply to the entire highway, including verges. The proposal was published with a feedback date of 17th December. We will update you on the outcome of this.

Proposed purchase of Claydown Way Road & Green Area

The Clerk has been looking into a proposal from a company who wish to purchase from the Crown Estate the road and the small green area to the right behind houses which is maintained by the Parish Council. These areas were historically owned by a company that went into liquidation and then was subsequently handed over to the Crown Estate. The road itself has been adopted by Central Bedfordshire Council to maintain and will remain the case but it can be purchased by law. The Parish Council discussed this and has decided to take some advice. A further update will be given in due course.

Village Christmas Tree

The Christmas tree outside the Village Hall this year was well received by residents.

Lime Kiln Wood Planning Application Update

The Parish Council and residents from Pepperstock objected to the planning application from Fantastic Fireworks at Lime Kiln Wood. The application is for units to be placed to store fireworks. There were concerns about safety with the fireworks being stored so close to resident properties and the proposed amount of trees being felled in an area of outstanding natural beauty. The walkway adjacent to Lime Kiln Wood is also a popular walk for local residents. The closing date for comments to this application was the 20th December 2025. We will update you on what decision has been made.

Resignation of Two Councillors

We unfortunately have to say goodbye to two of our Councillors. Cllr. Stuart Durndell, who was our Chair has left us to concentrate on his family. Cllr. Laura Clark who was the Manager of the Rising Sun PH has relocated and will be taking up a Manager's post with a freehold PH in the South of the Country. We would like to thank them both for their valuable contributions during their time with us and wish them all the best for the future.

Christmas Party Helpers



Karen, Ash, Indi, Jean, Katie, Tracy, Myla, Janine, Jake, Ian, Ruby, Diane, Nellie, Paula, Ruth, Jayden.
(Santa (Wayne)).

(Sophie and Laura not in photo).

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Dates for February 2026

Sun 1st 10:30am Morning Service (Peter Baker) Holy Communion) and Sunday School

Tues 3rd 10-12 Cakes and Company

Sat 7th 10am Prayer Breakfast led by Liz Higgens

Sun 8th 10:30am Morning service— “Songs of Praise” - singing some of our favourite hymns (Liz Higgens)

Sun 15th 10:30am Morning Service Local Arrangement (Lorna Martin) and Sunday School

Mon 16th 2pm Ecumenical Fellowship led by Jo Prowse

Sun 22nd 10:30am Morning Service (Rev Margaret Newman)

Mon 23rd 2pm Lent Fellowship week 1 of 5 led by Jo Prowse

Wed 25th 7:30pm Coffee Evening in aid of LWPT

Sun 1st Mar 10:30am Morning Service

Advance notice:-

Fri 6th March 7:30pm World Day of Prayer Service (St Andrew's Church) details TBC in March issue. This Ecumenical Service is held on the first Friday of March.

Fri 13th Mar 3:30pm Take Time—Kay Palfrey (Caddington's Villager of the Year) will be talking about her fundraising for Keech Hospice, followed by light refreshments.

As this is our first news of 2026, Happy New Year to you! Our Christmas activities and services were well attended and we raised a good amount of money for various charities.

The Christmas Take Time (music and seasonal refreshments) raised £207 for Shelter Box and the Hamper Raffle raised a further £306 for that charity. The Hamper was won by Michael Law and other smaller prizes by members and friends. Well done to all. Our Carol Service collection raised £167 for Action for Children. On Christmas Day our collection totalled over £150 for NOAH (for the homeless) Thank you to everyone who supported these events.

God Bless,

From all at Aley Green



As a start to the New Year, our Junior Journalists spent their first meeting of 2026 interviewing other pupils to get their thoughts and opinions about what makes our school a fun and engaging place to be. They were given a notepad and pen and were given the independence to go to other classes and speak to a range of children across the school.

It was such a lovely moment to see children of all ages working together to talk about their school experiences in such a positive way and with purpose.

Below are some of the quotes from the children:

I like school because we have a nice Headteacher and we don't let cars through the gate so we can walk through without getting hurt. Older people are nice (Reception pupil)

I like playing with Lego and with my friends (Year 1 pupil)

I enjoy computing because we can go on Interland (Year 1 pupil)

We love being at school and playing with our friends because they are kind (Year 2 pupil)

I love non-uniform days and learning with my friends (Year 3 pupil)

I like everything (Year 3 pupil)

I like our uniforms and that the teachers help us. My friends are kind and I like playing with them (Year 4 pupil)

I enjoy English because I like writing and History is interesting. Also the food is nice! (Year 5 pupil)

Slip End provides a good learning environment with lots of school trips and P.E trips. Nobody gets left out and as it is a small school everyone knows each other. Everyone has good friends and the teachers help a lot. There are a range of sports for us to do and PE and Mr O'Brien are fun! (Year 6 pupil)

Our motto is Belong, Believe, Achieve! We have lovely teachers. (Year 6 pupil).

Movie Night is great as you get to watch a movie and have popcorn with your friends (Year 6 pupil).



We look forward to sharing how the new year is progressing in the next edition of the newsletter.

Mr Andrew Young
Head of School
Slip End Village School

Be a Local Hero – Join Our Good Neighbour Scheme!

Do you have a car? With just an hour or two each week, you could make a real difference in our community.

The Slip End Good Neighbour Scheme is looking for new volunteers to join our fantastic team.

We help local residents by:



Collecting shopping and prescriptions



Driving to medical appointments

What we offer:

- Full training
- Mileage costs reimbursed
- Entirely flexible volunteering – just a few hours during weekdays at times that suit you.

If you have any spare hours on a Monday–Friday between 9am–5pm (even just one hour per week), and would like to help, please call 07513 372 415; no commitment – just a chat!



The answers for the Advent trail quiz questions Christmas 2025

Q1. Where did the star appear that guided the wise men to visit Jesus? How many houses on the trail display stars?

4, - 3 on Markyate Rd, & 1 St Andrews close,

Q2. Who told Mary that she would have a child? And how many houses have this messenger ?

an angel, 3 houses,- 1 in the Oaks, & 2 Claydown way

Q3. When Mary visited Elizabeth, what did Elizabeth say?

(the answer was in a window). **"Blessed are you among women and blessed is the child you will bear" at 25 CC.**

Q4. One of the windows has a moving display – what does it show us?

They were manually rotated Nativity scenes, at 8 Crawley Close.

Q5. One house has a Nativity display rather high up! How many other houses on the trail have a similar picture or display?

5, - the high one Claydown Way, the others, Ross Way, St Andrews Walk, Summer Street & 8 Crawley Close

Q6. By tradition, what form of “transport” did Mary and Joseph use to travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem? How many can you find on the trail?

Donkey -2 houses in Summer Street

Q7. Can you find a house with animals that were also used as a mode of transport? What gifts do they carry?

Camels ,who carry gold frankincense and Myrrh in Rossway

Q8. What were the shepherds watching when the angels appeared and which house are they at on the trail?

Sheep were in Front Street

Q9. Where was the Baby Jesus laid?

Manger in Claydown Way

Q10. Jesus is our King of Kings; where can you find the headwear for Royalty?

Crowns, were in Summer Street

Q11. Traditionally, where do we gather to worship and sing carols at Christmas? Where is the house that has a model?

At a church – the model was in Crawley Close

Q12. How many houses on the trail have “indoor climbing frames” for cats?

Christmas Trees ! 2 houses, - 1 in Rossway and 1 in Front Street

Q13. These can be hung as decorations, where are they on the trail?

Baubles in Claydown Way

Q14. Traditional winter weather – where is it ?

Snowflakes in Crawley Close

Q15. Will this gentleman bring coals or toys to your house?

Santa with coal (to keep us warm) in Crawley Close

Q16. Can you run fast enough to catch these sweet people?

Gingerbread men in Front Street

Q17. This fruity object represents God’s love for the world, the four seasons and Jesus as the light of the world, but where is it ?

A Christingle in Crawley Close

Q18. Have we left any objects out ! ?

We need feed back from those who were able to view the displays !

Meanwhile, I hope you all had a fun time.



(Editors note: Unfortunatley I only received these two photographs of the windows with the answers).



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- Custom wills

Fed up with pot holes? Flooding? Litter?

The quickest and easiest way to report parish problems is via the **FixMyStreet** app.

Downloadable to Android or iPhone devices, you can create an account and then track the progress of the issue.



The screenshot shows the FixMyStreet website. At the top, there's a banner with the text 'Report, view, or discuss local problems' and a search bar with placeholder text 'like graffiti, fly-tipping, broken paving slabs, or street lighting'. Below the search bar is a text input field with 'e.g. BD 4 5A or 16 St, Manchester' and a 'Go' button. To the right of the search bar is a button labeled 'Use my current location'. On the left, there's a 'How to report a problem' section with four numbered steps: 1. Enter a nearby UK postcode, or street name and area; 2. Locate the problem on a map of this area; 3. Enter details of the problem; 4. We send it to the council on your behalf. To the right of this is a 'Recently reported problems' section with a list of three items, each with a small image and a timestamp: 'Drain cover 10.11 today', 'Very large and deep pothole near the bus stop 09.10 today, last comment 10.11 today', and 'Large gap / broken section between road and pavement 02.03 today, last comment 10.10 today'. At the bottom of the page, there are statistics: '19,986 reports in past week', '25,891 reports in past month', '6,658,394 updates on reports'.



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**Town &
Country**

Good Neighbour Scheme Christmas Party

This party was held at Slip End Village Hall on Wednesday 10th December.

It was attended by nearly thirty residents and hosted by eight volunteers from the Good Neighbour Scheme.



There were Home made cakes, mince pies with tea or coffee supplied.



While we were eating there was music and a sing-along provided by Peter, Chris and Geraldine, collectively known as the OHANA UKULELE Band. If you wish to book them please call 07801 397820

We then had four games of bingo, two for one line and two for a full house, with cash prizes, called by Mick Plummer.



Finally the raffle was held, assisted by Santa Claus, with plenty of prizes.

2026 - NEW YEAR RESOLUTION

KEEP YOUR VILLAGE TIDY

Parents regularly remind children to put litter in a bin provided or take home. (Plastic bottles and cans in a recycling bin)

Teachers regularly remind children to put litter in a bin provided or take home. (Plastic bottles and cans in a recycling bin)

Residents remove any litter on their garden/frontage to prevent blowing onto pathway/road.

Residents try and ensure bin lids close to prevent any rubbish/recycling blowing onto pathway/road.

Businesses try and ensure bin lids close to prevent any rubbish/recycling blowing onto pathway/road.

Businesses remove any rubbish from frontage to prevent blowing onto pathway/road.

Dog Owners. Be responsible and clean up after your dog and deposit in appropriate bin provided.

Smokers. Extinguish cigarette when finished and put butt in waste bin or take home.

Your co-operation in these matters would be appreciated.

Thank you

St Andrew's Woodside Community Coffee Morning



Saturday 28th February 2026

10.00 am to noon

at St Andrew's Church

**We will have lots of second hand books and jigsaws
perfect to pass the time in winter weather.**

Raffle to mark Fair-trade Fortnight

**It may be chilly outside, but the church building is warm - and so is
our welcome!**

Tea, coffee, cake and good conversation.



Drop in at any time. All welcome.

Contact Julie on 07841 482119 if transport is a problem.

Christmas Party More Photos



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Gardening Notes by Russell Sprout

With Christmas and New Year now a distant memory, as well as the snow and cold weather. I hope you all had an enjoyable time. It's time to turn our thoughts to the gardening year. Clear 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.

Mint can be propagated now by digging up the runners just below the surface, separate them from the main plant, cut into lengths of approximate 6" long and plant. Mint is best planted in a container to stop it spreading everywhere. 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 shrivelled 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 alpines that have been loosened by frost should be firmed into place and weeded. 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.*

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.

Russel Sprout

St. Andrew's Church - Dates for February

If you prefer to join the service virtually via Zoom then you can join using the following numbers **878 5926 2657** and passcode **664663**, or via this link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87859262657?
pwd=dTdad291VDk2anA5aGtmdnFCN3kzQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87859262657?pwd=dTdad291VDk2anA5aGtmdnFCN3kzQT09)

Services held at St Andrew's:

Please note: During the vacancy the normal pattern of worship may vary from month to month.

1st February 10.30am – Informal Communion – Candlemas

4th February 7.30pm – Evening prayer via Zoom

8th February 10.30am – Morning Praise

15th February 10.30am – Holy Communion

18th February 7.30pm – Ash Wednesday

22nd February 10.30am – Family Service – Lent

1st March 10.30am – Informal Communion - Lent



Little Stars starts at 10.30am each Wednesday.

We will have sessions on 4th, 11th and 25th February –
we are closed for half term on 18th.

The kettle goes on at 10am – turn up whenever suits your little one's routine.

A Message from St Andrew's

It feels strange to be thinking about what to write in this message for February when I still haven't finished saying "Happy New Year" to people. Stop the world I want to get off!

2025 was a busy year at St Andrew's as we were "in vacancy", meaning we were without a vicar. It meant that a lot of people had to step up to cover extra roles, so it was dizzyingly busy at times. You will read elsewhere in the magazine about many of the things that we were involved with over Christmas. I would like to put on record how grateful I am to everyone who helped out at all these events, whether they had an upfront role or helped behind the scenes.

We are now entering a new phase in our church life. We are very pleased to announce that the Bishop has appointed Rev Lindsey Moss as part-time priest-in-charge at St Andrew's, with a start date to be advised. We are praying that accommodation will be sorted out promptly and that there is an early start date. Both Lindsey and the church family are excited to move forward, sharing God's love in our lovely community.

As we transition from one way of being church to another, there are lots of things that we can celebrate about the past and I am sure Lindsey will not want to sweep everything away. Inevitably there is going to be some change though, as we work together in new ways, and hopefully more people will want to come and experience what it is to be a follower of Christ. Exciting times are ahead!

People have their own attitude to change. It can be terrifying or exhilarating, or anything in between. As Christians, we believe that however buffeted we may be by events, God has a plan for us. He is faithful and steadfast in his love. If we are uncertain we can lean on him – through reading Scripture, praying, discussing things with those we trust – and He will show us the right way to go. Or if we go wandering off, He will bring us back – like the lamb that has gone astray, being guided back to the fold.

Hoping for more good news soon, for now, God bless you and keep you.

Julie Taylor, Reader

**We are here as God's family,
to draw closer to God,
to live out our faith and
welcome all into the love of God.**

Christmas at St Andrew's



The tree was decorated and Steve finished it off with the Star. Ted & Stanley below helping. Lots of crafts for the children to do as well. Plus Angela with her recycled jewellery stall.



Hopefully she will be back again soon.



Sadly it was time to say farewell to Paula Baird, whose idea it was to start the monthly Community Coffee mornings at St A's. She has been mostly living in Somerset helping her family and now her and Steve, (our previous church warden) will be moving permanently from Woodside to Somerset. We will really miss them and Julie thanked Paula for all she had done, and presented her with some gifts. The coffee mornings will continue, with a rota from the church family, so hopefully see you soon.



Thanks to all who helped especially the flower team led by Diane. The flower arrangements were amazing as usual.



Just some of the lovely flower arrangements.

Christmas at St Andrew's

The Christingle Service went very well and Julie, our Reader was joined by Steph, Lila and Ted who did readings. There were lots of children and families who joined in with making a Christingle, and then we all formed a circle with our lit candle and sung.



Family Service

It was great to have so many children reading at our annual Family Service again. Sadly most of the boys had to leave early as they were playing in an important football match (which luckily they won).



Conall, Archie, Alfie, Seth, Freddie plus Jayden who remained at church. The band joined by Jayden, Finlay, Charlotte, Sophie, Mario, Elizabeth and Tammy.

Thank you to all the young readers. It's always a very enjoyable service and good to see many families on the day. We were also grateful to Rachael Meenan who spoke to us about the Level Trust charity. (cont)

It is based in the Arndale Centre and provides uniforms and school equipment etc for those who need it. There was a collection taken for the Trust which raised over £300. Many thanks to Rachael for telling us all about it and for all the help you give when volunteering.

St Andrew's went Carol Singing

We were in great demand last year for Carol singing. We performed at the Village Hall at the Craft Fayre before the Annual 'Turning on of the lights' - then over to the Rising Sun. In December we were back at the



21st to sing at the Golden Years Christmas Party. A great time had by all there.

Finally we were back at St Andrew's



for our Candlelight Service. Thank you to all the Readers from the Church family and Community who provided the Christmas Story. Finally to the singers and Sylvia and Liz for the music.



Rising Sun with the Community singalong which everyone enjoyed and many joined in with the singing. Liz Higgens played her keyboard and Sylvia Harland the violin. We were then back to the Village Hall on the



Slip End

SOCIAL CLUB

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WHAT'S ON IN THE COMING MONTHS



Saturday 28th February

Race Night with Mrs R Events
Starts at 8pm



Saturday 28th March

UB40 Tribute
Starts at 8pm



Saturday 25th April

Midnight Sun
LIVE music from 8:30pm



Saturday 30th May

The Wilsons Show
The Ultimate Retro Party Show - 8pm

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Planning applications submitted within the Parish since November 2025

Application CB/25/03589/FULL Submitted 26th November 2025

29A Front Street, Slip End, LU1 4BP

Loft conversion with side dormer, ground and first floor rear extensions.
Increase in roof height with roof lights to the front and side planes.

Decision: Not Yet decided

Application CB/25/03796/FULL Submitted 1st December 2025

6 Summer Street, Slip End, LU1 4BN

Single storey rear extension to replace existing lean-to.

Decision: Not Yet Decided

Application CB/25/03596/FULL Submitted 12th December 2025

312 Manor Road, Woodside, LU1 4DN

Erection of side extension to the detached outbuilding.

Decision: Not Yet Decided

Application CB/25/03940/FULL. Submitted 15th December 2025

73 Markyate Road, Slip End. LU1 4BU

Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuilding and erection of a 4 bedroom self-build replacement dwelling with rear first floor balconies and solar panels to the roof.

Decision: Not Yet Decided

Application CB/25/03600/FULL. Submitted 7th January 2026

Land at Markyate Road, Slip End, LU1 4DG

Erection of four greenhouses for horticultural purposes, an outbuilding and creation of access. Retrospective.

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

Ho Ho Ho

This month we had our annual Christmas Party. Members all participated and each person brought a plate for the buffet. We had mulled wine with Carol Jones secret recipe. Which was very nice.

There was a sing song of some Christmas carols and a couple of readings. Then we got down to the serious part of the party with silly games and gifts for everyone. Pass The Parcel with interleaved gifts so no one is left out.

We then played the left and right game which is hilarious and causes lots of confusion. In a nutshell each person has a Christmas gift which they sourced themselves and a narrator reads out a story with a lot of left and right in the narrative. Each time you hear right, you pass to the right and if you hear left, you pass to the left. Got it ? Good. As you can imagine it's chaos. But at the end you end up with a gift which is usually not the one you started with.

Then we played under the chair game, with presents under 6 individual chairs and at the end of the game the person that is sitting on the chair gets the gift. 1 is wrapped, so a surprise. As the other gifts are not wrapped you can try to win one that you would like to take home. However it is not easy to win as you keep getting turfed off the chair by another member. It's good fun.

Well that's another year all wrapped up.

If you would like to join us in the New Year, you are very welcome.

Please call Carol Jones on 07899794422

or

Linda Edwards on 07761340108

CRIME REPORT



Parish Crime Statistics

November/December

2025



Offence	Number
<u>Alley Green</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Pepperstock</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Slip End</u>	
Assault Without Injury	2
Assault With Injury	2
Blackmail	1
OtherTheft	1
<u>Total</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Woodside</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Caddington</u>	
Harassment	4
Stalking	1
Sexual	3
Assault With Injury On A Constable	1
AssaultWithout Injury	5
Shop Lifting	1
Criminal DamageTo A Building/Business	1
Threats To Kill	1
Drug Trafficing	4
Assault With Injury	3
Other Crime	1
Possession Of A Firearm Offences	3
<u>Total</u>	<u>28</u>
<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>34</u>

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

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

What's going on in 2025

Weekly Soup & Sarnie, every Tuesday @ The Rising Sun, 12pm - 2pm
 Chatty Club every Wednesday @ The Rising Sun, 1pm - 3pm

February

Fri 27th Last date to apply as a Parish Councillor
Sat 28th St Andrew's Coffee morning. St Andrew's Church
Sat 28th Race Night with Mrs Evans. 8pm, Slip End Social Club

March

Fri 20th Good Neighbours AGM. 7:30pm Slip End Village Hall
Sat 28th UB40 Tribute. 8pm, Slip End Social Club

April

Sat 25th Midnight Sun. Live Music, 8.30pm Slip End Social Club

Parish News Online

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

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

Bin Collections - February

Black bin and Glass - 13th, 27th.

Orange (Recycling) - 6th, 20th.

Food Waste bin - Every Friday.

Green (Garden) - First Collection 6th March.



COMMUNITY AND SERVICES

Services:-	Good Neighbour Scheme: 07513 37 24 15		
Shop at the Crossroads	07448 801607	Mon - Sun	7:00 to 21:00
Slip End Garage	Markyate Road,	456888	
Doctor	Caddington Surgery	725673	
Doctor	Markyate Surgery	841559	
Pharmacy	Medigreen, Caddington	457800	
Schools:	Slip End Village School	720152	Manshead 679400
Caddington Village School	726058	St Mary's Catholic Primary 602420	

Churches:-	Line Dancing	FoSELS 01582 720152 or fosels@outlook.com
St Andrew's Church: Julie Taylor (Reader) 01582 413912 Mob 07841482119 duncan.taylor@btinternet.com	07737 317147 or 01582 260303 - Jean Anderson	
Wardens: Tony Smith 07976830906	Pepperstock Archers 07914 381847 targetsports@virginmedia.com (Chris Ingram)	Women's Institute 01582 737036
Aley Green Methodist Church. Minister: Rev Claudia Lupi 07702 012755 reverendlupi@yahoo.com	Tennis Peter Smith 733253	Chatty Club Jean Turner 01582 421304 or Cathy Rose 01582 457362
Senior Steward: Ann Meader 733668	Runners Peter Barber 07587 89260.	Book Club (contact via Parish News)
Sport:- Bowling Club 07900 012050 (Sandra)	Slip End Veterans Football Wayne Leslie (see football)	CaSeBuG (Caddington and Slip End Bus user group). info@casebug.org
Football 517042 or 07515687160 wayne@dngsales.co.uk	Community:- Gardening Club 423622 Beavers, Cubs & Scouts 418014 Pre-School - Hayley Bolton, 07889824367	Online:- www.slipend.co.uk www.slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk



Items for the next issue (March) to us by 15th February 2025

(Editor - John) Adverts by 10th please

Any delivery problems? Contact Alan Butterly 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, **submissions received after that date may not be included, unless agreed in advance by the editor**.

- John Larsen. 1 The Grove, Woodside Park or Matt Freeman. 20 Crawley Close or e-Mail parishnews@slipend.co.uk

Advertising queries to Jo Moss 01582484373 or Parishadverts@gmail.com
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Clerk to Parish Council — Tracey O'Neill 07487 850249 (9am to noon weekdays)
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Carol Brennan	C.brennan@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk	Vice Chair
Carol Beeton	C.beeton@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk	
Simon Patterson	S.patterson@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk	
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Your Central Beds Councillors



Cllr Kevin Collins



Contact details

kevin.collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Vicky.malone@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk



Cllr Vicky Malone

MP's
Contact details
Rachel Hopkins



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