

SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

AUGUST 2005

NO
SKATEBOARDING



Signage gone Mad!

Crawley Close resident Jim Galbraith, happy again on his Skateboard, the prohibition having been lifted just before this picture was taken . Eggy faces abounded at SBDC last month as the “No Skateboarding” sign was put up in error. Word is that a “No Cycling” sign should have been put up but there was only a stack of “No Skateboarding” signs in the SBDC shed. Sense has prevailed with the rapid removal of this sign, hopefully not to be replaced. A senior Crawley Close resident is quoted as saying “Dunno what they’re up to, we don’t need any more signs, although one or two “No Parking on the Verges” might not go amiss.”

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The Parish @ Large

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*Slip End Lower: 720152
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Streetfield: 613421
Ashton: 663511
Manshead: 608641*

HALLS

*Village Hall: 723109
Recreation Hall: 455185*

SPORT

*Bowling Club: 412506
Tennis: 733253
Darts League: 425323
Football: 733156
Cricket: 414157*

COMMUNITY

*Brownies: 723109
Beavers: 725297
Cubs: 414168
Fly Tipping (SBDC): 472222
Friendship Club: 720392
Slip End Assoc: 414796
Mother's Union: 738435
Playgroup: 728865
Toddler Group 405931
Allotments: 736892
PTA: 720152
Women's Institute: 421034
Police: 471212
Aircraft noise: 395382*

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Stephen Fuell: 417792 steve.fuell@tinyworld.co.uk
Betty Sentinella: 722207 Sentinellab@yahoo.com
Philip Penman: 455185 PhilipPenman@aol.com
Geoff Daniel: 424363Geoff@daniel67.freeserve.co.uk
Ken Crossett 414168 kencrossett@slipend.co.uk
Mike McKeivitt: 720596
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Clerk to the Parish Council - David Haste:
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Ruth Gammons 738398 fairgreen@btopenworld.com*

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Richard Stay: 724685 Richard.Stay@bedscc.gov.uk

CHURCHES

***New Life Christian Fellowship**
Sunday Main Celebration: 10.45
Minister: Rev James Fotheringham 414648
(jfoth@tesco.net)
Administrator & Information:
Alasdair Tompson 737039 (nlcf@trustpro.co.uk)*

***St Andrew's Church**
Rev Joy Daniel 01582 424363
Wardens: David Kingston 416138
Ken Crossett 414168*

***Aley Green Methodist Church**
Minister: Rev Julia Dowding 730129
Senior Steward: Ann Meader 733668*

SHOPS & SERVICES

*Post Office: At the Crossroads, telephone 401069
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Sat-Sun 7/7.30 to 21.00*

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Website: slipend.co.uk



Here I am again, simply trying to write something for the village magazine to fill up the pages as it appears that we don't seem to get any extra stories from the residents which would be rather nice, although I must admit that there isn't such a lot to say about the village. Here I go again trying to have a moan about things and my mother should have perhaps named me Mona. Well you lovely Slipenders let me think what to write about this month.

The Village Hall meeting last month was invigorating: we have three new members who seem to fit in very well and I am sure there will be some new ideas put forth. We have ordered new chairs for the Hall which will be a lot more comfortable than the present ones and we are having the tables refurbished which will give the place a new look once again.

When I visit other Halls in the district I must admit that our Hall is one of the most spacious around and parking is good with the hard-standing and markings. We now have a regular window cleaner that makes such a difference to the now sparkling gleam instead of dust.

I suppose you read about the gift that Wally had from the committee with appreciation on his retirement after 41, actually 43 years as treasurer. The suggestion was that Wally would be given a pound for each year of his time as treasurer so the chairman made the amount up to 50 pounds himself who liked the round figure sound. Thank you, Michael from Wally, who did not wish for anything like this as it was a voluntary service he did as all the committee members are and he was quite embarrassed but out of their kindness it was suggested to give these vouchers to Wally.

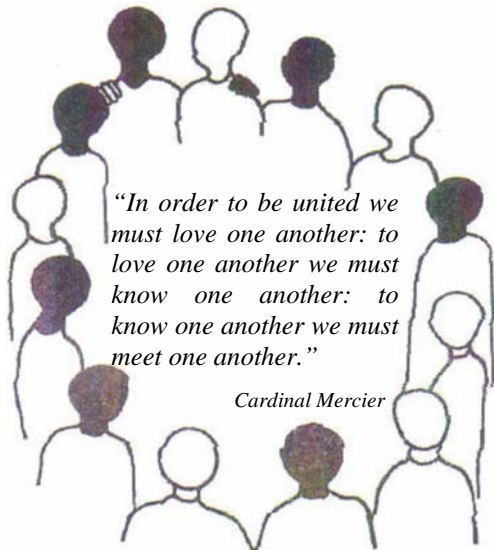
However it did read last month in the parish news that a present had to be given to Wally Allsop to mark his retirement and although that written remark was meant well, no one had to give him anything at all. I did say that it

had been gratefully received but I did not say that I enjoyed a pleasant dinner on the proceeds because I never eat out anyway ever, but yes the vouchers will top up the wine store as Wally does enjoy the odd glass of good wine. We were given Marks and Spencers Vouchers, so if you run into me when shopping in that store I will know doubt be buying Wally a bottle of wine.

Wally and I have been living in Slip End now for 44 years and I can remember the day Wally said that we will be moving to Slip End and I had never heard of the place. I was given the keys of my present home to look it over and I remember walking along the main road and seeing Viv Porter who I had worked with many years before.

Viv asked me what was I doing in Slip End and when I told her I was there to look at this house, she came with me. No way was I wanting to move here away from my friendly Luton home and good neighbours, but somehow I had to come with Wally and he promised to enlarge the place. His promises were carried out and he did make me a nice family home for the children and I soon made lots of lovely friends in the village, but sadly most have now died so its a village that has become estranged to me, so that's why I have a moan now and again. My family are gone from the village but not too far away. I love to get in my car and drive off to various places. I would love to move to Caddington as I know many people in that place but Wally says it's too big an upheaval so I will have to remain in Slip End, and I am inclined to agree with him. We have a holiday lodge at Hunstanton where I have many happy childhood memories so when weather permits we can get away few days at a time as long as Wally has no jobs to do in the garden, as that is his one big hobby.

Getting back to the village Hall: it appears that we have a good team of committee members especially with the three new chaps, one being a retired detective from the Metropolitan Police Force and David Kingston a great guy



DON'T BIN IT, FREecycle IT

The simple aim of The Freecycle Network™ is to reduce the amount of waste that goes into landfill by offering it to your local community for *free*.

It is made up of nearly 1.5 million individuals in over 2800 groups worldwide. I started FreecycleLuton in April 2005 and we have nearly 200 members already. So far we have saved from Landfill: A VW Golf (yes a full size car), computers, bikes, 200 wall tiles, a Fender guitar, wooden shelving, garden trimmers, printers and a whole lot more. *Someone even collected 20 bags of broken bricks from me to make a base for their shed!*

Offers are posted on a message board (<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/FreecycleLuton/>) and an email is sent to all members who then make contact to arrange collection of your unwanted gift. Everything *must be free*, preferably local, although most things can be posted. Sorry you can't offer you kids, pets or your partner!

If you don't have an Internet connection contact me and I'll offer the item for you or put you in touch with a member who lives nearby .

Freecycle is also about building Local Community spirit!

Just remember - one person's Rubbish is another person's treasure, so jump in and join, you have nothing to loose but your clutter and junk and never know what you may gain!

Matt Ogier-Russell
limesdesign@gmail.com / 732 950

Why not pop along on Sunday 14th August at 11am and meet our Circuit Superintendent Minister Rev. David Vale? This service will include Holy Communion. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served afterwards, so that we can have a chat. There will be no Sunday School during the holiday period.

On 15th August work will begin on the church re-wiring, so there will be no services on August 21st and 28th. The church will re-open on September 4th for adults, our Sunday School starting on September 11th at 11am.

During the period the church is being worked on our August coffee evening on the 17th will be at my home, 45 Manor Road, Caddington from 7.30 in the evening. Please pop in for a free drink and a chat.

"He did it with all his heart, and prospered."
(Book of Chronicles)

May God grant you rest, peace and happiness over this holiday season. With much love and prayers from Aley Green Methodist Church.

Ann Meader



SK8BOARD PARK

With a committee formed and ideas a-plenty, the Sk8board park planned for the village is starting to become a reality. That said, with M1 widening and up to £75k to raise there is still a long way to go!

We are planning a "Fun Day" in September and are hoping to have a number of pieces of street equipment available for use as well as the possibility of some "exhibition" skateboarders subject to arranging insurance!

If anyone wants to get involved or has ideas on how to the raise money (legally) please get in touch.

Cheers

Matt - sk8boardpark@slipend.co.uk

ALLOTMENT & GARDEN ASSOCIATION

August in the Vegetable Garden

When you come to the end of the first early potatoes make a start on the second early or mid-season varieties: only lift a few at a time.

Onions from January and March sowings will now be approaching ripeness, which can be hastened by bending over the leaves just above the neck of each bulb. Prepare the plot for next year, clear and dig where peas and beans are over and remember your rotation plan in deciding what will go there for next year.

Flowers & Fruit

Chrysanthemums should now be budded and side shoots rubbed out. If red spiders appear in the flower bed syringe thoroughly. Continue to remove faded flowers and runners.

You can continue to bud both fruit and rose stock. Throughout the month look out for American Blight (woolly aphis) on apple trees and destroy them straight away. Pick and prune apple and pear trees.

Brownies

Our last visit out this term was back to the Fire Station in Dunstable. The girls were allowed to go on the Fire Engines, and have a go with the hoses. Of course they all got wet, including Peter and Stephen, the fireman who looked after us. Charlotte, our eldest Brownie, presented our Fireman Friends a box of biscuits as a thank you for a very interesting as well as a fun time.

We are now planning for our next term up until December. One thing we are going to do is visit a lady in Caddington who looks after Hedgehogs who have been injured.

Gil Plummer, Brown Owl



TOP TIPS TO KEEP YOUR HOME SECURE THIS SUMMER

We expect to take extra security precautions in winter when the nights draw in but there are situations during the summer months when a person's risk of being burgled increases. Key causes include leaving windows and doors open in the heat; forgetting to lock away tools and ladders after outdoor odd jobs or gardening, leaving handy equipment for opportunist thieves as we go away on holiday.

In most cases, crime can be prevented, by applying simple security. Remain vigilant this summer and to take steps to employ some or all of these simple measures.

- When going away on holiday tell a trusted neighbour so that they can keep an eye on your property in your absence.
- Don't forget to cancel milk and papers so they do not build up, indicating that you are away.
- Mow the lawn before you travel.
- Ask a friend to go in every day to pull curtains and remove post from your doormat. Buy a time switch that can be set to turn a lamp on and off to make it look like your home is occupied

For general safety during the Summer,

- Lock both the back and front door when you go out, even if it's just for a few minutes. Don't be tempted to leave your door ajar while you pop to the shops and check your windows are all closed, including those upstairs.
- Put a padlock on your back gate, particularly if it is in a secluded area or if it backs onto an alleyway or lane.
- Keep ladders and tools locked away after completing gardening or DIY jobs.
- Finally, ensure that you have suitable locks and security measures.

***GET TOGETHER FOR A CUP OF COFFEE
TO HELP PEOPLE
LIVING WITH CANCER***

Macmillan Cancer Relief are urging people to get together for a cup of coffee with friends to help people living with cancer on Friday 30 September, as part of their World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

It is amazing what a difference simply having a cup of coffee can make and the leading cancer care charity is encouraging everyone across the UK to turn this regular activity into a fun and social occasion.

Last year 35,000 coffee events took place in offices, homes, schools and church halls and were attended by 1.5 million people up and down the UK raising a staggering £5.3 million. This year is set to be even bigger!

Money raised by large and small coffee events helps to fund essential information and counselling centres, specialist Macmillan medical staff, buildings for cancer treatment and care, as well as grants for people with cancer who are in financial difficulty.

Today and every day, 739 people will be told they have cancer. Macmillan needs to be able to be there for everyone who needs their support. To make a cup of coffee count and join in the fun log onto www.macmillan.org.uk/coffee or call the **hotline 0845 602 1246** to register.

FLAMSTEAD SCARECROW FESTIVAL

Friday 19th August: 1- 5pm Saturday 20th 11- 6pm Sunday 21st 10.30 - 5pm

Visitors can help choose the best scarecrows and can collect a voting form and scarecrow trail (£2) from car parks or the Village Hall.

Saturday: Bell Ringing Demonstration from 2.30 to 4 with Punch & Judy Show in the churchyard. Cheese and wine in St Leonards Church 8 - 10pm

Sunday: 2.30 - 3.30 folk Dancing in Village Hall car park

As I have just come back from Australia , a few verses from 'Advance Australia Fair' is my choice of poem for this month. I found the verse on a bookmark and thought it very appropriate for the country.

Australians all let us rejoice
For we are young and free;
We've golden soil and wealth for toil,
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in Nature's gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history's page, let every stage
"Advance Australia fair!"

When gallant Cook from Albion Sail'd
To trace wide oceans o'er
True British courage bore him on,
Till he landed on our shore.
Then here he raised Old England's flag
The standard of the brave;
With all her faults we love her still,
"Brittannia rules the wave!"
In joyful strains then let us sing
"Advance Australia fair!"

Here's wishing all the Parish News readers a very happy summer, wherever you are. Safe travels if you are travelling abroad and may the sun shine on you all and keep you safe.

Sue Cowell

Sub editorial

The "Skateboard Ban" in Crawley Close was thankfully short-lived (see front page page). Rumour goes that it took a year or two to get the thing erected (PN fails to see the need of it in the first place) but following a flurry of e-mails, it was rapidly removed, within a couple of days: remarkable!

True to it's unswerving editorial policy of maintaining a sense of balance, Parish News seeks to identify some positives coming out of this bizarre episode. And this is it: British stoicism was to the fore again as Crawley

Close neighbours came together in the face of adversity, the like of which we have not seen since the memorable nocturnal occasion back in the early eighties, when A.J. Willson (Builder) contrived to drop a grand piano from his pick-up onto the road *at the very spot where, years later, the erstwhile signage was erected*. The Piano dropping incident all those years ago is remembered as causing a late night commotion measured at 3.4 on the Richter scale, severe woe to the sensitive instrument and heavy damage the roadway.

But last poetic words must go to the "Bard of Crawley Close" ...

The sun shone brightly on the little white van.

A pole was erected by a man with a tan.

On it was a notice "No skateboarding" it read.

Locals came out to see what it said.

*A resident said "Oh!" to the digger,
"Here's my S. Beds paperwork"
replied the man with a snigger.*

*"Where are they, for all we see around here
are bikers and we tell their Dad".*

*Is this just another case of our local
authority gone mad?*

Anon (Steve Fuell)

The junior sub-editor welcomes the return of "the boss" from her antipodean trip.

I'm glad to see you back at the helm Sue. However, your poetic choice is a little insensitive to the sorrows felt by us English cricket followers, smarting at what the Australians did to us in the Lord's test. It is assumed you do not share the grief from which some of are suffering: sniff, sniff

David Kingston

EDITORS TRAVELS

I'm back from my adventures in Australia and thought you might like to know a bit of what I've been up to. We arrived safely in Cairns, Queensland and daughter Amelia was there to meet Allan and I and her boyfriend Dave. It was lovely to see her looking so well after six months of travel. The weather was sunny and after checking into our apartment, our home for the next week, we had a wander into the town. Cairns borders the Rain forest and the Great Barrier Reef, which of course makes it a very popular choice for visitors. After a few days of relaxing and recovering from the long flight we were ready for our first day trip to visit the incredible rain forest. The start of our tour led us to the Tjapukai Aborigine Cultural Centre where we were shown two short films about the Aborigines: how their land was taken and how the population has declined. We saw



how the didgeridoo is made and played, how spears and boomerangs are thrown and how plants help with first aid and healing.

Onwards to the Sky Rail where

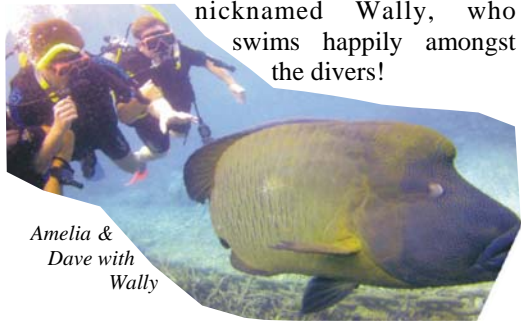
we were taken in our gondola right above the rain forest to Kuranda village where we spent some time at the market before returning to Cairns on the Kuranda Railway. The railway was opened in 1891 after 5 years of toil with many hazards. The Scenic Train with its beautiful wooden carriages travels the same ancient track through miles of the oldest rainforest in the world, passing waterfalls and exotic views.

Our trip to the Great Barrier Reef with Reef Magic Cruises was amazing. The endless reef stretches for more than the eye can see and is the home to over a 1000 marine species, a miracle of nature. If ever you get the chance to

see it, grab it with open arms. Allan and I tried snorkelling, which was incredible whilst Dave and Amelia went scuba diving. The fish are very colourful and enormous: one



nicknamed Wally, who swims happily amongst the divers!



Amelia &
Dave with
Wally

We went on to Cape

Tribulation, where Captain Cook landed in 1770, after his ship hit a reef. The forest here is protected, allowing tourists to visit unspoilt virgin rainforest. Cape Tribulation beach is where Ursula Andress stepped out of the sea in the Bond film, Dr No. We were thrilled to have the beach to ourselves.

We left Cairns to travel down the Captain Cook Highway for our next adventure. Staying at Townsville for one night we caught the ferry to the most beautiful Magnetic Island (so called because of the interference to Captain Cook's compass). This is a tropical island, full of palm trees, beaches, sandy coves, picture postcard views, wildlife and lots of sunshine. The island even had its own skateboard park set in beautiful surroundings, I took a photo for the skateboard committee of Slip End, lets hope they can match it.

We are half way through the trip now, lots more to see, I will continue next month.

Sue Cowell

Sorry, no PN contribution for last month. I was unable to attend the meeting as I was looking after our Granddaughter Isabelle as our daughter Natalie, who many of you may know, was away presenting us with another Grandchild this one weighed in at 8lb. 3oz. (can't metricate) on June 8th Joshua John Howard Crawley had made his mark on the world already by giving his parents very little sleep! I digress, onto business.

June Crime Figures

Assault causing Actual Body Harm	2
Criminal Damage to Dwellings	1
Drugs - possession of Cannabis	1
Criminal Damage - Other Property	1
Nuisance telephone calls	1
Theft from one person to another	1

Speed Kills

The Police visited the Parish Council recently. One of the gizmos they showed us was the latest all-singing all dancing speed camera, a Laser Gun which does everything. The message is if you speed through the Parish you WILL be caught. This goes for everyone, residents, through traffic, our very own boy racers, bikers. This speed gun will be deployed frequently, at different times, on different days and in different positions, anytime, anywhere. So be warned, and note that you were told about it here. If you, your partner, your children or anyone you know drives through or about the Parish at any time, there is a good chance that they will be prosecuted if speed exceeds 30mph.

I have a particular horror of the speeds that some cars are driven through the Parish, not just along the main roads, but also the residential roads. It has to stop! Following on from the article from the PN Editor last month: these people need to be caught and charged. Don't just shrug your shoulders and roll your

eyes as they go spinning past. It is better to do something, take registration numbers and call the police. I know the sort that we are dealing with: you may end up with bent wing mirrors, but better than a seven year old spread out in the road. Ironically, some of our current generation of boy racers, when just a bit smaller, used to play out on their bikes. Their parents were always the first to come screaming to me as Parish Councillor to do something about the speeding in order to protect their toddlers who now, having "grown up" are today's cause of danger on our roads. What goes around, comes around: now their silence, other than that from roaring machinery, is deafening!

Coronation Gardens

You may have noticed the new footpath behind the Gardens. A committee has been busy re-designing the Gardens and hopes are that they will unveil their ideas soon. Thanks to Wyevale Garden Centres in Caddington, who were approached and have kindly donated £30 of Gift Vouchers to be used for the Garden.

Betty Sentinella

Councillor Betty Sentinella resigned as a Parish Councillor in June. She did a lot of work for the Parish taking the Woodside area as her fiefdom. We are looking for a willing volunteer to join the Council until next May when the Elections come round again. Who knows, you may enjoy it and would like to join us full time. You never know!!

There is no official meeting of the Parish Council in August, the month that traditionally Councils pick up their buckets and spades and head to the seaside. We meet again on the first Monday at 8 in September at the Village Hall, you are all very welcome to come to visit.

*Christine Benson
Chairman, Slip End Parish Council.*



Unfortunately Pat has not been too well and did not attend the July meeting. She missed a good evening but was too busy checking the L & D was still there. Hope you feel much better now Pat and we are pleased that you are home. We began the evening by welcoming Lenis Caves after her nasty ordeal in the village. It was good to see her smiling face at the meeting. It takes more than a thug to keep down a good W.I. member.

Mr G Knowles gave a very amusing and entertaining talk about his life in the wholesale grocery trade, where he began his career at 15 years of age for £1 a week. Spending time on each floor, dried fruits, pulses, canned goods, butter cheese and bacon. When this was interrupted by his call up papers he served in the RAF. On his return after the war he had to begin his apprenticeship all over again. This time for £4 a week.

Rita provided an enjoyable competition where we had to price an assortment of groceries.

We meet third Tuesday in the month at the Baptist Church Hall 7.30 p.m. We have a varied and interesting programme which continues over the summer period, see Diary Page: hope to see you there!



Maureen Beale

STARLIGHT children's foundation
Brightening the lives of seriously and terminally ill children



Brian & Hilary MacDonald, seen following their return after his mammoth walk (over 50 Scottish miles in 18 hours!). Not unnaturally, Brian suffered for a week or two afterwards but his endeavours raised £2000 for this deserving charity. Well done, they deserve that champagne!

Walking Bus Update WOW- Walk on Wednesday!



Slip End Lower School will launch their Walking Bus in September. CRB checked parents and local volunteers will take turns on a rota to walk children to school. The idea is to encourage physical exercise and reduce car congestion at the school. There will be a ratio of one adult to four children.

The organisers thank the new owners of the Rising Sun for kindly allowing their car park to be used as the central meeting point. Initially the "bus" will run on Wednesday mornings. The route will have two starting points. The first begins in Crawley Close and will proceed up Front Street and go to the Rising Sun. The second will start on New Street and go up Summer Street, past the Frog and Rhubarb and along Church Road to the Rising Sun.

Parents bringing children in from outside the village can drop them off at the Rising Sun and all children will then walk together down Markyate Road, turning left into Ross Way. A Road Safety Officer will survey the route during the Summer Holidays and will recommend the safest crossing points.

16 pupils have already signed up to the scheme, and once it is established we will increase the number of days on which it runs.

The routes have been planned to run as close as possible to the homes of the children involved. The routes may alter over time as more families sign up to the scheme. The Walking Bus is part of Slip End Lower Schools Travel Plan project, which has already earned the school an award of over £4000.

If you are available from 8.30 to 9am Wednesday mornings and would like to escort the children, or if you would like your children to walk with the bus, contact Nikki West on nikkiandmatt@btinternet.com or via the school.



Our first Wimbledon

We were very pleased to be given the opportunity to go to our first Wimbledon, due to three people chosen from the Slip End draw (fortunately for us, unfortunately for them) being unable to attend. (This was a definite surprise as due to being on a skiing holiday, we were late submitting our entry to the ticket draw!)

We were offered tickets for the middle Saturday, which we gratefully accepted. The week before we were due to go to Wimbledon, the weather was unpredictable and we were worried that it would rain on the day. Fortunately, however the rain held off and although it was windy we enjoyed a full day's play.

We made our way to Court Number 1 and found our seats, as the first match between Sharapova against Srebotnik was beginning. This was surprisingly quickly concluded with Sharapova winning in straight sets albeit noisily!

After refuelling on noodles, which meant we missed the second match, we were back in our seats just in time to see the start of the match between Roddick and Andreev, which we had been looking forward to all week. Roddick's serve was much more impressive in real life than on TV and, despite Andreev's amazing forehand shots, the American pulled through to win three out of five sets in order to win the match and go onto the next stage of Wimbledon.

We were disappointed to hear on the train back to Luton that on Centre Court, the young hopeful Andrew Murray was eventually beaten by No 18 seed, David Nalbandian. We thoroughly enjoyed our day and will definitely make sure we enter both the Slip End TC draw and Wimbledon Public Ballot for 2006.

Andrew and Thomas Bloomfield



Andrew & Thomas on their day at Wimbledon



Nearer to home, two more local youngsters are seen at the Tennis Courts here at the Playing Field in Slip End. The local Tennis Club welcomes anyone, any standard, to play or to join in

for training sessions, there are groups for both adult and youngsters: two are pictured here obviously learning under Sally's expert eye, showing good balance with eyes on the ball.

Like Andrew, Thomas and others, you could be lucky in the draw for Wimbledon tickets.



***Interested?
Call Peter on
733253.***

(SHORT) LETTERS FROM DORSET

1. We think the colour covers on recent issues of the Parish News are very effective in showing current developments at Slip End and we had the opportunity to show some issues from recent months to David Bolster who popped in to see us mid-June during a sailing holiday at Poole. It was good to have the chance to compare notes with him, but as the accompanying photograph shows he does not let up for many moments, he was on his mobile phone when the photograph was taken !

2. Last month's issue of Parish News included a picture of David Bolster here at 'Trees' (Sorry Grenville, but it didn't: see below). It was taken in June when David was learning to sail in Holes Bay, Poole not far from here. Imagine our surprise when, a few weeks later, Mary Bolster plus sister Cathy pops in to see us, they were learning to sail in Holes Bay, Poole ! Evidently there is some friendly family rivalry going on in trying to see who learns the ropes quickest!

*With our best wishes to all,
Grenville & Dorothy*



The junior sub-editor apologises to Grenville as the first letter was unfortunately omitted from last month's issue (The JSE is expecting some retribution from the editor now that she is back from the trip). Grenville and Dorothy lived in Crawley Close but moved away to Dorset, near Wareham, a few years ago. Both were well known to many of us in Slip End and were involved in local goings-on, too many to mention here! We still miss them around the village but it is good to keep in touch from time to time via the wonders of the internet. The pictures of Mary and David Bolster provide similar reminders of erstwhile Slip Enders: Mary appears much more photogenic in the picture above than David (left) who, with his mind on greater things, presents a spectacular big toe to the camera! (No wonder Grenville looks a mite sniffy!)



Services & Events in August

Midweek Communion take place monthly at two venues in Slip End, details from Joy Daniel.

Sunday 7 th	10:30am	Family Communion
Sunday 14 th	10:30am	Morning Praise with Baptism
	2:00pm	St Andrew's Ramblers meet at the church, Ramble & picnic
Sunday 21 st	10:30 am	Holy Communion
Friday 26 th	2:30 pm	Woodside Home Service
Sunday 28 th	9:15 am	Holy Communion, East Hyde
	10:30 am	Morning Praise

Holiday Break

Many of our regular activities are suspended over the holiday period, so please note the following resumption dates:

ZJB Childrens Group:

Sunday 4th September, during the Family Communion Service, 10:30.

3:16 Youth Group:

Sunday 18th September, 6.15 in Family Room.

Footsteps Youth Group

Thurs 15th September, 8.00 in Family Room.

Pram Service:

Wed 7th September, 10.30 in Family Room

Autumn Programme in church

In September we will be looking at some everyday topical books and movies to see what they have to say to us as Christians. Why not join us and bring your friends along on Sunday mornings at 10.30 to hear what the Bible says about these things, so popular and familiar to us outside the church context?

4th September: *The Matrix*

11th September: *The Lord of the Rings*

18th September: *Billy Elliot*

2nd October: *The Simpsons*

Our Harvest Festival service will be on Sunday 25th September at 10:30am

For more information about God and what he is doing, take a look at rejesus.co.uk.

News reports of atrocities in Iraq and elsewhere have much heightened impact now that the bombers are striking us, very close to home. In Slip End we have also been hit by flyers from an extreme political party claiming to speak up for our freedoms and concerned for the "survival of democracy and Christian traditions". PN feels that the more balanced and realistic message delivered from the Christian standpoint by Chris Barnes at St Andrew's last month, contained higher truths. It may help us to read these extracts from Chris' message:

When Jesus claimed to be "the light of the world" (John 8 v 12), it has many meanings for us today. One of them is that "the light of the world" shines into the darkest places, the half hidden places where we keep the things of which we are most ashamed. Sin always hides from the light; it prefers the world of darkness or half light. Like a shaft of sunlight picking out cobwebs we would rather forget, "the light of the world" forces us to face up to realities we would prefer to ignore.

And unless we do face up to those realities, we will never take action to deal with them. When confronted by Jesus, the Pharisees only saw a sinner, by their own definition. They could not see, would not see, Jesus the healer, the Son of God restoring the sight of the blind.

And we all do this, as we refuse to face up to uncomfortable realities which confront us and we all have to wrestle with major confrontations in our lives as a result.

An interesting example is happening right now in British Islam. When those terrible bombs in London were first linked to Islamic suicide bombers, the first reaction of most of the Muslims interviewed by the media was to deny it. The bombers were called lunatics and not true sons of Islam. All of this is true. But such attitudes do not face up to the reality that within some of the concepts of Islam lie some of the seeds which led the bombers to do what they did.

Concepts such as:

dhimmi - which holds that non Muslims are lesser human beings than Muslims and therefore to be seen as inferior.

ummah - the concept of Muslim brotherhood, whereby the death of a Muslim in Palestine, Iraq or Kashmir is felt more deeply than the death of a fellow Briton.

ijtihad - which is a concept in the Sunni brand of Islam that holds that no further theological interpretation of the *Qu'ran* and other Muslim holy books is valid. Debate ceased in medieval times and cannot be reopened despite the changes in the world over the last seven centuries.

Verses in the *Qu'ran*, such as "Kill the unbeliever where you find him." (Sura 2:256)

It is interesting to see that some of the Muslim leaders are beginning to address some of these realities. We should be grateful for that and help them all we can.

But do not think that in saying this I am taking an attitude that my religion is holier than thou. Let us not forget that the previous bombs to take lives in London were set off by some with Christian labels. Last week saw July 12th and another upsurge of violence in Northern Ireland.

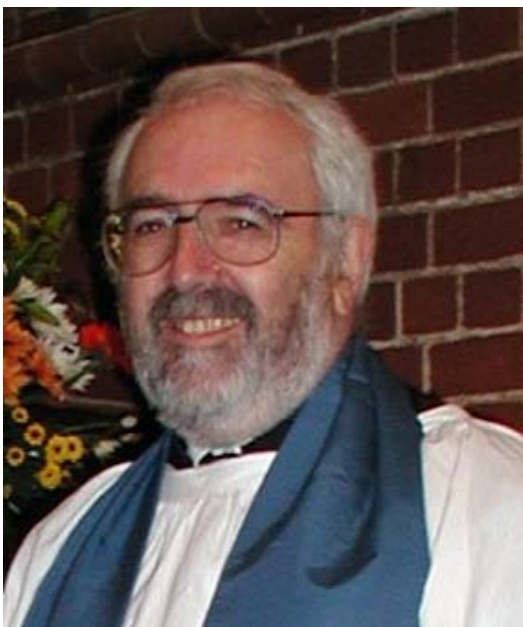
Now it is all too easy to say this is not the Christianity we know; that they are all evil lunatics. And besides they are all Roman Catholics or Presbyterians or those strange people who follow Ian Paisley. Remember,

Drumcree church, the scene of so much tension and violence very recently, is an Anglican church. One of ours. What were the Rector and PCC thinking of? Not the same as our priest and PCC I'll warrant.

For years it was the churches that insisted on segregated schooling which led to so much misunderstanding between the two communities. And there are plenty of nasty verses in the Old Testament similar to the one I quoted from the *Qu'ran*.

It has taken a long time for the Christians of Northern Ireland to face up to these realities.

As individual Christians, we too must open ourselves up to "the light of the world". Let him shine his light into those dark places, those secret places where we keep the things of which we are most ashamed. We must face the realities that light reveals, confess our sins and take action to deal with them. Only in that way can we begin to walk in the light of Christ.



*Chris Barnes, Reader,
St Andrew's Church
17 July 2005*

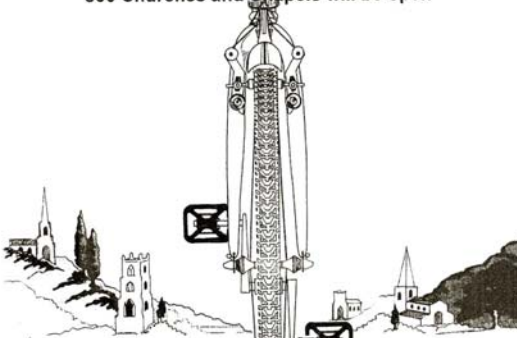
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A distinguished gentleman with strong links to Slip End which last to this day: but who is he? Answer in next month's PN.

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Services 10.30 every Sunday morning

July saw the end of the school term and everyone looking forward to the summer holidays but before the break up there were plenty of things going on at Slip End Lower School. We have included a few snaps of some of the fun and interesting activities the children have been involved in over the last few weeks, so we hope you enjoy this month's news.

School Trip: The whole school enjoyed a day out at Whipsnade Zoo on the 15th July with teachers and parents taking the children to meet some of the residents up on the Downs! The big attractions were the Lions of the Serengeti who were certainly enjoying the hot weather which no doubt would have reminded them of home. Plus the sea lions who entertained the children with their tricks, jumping and racing. Everyone had a super day in the sunshine and there was even time for ice cream after their picnic lunch.

Sports Day: Another sunny afternoon outdoors for the children was the annual sports day held at the end of term. Plenty of parents turned up to cheer on the children in the races and activities arranged by the teachers. There were sack races, hurdles, ball bouncing, bean bag balancing and much more with the whole school divided into 4 teams competing for the trophy. Each team was named after an animal and included children from every year but it was the Camels who scooped the



top prize. F.o.S.E.L.S treated all the children to ice lollies to help cool down after their exertions but not before we had enjoyed the spectacle of the Mum's and Dad's race!

Moving On: Although the end of the school year comes as a welcome break for both pupils and

staff, it also sees the end of an era for the year 4 children. They will move on to the their Middle Schools in September, so they enjoyed a special leavers party at the end of term and performed for the whole school during the final assembly. We wish them all success as they move on to their new schools and thank them for the contribution both they and their parents made to the school over the years.

Year 4 aren't the only ones moving on as Mrs. Greensmith also left the foundation unit for a new teaching post in Northamptonshire at the end of term. Good luck to her also in her new role.

African Drumming: On 7th June, pupils from Swans Class (Years 3 & 4) at Slip End Lower School, delighted parents, staff and younger pupils with their African



Drumming Skills. A visiting music teacher, Damien Manning, attended the school over the course of six weeks bringing with him a fantastic array of African percussion instruments. The children quickly picked up a variety of new rhythms and drumming techniques to give a very memorable and exciting performance.

Also Swans Class (Years 3 & 4) at the school did a presentation of their African Drumming Skills to parents last week. There had been a visiting teacher for six weeks who brought all the authentic drums and other percussion instruments.

Hot Dog! The children were happy to raise money for Cystic Fibrosis when Mrs Garner sold hot dogs at the school tuck shop and after sports day. A popular way to raise funds for a deserving charity: thanks to Mrs Garner for organising this.

Next Term: School will start again on the 6th September, and will see a new member of staff, Mrs Val Conybeare, joining to teach year 3. The children will all move into their new classes and we wish them all luck as they move up through the school.

We look forward to sharing more news with you in September, so in the meantime we hope you all have a great summer.

Sandra Collins & Nikki West



DIARY If you would like your event put in the Diary please contact the Editor

August

16th **Women's Institute: "Jewish Womens' way of life", Mrs B. Felson**

September

2nd **Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall at 8pm**

3rd **Women's Institute: Cake & Coffee morning at the Baptist Hall, Caddington**

5th **Parish Council Meeting: Village Hall 8pm**

6th **Back to School!**

10th **Craft Fayre in the Village Hall**

11th **Aley Green Methodist Church-Sunday School resumes**

11th **Car Treasure Hunt - St Andrew's**

20th **Women's Institute: "Capital Manor", Mr M. Pitkeithly**

October

1st **Dance at the Village Hall**

3rd **Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall at 8pm**

5th **Women's Institute: Trip to the Bank of England**

18th **Women's Institute: "Ghost Stories", Mrs D. Wigg**

29th **Dance at the Village Hall**

November

7th **Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall at 8pm**

12th **Table Top Sale - Village Hall**

19th **Dance at the Village Hall**

27th **Craft Fayre - Village Hall**

December

3rd **Dance at the Village Hall**

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Articles for next month's issue should be passed to:

Sue Cowell 83 The Crescent, Caddington (733507), parishnews@slipend.co.uk
or David Kingston 7 Crawley Close, Slip End, davidgoodmankingston@hotmail.com.

It helps us if contributions are sent in by 15th of the month prior to publication if at all possible.

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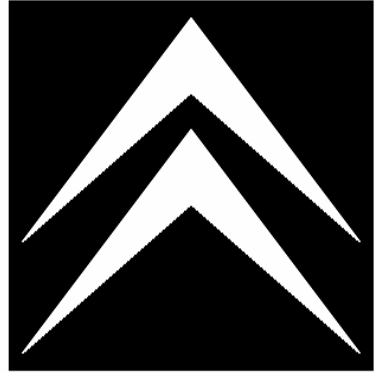
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