

Parish News

November 2026

The Community Magazine for you.
With Information and News from you.

Delivered to the whole of the Parish

Aley Green

Slip End

Pepperstock

Woodside



EDITOR'S NOTES

Winter has finally arrived, and it appears to have brought rather a lot of rain with it! A few months ago, we were staring at parched gardens and desperately hoping for a downpour. Now we're wondering whether we should have been a little more specific about how much we wanted. Still, it wouldn't be Britain if we weren't complaining about the weather, would it?

Thankfully, there has been plenty to brighten things up, including Slip End Social Club's fantastic 90th anniversary celebrations in October. It was wonderful to see the Club packed with people coming together to celebrate such a special milestone. With a lovely atmosphere, plenty of happy faces and brilliant live music from 2 Tone getting everyone up and dancing, it really was a day to remember. A huge thank you to everyone who came along, everyone who helped organise the celebrations, and the hardworking bar staff who kept things running throughout the day. Ninety years is quite an achievement, and it was lovely to see the community turn out to mark it in style.

Looking ahead, Christmas is already making its way into the diary. St Andrew's Church is inviting residents to take part in this year's Advent Trail, with a festive twist on the alphabet. The aim is to represent all 26 letters through Christmas-related objects displayed around the parish, ready for people to enjoy from 1st December. Whether you have an idea for a display or need a little inspiration, turn to page 11 for details of how to get involved. I suspect whoever takes on Z may have their work cut out!

Before that, we have the village Christmas lights switch-on to look forward to on Saturday 28th November. There will be carol singing at the crossroads from 5.15pm, followed by Santa switching on the lights at the Village Hall and gardens. The Christmas Craft and Gift Fayre will also be running in the Village Hall from 2pm to 6pm, and there will be a hog roast at The Rising Sun afterwards. A chance to pick up a few presents, enjoy some festive cheer and warm up with something tasty sounds like a very good afternoon to me. You can find the details on page 5.

Elsewhere in this month's issue, Slip End Village School's Junior Journalists share their love of reading and adventures from their Year 6 residential trip. There are updates from the Parish Council and our local churches, news of the harvest collections and community fundraising, and details of St Andrew's Shoebox Campaign. We also look ahead to Remembrance Sunday, when our community will come together to remember and reflect.

So, put the kettle on, settle somewhere warm and enjoy this month's issue. Hopefully, by the time you've finished reading, it might even have stopped raining!

Matt

QUESTION?

Do you qualify for
Christmas biscuits?

- **ARE YOU OVER 65 YEARS OF AGE?**
- **HAVE YOU LIVED IN THE PARISH FOR 5 YEARS OR MORE?**

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*only one box per household

Parish Council Update



Fly Tipping

We are still seeing significant fly tipping in the Parish particularly Pepperstock and Woodside.

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

The Parish Council are looking at putting signs up in significant areas of the parish that have fly tipping.

Highways

As always, we urge any residents that see any potential hazards on the highways to report it to **FIX MY STREET**. If you do not receive a response of action being taken then please send the reference number to the clerk who will chase this. clerk@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Parking in New Street / Summer Street - We have had a number of residents concerned about parking in New Street / Summer Street from members of the public visiting the Slip End Social Club. Some cars are parking on the corner of the two streets which is causing an obstruction for emergency vehicles. The Council had a discussion and are looking at some measures to help with this.

Large Tree in Claydown Way – there is a large tree at the beginning of Claydown Way which has become overgrown. The Parish Council approached Central Bedfordshire Council for permission to have this tree reduced in size by the Parish Council's qualified tree surgeon. Unfortunately, they declined our request as they said it was not required. As the tree is on Highways land we cannot do anything but monitor this.

Parking at the Shops / Crawley Children's Playground – we have received reports that vehicles are parking on the grass verges blocking the pavement area and the Markyate Road entrance to the Crawley Children's playground. The Parish Council have discussed this and are investigating signage to try and deter this.

Crawley Children's Playground Repairs

The Parish Council has now secured a groundwork contractor to complete repairs to the surfaces in the playground. A date is yet to be confirmed, the playground will have to be shut for a few days for work to commence safely. Residents will be informed of the park closure in advance.



Slip End Christmas Light Switch-On

Christmas plans are now being made and the Christmas Lights will be turned on at Slip End Crossroads on Saturday 28th November.

Put the date on your calendar so you don't forget! At 5.15pm there will be some carol singing at the cross roads followed by Santa Claus switching on the lights on the Village Hall and gardens.

There will be a hog roast at The Rising Sun, so once the lights are turned on head over there for some good food and a warming drink.

As well as the Light Switch On there will be a Christmas Craft and Gift Fayre in the Village Hall from 2pm to 6pm which will be well worth a visit to get some Christmas gifts and ideas.

The spaces for stalls in the hall are already booked up, but if you would like a space for a stall in the garden please contact Paula on paulafowler007@gmail.com or leave a message on her phone **07419 755421**.

JESS
WEST
—  —

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The children here at Slip End Village School have fully embraced their first half term and already our Junior Journalists have been busy, talking to classmates and writing reviews and news of school life.

As an avid reader, Finlay wanted to share with the community what we do to support and promote reading.

"We believe that reading is a way of teaching you languages and it gives you imagination and creates pictures in your mind. It is calming and it helps you learn."

Every morning we do reciprocal reading and on Fridays we hold a book club. In book club our teacher reads us a current book and we share our thoughts on it. Every first Friday of the month we hold Read and Share sessions, which gives us the chance of reading with parents with books from our school library.

The younger children take part in phonics, which helps those who are still learning to read and getting ready to become confident readers. I remember doing Kit and Sam in phonics when I was little. I think things have changed now, but I'll never forget how much fun I used to have during my Kit and Sam lessons!



We have a library with a massive, wide-ranging selection of books for all abilities. I love spending time in the library because it is quiet and peaceful and a nice place to read.

Every day, we also have a class reader, which is when our class teacher reads us a book. My teacher, Miss Field, is reading *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* – it is so heart-warming as it shows how something can go from being selfish to loving someone. We all love this book!"

Lake wanted to share what Year 6 got up to on their Year 6 residential trip to Willersley Castle in Derbyshire:

"Willersley is a castle in Derbyshire that we went to for our Y6 residential. When we were there, we did river tubing, rock climbing, canoeing, kayaking and axe throwing (and lots more). I found it boosted my confidence and I enjoyed using new equipment like rifles. Being with my friends was great and I benefited from being independent. My favourite bit was playing Uno late at night and not getting caught!!"



Finally, we would just like to thank our pupils and parents for the kind contributions made for our Harvest Collection and thank you to Lindsey, Julie and Sue for delivering an assembly and collecting our donations.



Please follow us on our new Instagram account **@SlipEndVillageSchool** for regular updates on school life!

Ellie Field
Acting Head of School

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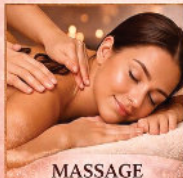
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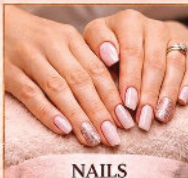
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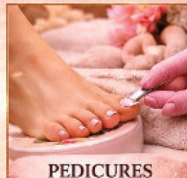
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Aley Green Methodist Church



November Dates

Our Harvest Family Service, with our minister Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams, in October, was very well attended and there was an amazing display of produce and food and hygiene items for the Food Bank.

The Harvest Take Time was great fun. We were entertained with music, poems and a short explanation about "All We Can", the Methodist Relief and Development Fund, for which we collected **over £200!**

Our coffee evening in November will be for LWPT (Leaders of Worship and Preachers Trust). Do join us for tea, coffee, cakes and chat!

Sun 1st 10:30am Morning Service (Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams) with Holy Communion and Sunday School.

Tues 3rd 10:00 - 13:00 Cakes & Company Brunch and Browse. A longer event with stalls including gifts, preserves, bric a brac, tombola and more. Do join us for tea & coffee, cakes and some good company

Sat 7th 10am Prayer Breakfast led by Liz Higgins

Sun 8th Remembrance Sunday - NO SERVICE at Aley Green. We will be joining with Remembrance Services in Slip End and Caddington

Sun 15th 10:30am Morning Service (Colin Quine) and Sunday School

Mon 16th 1:45 for 2pm Start Ecumenical Fellowship with Jo Prowse

Sun 21st 10:30am Morning Service (Sheila Norris)

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

Sun 28th No Service at Aley Green. 4pm Ecumenical Advent Service at All Saints in Caddington

Future date - Fri 11th Dec 2:30pm Christmas Take Time with music and verse More details later.

Looking forward to seeing you at our Church.

From all at Aley Green

St Andrew's Shoebox Campaign 2026

It's almost that time again when we start thinking of doing and collecting shoeboxes. In fact, we have already started and been collecting shoebox items for many months, and have even formed a shoebox committee (Sue Briggs, Julie Taylor, Eileen Greenwood).

Once again, we will be collecting shoeboxes to send to Blythwood, who transport them to Eastern Europe to those in need. If you would like to come and help, **we are holding a shoebox weekend on the 14th and 15th November at the church.** On the Saturday we from 9am to 12pm we will be making up boxes using fillers we have collected, and hopefully once again fillers that have been donated by the school.

We were very grateful for all the help last year with the boxes, and in the end were able to send 125 completed boxes to Blythwood which went to Kosovo. Shoebox Sunday is the day after when we will be helping with any remaining boxes and blessing them, before collection on the Monday.

I was lucky enough to visit Belarus some years ago, and hand out shoeboxes with a team from Operation Christmas Child. I will never forget the pleasure it gave the children to receive a box and how grateful they were. One of my lasting images was a young girl called Lana who treasured her box and said 'it was the best day of her life'. Just think of the joy we can give to the children who receive our boxes this year – their very own 'Love in a Box'.

- Sue Briggs



One of the children we met in hospital. She loved her box specially the Cindy doll



Lana with her box on the best day of her life.



St Andrews Church Advent trail

This year we would like folks to again take part in our advent trail.

Our theme this year is the 26 letters of the alphabet, represented with a Christmas related object e.g. Letter H some Holly.

Each house can hopefully display an A4 poster of the relevant letter (which we can provide) and then display the Christmas related object which begins with that letter.

It does not have to be displayed in a window, in the past some folks have displayed the object outside in a more easily seen spot.

Should you be struggling to think of what to display. Please ask for suggestions as we have created a fairly comprehensive list of objects, although admittedly some letters have been a bit of a challenge! Where there could be multiple objects with the same letter - "C" springs to mind - we will accept them and hope that there aren't duplications.

If you can let us know your choice as soon as possible that would help us to make work on getting each letter represented.

We would like your object to be displayed from 1st December

For further clarification, Please contact Julie on 07841 482119 or via email – duncan.taylor@btinternet.com



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Community Coffee at St Andrew's

On 26th September we held a 'Made and Remade' fair - with proceeds going to the Food Bank. There were some very interesting stalls which included Angela's Eaglesham emporium selling jewellery and other upcycled gifts.

Eileen Greenwood with her homemade bags, proceeds going to transport costs for shoeboxes. Aley Green with their jams and preserves etc St Andrew's usual books and jigsaws and Julie Hayes crafts to raise money for her work with hedgehogs. She raised £100 for their campaign.

As usual there was plenty of cake, cookies, plus tea and coffee available. A total of £60 was raised for the Food Bank. Thank you to everyone who attended. See you on October 31st when there will be shoeboxes and wool available.

By Sue Briggs



Eileen and her handmade bags - made £80 towards travel costs for shoeboxes.



Aley Green stall.



Hedgehog stall.



Angela and her handmade stall.

Slip End

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Saturday 28th November

Jess West
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Sunday 6th December

Wreath Making from 6:30pm
£32pp Limited spaces available, must book in advance



Saturday 12th December

Midnight Sun
LIVE Music from 8pm

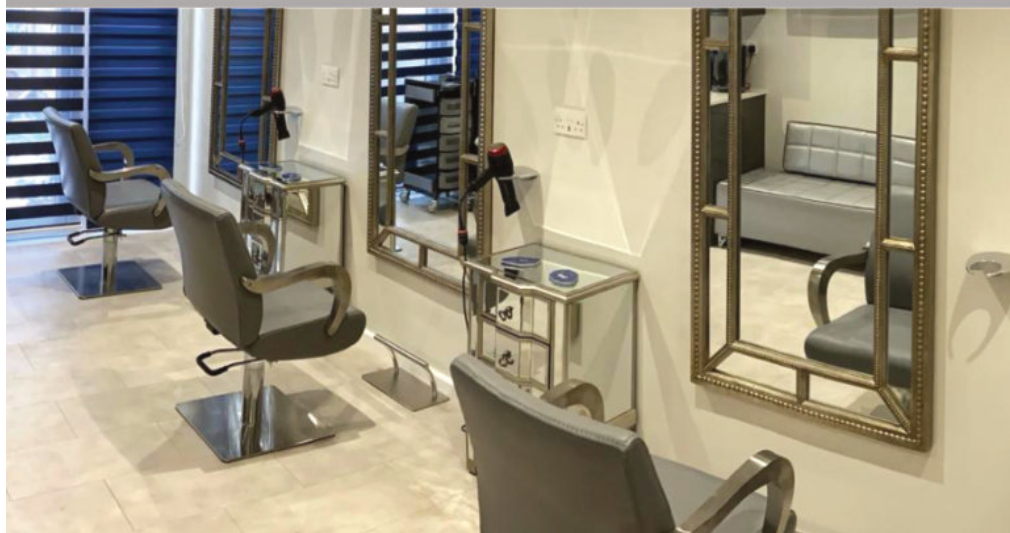
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- Large dip / broken section between footpath and road 18.01 today, last updated 18.01 today
- Leak Road, Macclesfield 18.01 today, last updated 18.01 today
- Abandoned Vacuumed Concre 18.01 today



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St Andrews Harvest News

Many thanks to everybody who donated a tin or box of food, pasta, drink, fruit and vegetables towards our Harvest Praise service. It was a lovely service, and we were joined by three young readers who did really well. Thank you to Steph, Lila and Ted for your part in the harvest sketch.



Left: Steph, Lila and Ted.

Below: Harvest Scarecrows and some of the flower decorations

The church was beautifully decorated as usual, thanks to the flower team and the congregation helped to bring all the donated produce to the front of the church during the sketch with the children.

Many thanks to Slip End School and the Pre-school for their food contributions plus items from the congregation and the harvest scarecrows made by the Pre-school.



The following day we were able to distribute a good number of bags of harvest to Luton Food Bank plus a donation of £100 from the Church collection, items to Azalea, the ladies group we support, plus a donation of £50; plus all fresh fruit and vegetables to Noah, the homeless charity we support, and a donation of £50.

They were all extremely grateful for their gifts and money. We also delivered plants to people who had been bereaved or ill during the year. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way.

By Sue Briggs



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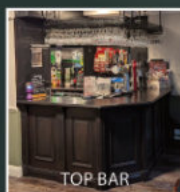
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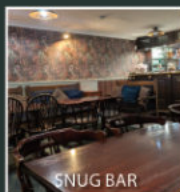
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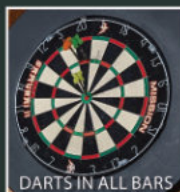
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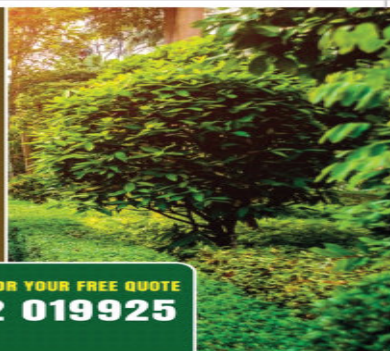
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Gardening Notes *by Russell Sprout*

At the time of writing the weather isn't conducive to getting out in the garden to do those tidying up jobs for the winter, hopefully by the time you are reading this it has stopped long enough to get them done. Continue digging as ground becomes vacant and leave for the frosts to break down over the winter. Don't be too zealous, remember that wildlife need somewhere to overwinter and **don't forget to check that bonfire for hedgehogs before you light it!**

Check chrysanthemums left in the soil for water logging and insert a fork to its full depth to aid drainage. Stools taken in over winter should be kept moist but not wet. Gladioli corms can be cleaned up any time during the winter and discard any that are diseased and try to grow gladioli in a different position each year to stop dry rot, fusarium rot and botrytis. Continue to plant border carnations and pinks during mild spells and complete planting tulips and hyacinths as soon as possible. Check dahlia tubers for drying out and if they appear shrivelled soak them in tepid water for the night. Remove any parts of the tubers that start to rot with a sharp knife and dust them with flowers of Sulphur.

Clear up any fallen leaves and add them to the compost heap, or use them to make your own leaf-mould, (but do check that they don't have black spot). Roses planted this month will get off to a good start but only plant them as deep as the old soil mark on the stem. Climbing and rambling roses need to be planted at least fifteen inches away from a wall to prevent lack of water to the roots. Lift tender plants like fuchsias, begonias and geraniums, and bring inside to over-winter if you haven't already done so.

Ventilate the greenhouse on sunny days if you still have tomatoes ripening but close them in the afternoon to help keep in some heat. Alternatively, pick your tomatoes and bring them inside to ripen off. White fly can be a problem at this time of year so fumigate with a HCH smoke or spray to eradicate this problem.

Blackcurrant bushes will require some of the old wood removing but leave as much new growth as possible, treat gooseberries in much the same way. If you are planting fruit trees, then prune back by about two-thirds of the young shoot straight afterwards. Prune blackberries, raspberries and loganberries cutting out all this year's fruiting shoots and tie in new ones and cut out any weak ones.

If you have a pond finish preparing for winter by removing old leaves and thinning oxygenating plants. Leave foliage on marginal reeds and rushes as a protection against severe weather. Protect the pool against falling leaves by covering it with small-mesh netting. Overhaul pumps used for waterfalls and fountains, removing submersible types from the water and storing them in a dry place.

Russell Sprout

St. Andrew's Church - Dates for October

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=dTdadm291VDk2anA5aGtmdnFCN3kzQT09>

Services held at St Andrew's:

Sunday 1st November 10.30am – Informal Communion – All Saints Day

Wednesday 4th November 7.30pm – Evening Prayer – this service may be held on Zoom – please check for further details.

Sunday 8th November 10.30am – Morning Praise – Remembrance Sunday

Sunday 15th November 10.30am – Holy Communion – Shoebox Sunday

Sunday 22nd November 10.30am – Informal Communion

Sunday 29th November 10.30am – All Age - Advent Sunday Christingle



Little Stars starts at 10.30am each Wednesday. Sessions will run on 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th November. The kettle goes on at 10am – turn up whenever suits your little one's routine.

Remembrance at St Andrew's Church

Sunday 8th November 2026 Starting at 10:30am

Remembrance Sunday is a special time in the life of our community. It gives us an opportunity to pause from the busyness of everyday life and come together, as the people of Woodside, Pepperstock, Aley Green and Slip End, to remember, reflect and give thanks.

We remember the men and women from our communities who have served their country, some of whom made the ultimate sacrifice. We also remember all those whose lives have been affected by war and conflict, both in the past and today.

The names recorded on our memorials are not simply names from history, behind each one was a person, a family and a story.

As Christians, we gather not only to remember the past but also to pray for the future. Christians believe that Jesus calls us to be people of peace, forgiveness and compassion.

The Christian message of Remembrance is ultimately one of hope. The cross reminds us that even in the face of suffering and death, God's love remains with us, and that death does not have the final word.

We warmly invite everyone from Woodside, Pepperstock, Aley Green, Slip End and the surrounding community to join us for our Remembrance Sunday Service on Sunday 8th November 2026 at St Andrew's Church, Woodside from 10:30am.

Whether you come to church regularly, haven't been for many years, or have never been before, you will be very warmly welcomed.

Let us come together as a community to remember, to give thanks, to pray for peace, and to look forward with hope. We look forward to seeing you all soon.

A message from Revd Lindsey Moss
Priest in Charge St Andrews Church

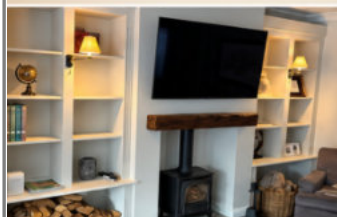
Sudoku

Solutions on page 33

	4			5		7	1
	1			6		8	
2	9			8			
				1	7		4
		2				9	
						2	7
	8						6
9							
		4		3		7	9

			1	6		2	
	8		3		7		
2		9		4			
7		6				3	9
4							1
1	5						4
6							
						5	3
			6		5	9	

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You're Invited to Chatty Club

~

Chatty Club is a small friendly group of ladies who meet every Wednesday afternoon for a good natter.

Fella's are welcome too!

Where: The Plough, Woodside

Time: 2.00pm to 4.00pm

Price: £4 for Sandwiches, Cake, Tea, Coffee

Everyone welcome, come and join us.

For more info call Rosemary on
07719 288760



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Opening Times

Mon: Closed

Tues: 9-5

Wed: 9-1

Thurs: 9-7

Fri: 9-6

Sat: 8-3

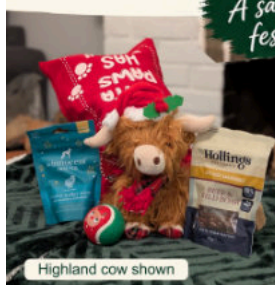
Treat Em PETS

GIFTS FOR HAPPY PETS

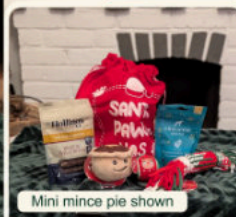
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St Andrew's Woodside

Community Coffee Morning

SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

10AM - 12PM



At St Andrew's Church

We will be getting the
church ready for Christmas,
so come and help
decorate the tree.

Tea, Coffee,
conversation and
good company

Drop in at any time. All welcome.



YOU'RE INVITED
TO THE GNS

Christmas Party

16 WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 2026

SLIP END VILLAGE HALL

3.30PM TO 5.30PM

**SANTA ~ BUMPER RAFFLE
BINGO ~ CHURCH CHOIR**

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CRIME REPORT



Parish Crime Statistics
September 2026



Caddington

Offence	Number
Theft from a motor vehicle	3
Stalking	2
Public fear alarm or distress	1
Shop lifting	1
Assault with injury	1
Harassment	1
Criminal damage to a vehicle	1
Total for Caddington	10

Slip End

Offence	Number
Blackmail	1
Sexual	1
Assault without injury	1
Theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle	1
Total for Slip End	4

Aley Green

Offence	Number
None	0

Pepperstock

Offence	Number
None	0

Woodside

Offence	Number
None	0

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

Diary

If you would like your events included, please contact the editor

What's going on in 2026

Weekly	Chatty Club every Wednesday @ The Plough, 2pm - 4pm
Fortnightly	Caddington Gardening Club, Coffee mornings at the Allotment Hut off Folly Lane Caddington. Every other Tuesday and Sunday
November	
Sat 7th	Karaoke Party, Slip End Social Club, 8pm
Sat 28th	Community Coffee Morning, St Andrew's Church, 10am - 12pm
Sat 28th	LIVE Music with Jess West, Slip End Social Club, 8pm
Sat 28th	Slip End Lights Switch on, 5:15pm, Village Hall
December	
Sun 6th	Wreath Making, Slip End Social Club, £32 per person, starts at 6:30pm, please book in advance.
Wed 16th	GNS Christmas Party, Village Hall, 3:30pm - 5:30pm

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.
 Also on [Slipenders Facebook page](#).



Bin Collections - November

Black - 6th, 20th

Orange (Recycling) - 13th, 27th

Green (Garden) - 13th, 27th

Food Waste bin - Every Friday



COMMUNITY AND SERVICES

Services:-	Good Neighbour Scheme: 07513 37 24 15	
Shop at the Crossroads	07448 801607 Mon - Sun 7:00 to 22:00	
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:-

St Andrew's Church:

Rev Lindsey Moss

07517 220661

revlindseymoss@gmail.com

Wardens:

Tony Smith 07976830906

Aley Green Methodist Church.

Minister:

**Rev Doreen Koffie-Williams
07801 542420**

Senior Steward:

Ann Meader 733668

Sport:-

Bowling Club

07900 012050 (Sandra)

Line Dancing

07737 317147 or 01582

260303 - Jean Anderson

Pepperstock Archers

07914 381847

targetsports@virginmedia.com
(Chris Ingram)

Tennis Peter Smith 733253

Runners (To Be Advised)

Slip End Veterans Football
Wayne Leslie (see football)

Beavers,

Cubs & Scouts 418014

Pre-School -Hayley Bolton,
07889824367

Women's Institute

01582 737036

Chatty Club

Jean Turner
01582 421304 or Cathy
Rose 01582 457362

Book Club (contact via
Parish News)

**CaSeBuG (Caddington and
Slip End Bus user group).**
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Items for the next issue (December) to us by 15th November 2026

(Editor - John) Adverts by 10th please

Any delivery problems? Contact Tom Collins, 7 Elaine Gardens, tel 01582 483927; mob 07713252840; email thomas.collins21@yahoo.co.uk

Anything interesting to report about village activities, photos, holidays, etc.

Please contact us, letters and e-mails are encouraged.

Views expressed by our contributors are not the 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

Parish News is grateful to our advertisers for their contributions. Please support them.

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YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Clerk to Parish Council — Tracey O'Neill 07487 850249 (9am to noon weekdays)

clerk@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk

Carol Brennan	C.brennan@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk	Chair
Anna Coxon	A.coxon@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk	Vice Chair
Simon Patterson	S.patterson@slipendparishcouncil.gov.uk	
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Cllr Kevin Collins



Contact details



Cllr Vicky Malone

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