



*Beautiful day for a stroll,  
should make it before lunch!*  
Read about Phil MacDonald's  
Everest experience inside.

SLIP END & DISTRICT PARISH NEWS

APRIL 2009 50P WHERE SOLD

*Junior Chefs from SELS Maple Class  
with teacher Mrs Casson  
at the Frog & Rhubarb.  
See Pub Page inside.*



### **Traffic Calming Scheme**

*You may have spotted this County Council operative recently installing the latest in traffic calming technology. During trials over the last few months, these 'virtual pot holes' have resulted in remarkable speed reduction at low cost. A Council spokesperson told Parish News that installation will be complete in the Parish by noon on April 1st 2009.*



**Aley Green Flower Festival:**  
*New Minister Reverend Phil Horner and just some of the beautiful displays on show.  
More details inside.*



*Organiser Mrs Barbara Horton with some of the jams and chutneys made by ladies of the church.*

# The Parish @ Large

## SCHOOLS

Slip End Lower: 720152  
Caddington Village School: 726058  
Streetfield: 613421  
Ashton: 663511  
Manshead: 608641

## SPORT

Bowling Club: 412506  
Tennis: 733253  
Darts League: 425323  
Football: 418494  
Cricket: 414157

## HALLS

Village Hall: 723109  
Peter Edwards Hall: 455185

## COMMUNITY

Brownies: 723109  
Beavers: 725297  
Cubs: 414157  
Fly Tipping (SBDC): 472222  
Friendship Club: 452978  
Slip End Assoc: 414796  
Mother's Union: 738435  
Playgroup: 728865  
Toddler Group 405931  
Allotments: 736892  
FoSELS (PTA):  
Tracey Burgess 07767731187  
Women's Institute: 421034  
Police: 473462  
Aircraft noise: 395382  
Water leaks: 0845 7823333

## PARISH COUNCILLORS

Stephen Fuell: 417792  
stevefuell@f2s.com  
Philip Penman: 455185  
PhilipPenman@aol.com  
Geoff Daniel: 424363  
geoffdaniel@btinternet.com  
Ken Crossett 414168  
kencrossett@slipend.co.uk  
Janet Crawley: 07752 902070  
crawley\_janet@yahoo.co.uk  
Sarah Minnighan  
s.minnighan@btinternet.com  
Paul Cooper  
paul-cooper@indigo-tiger.com

## CLERK TO THE PARISH COUNCIL

Nikki West: 402312 (9am to noon weekdays)  
parishclerk@slipend.co.uk

**NB: District & County Councillors below are acting in 'shadow' capacities until elections in June 2009.**

## DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Philip Penman: 455185  
PhilipPenman@aol.com

## COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Margaret Moran: 01582 731882

## CHURCHES

### St Andrew's Church

Rev Joy Daniel 01582 424363  
Warden: Tony Willson 482681

### Aley Green Methodist Church

Minister: Rev Philip Horner  
Senior Steward: Ann Meader 733668

## SHOPS & SERVICES

At the Crossroads, telephone 401069  
Monday to Friday 6.30 to 21.00 Saturday 7.00 to 21.00 - Sunday 7.30 to 21.00  
**Garage:** Slip End Garage, Markyate Road, telephone 456888

**Website: [slipend.co.uk](http://slipend.co.uk)**

## “The toughest physical experience of my life!”

**Here is Phil MacDonald’s story about his recent Himalaya trek to Everest Base Camp**

On the 25th January I left Heathrow to start on the long journey to Everest Base Camp. It was something I had always wanted to do, yet something I didn't anticipate enjoying for one moment! I felt I would only truly appreciate what I had done on my return and every moment in between was going to be spent wondering why I had paid good money to put myself through all this.

That said, I arrived at Kathmandu airport with a mixture of excitement and nervousness and met the rest of the team. On our first day there we took a half day tour of the capital taking in the different sights and cultures along the way. For many in the group the sheer difference in life here was on such a big scale I think it really shocked them and was something maybe people weren't fully prepared for. Next day we took an early flight on a 16 seater airplane to



Lukla airport. With its tiny airstrip on the side of a mountain, landing an airplane there is an acquired skill and thankfully for us our pilot seemed to possess it.

We started trekking that very day, albeit an easy day in comparison, with mainly downhill stretches to our first night's lodge. That evening we had a briefing which essentially told us that the next day wasn't going to be easy and that there would be a section after around 2 hours of walking which would be 3 hours 'steep up'. This, it seemed was not to be a lie and was one of the hardest things I have ever done. It was not so much to be a fitness thing but more a breathing thing. Even at this altitude everyone was struggling to breathe and it was a huge struggle for everyone to get up the hill. Eventually however, everyone made it up to Namche Bazaar and once again we all cursed ourselves for paying for the pleasure of putting ourselves through this. The following days were much the same, with a mixture of ups and downs both mentally and physically but there was a real sense of drive towards our target. As we got higher the terrain dramatically changed from lush green forest laden with trees and flowing rivers to a barren mix of dirt, dust and rock. Eventually we came round to 'Base Camp Day' and a 5.30am wake up call and



we were out of the lodges at Loubouche to start our trek. We were told that today was going to be hard. Obviously having nothing but trust for this statement now, we soldiered onto Gorak Shep. We arrived here at around 10am and had a quick lunch before our trek to the base camp. We were shown where base camp was and it literally looked just round the corner but was apparently 3 hours trek away. As we began to walk, it became apparent as to why, as the entire time was spent looking at the ground trying to work out where you could put your feet without twisting anything. The terrain was hard work and I felt very lucky that the weather was so good, as if those rocks were slippery as well it would have made it 100 times harder. As it was, 3 hours later we made it to Everest Base Camp. All of us had made it and there was a distinct sigh of relief from everyone in the group. We all shook hands, took photos and looked around us to really appreciate what we had achieved. Unfortunately, after this I still had around 5 days to get back to Lukla

and now mentally, I was shot. I had done what I had set out to achieve, my goal suddenly changed from reaching base camp at 5365m amongst the most impressive and majestic mountains in the Himalayas, to going home .... back to work and normal everyday life.

*I would like to send heartfelt thanks to all of you who donated to benefit the Starlight Foundation.* Your kindness helped inspire me to not only push through the hard times but enjoy the good times that bit more. The total raised is around £1,900 so far. It would be good to get that to two grand, so if you haven't donated but after reading this feel that you would like to, then please do so, on [www.justgiving.com/philmacdonald1](http://www.justgiving.com/philmacdonald1). Your generosity would continue to help the lives of terminally ill children.



*Phil Macdonald*



# The Rising Sun

## Community Pub

*As part of the expansion of our food operation, we would like to invite you to enjoy home cooked food in front of our real log fire in 'Lily's Place' at the Rising Sun.*



*To add to the Rising Sun's day time food menu, Lily's Place will be serving meals from her affordable à la carte menu and specials board on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday evenings. Bookings recommended.*

**Real Ales - Real Food - Real People**

**The Rising Sun, 1 Front Street, Slip End, LU1 4PB**

**PLANT SALE**

**Bedding & Vegetable Plants**

**SATURDAY 16th MAY 11am - 3pm**  
**THE OLD BAKERY, 2 SUMMER STREET**

**Hanging Baskets**  
**Perennials - Produce**

## **ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION**

There is no such thing as an absolute date in gardening, as temperatures and conditions vary according to where you are in the country. Winter comes earlier to Scotland than Devon, so adjust for our situation and weather. April is great, the soil is warming up and Spring should be here. Keep an eye on the weather forecast though, a cold snap and snow are not unknown in April. Keeping horticultural fleece on standby in case of cold weather is a good idea.

In the 'Hungry Gap' between the last of the winter crops and start of the early crops, there are still a few things available, late sprouting broccoli for example and perhaps some early salad crops from the greenhouse.

Re-check stored crops. On a fine day, empty out the potato sacks and check for rot. If you've strung onions, watch out for the odd rotten one and remove it before it spreads.

*General Gardening Tip:* If you have some horticultural fleece, peg it over ground a week or so before planting. A small rise in soil temperature can make a big difference.

*Sowing, Planting and Cultivating:* Weeds are springing into action so keep the hoe going. A sharp hoe is the best friend a gardener can have. Slide it back and forth slightly below the surface of the soil and you'll stop the weed seedlings in their tracks. Hoeing is also good in the event of drought as the disturbed soil surface stops the water being sucked to the surface by capillary action and evaporating in dry winds. Sow beetroot, peas, broad beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and other brassicas, leeks and salads, etc.

Cover carrots with a fleece, ensuring the edges are buried to stop carrot root fly from laying eggs by your carrots. The eggs hatch in larvae that burrow into the carrot root, killing the plant or at least ruining the crop.

*Plant Outdoors:* Globe and Jerusalem artichokes, onion and shallot sets, asparagus. Easter is the traditional potato planting time.

*Sow in Greenhouse or on Windowsill:* aubergine, celery, outdoor cucumbers, tomatoes (if you've not already done so). A windowsill tip is to stick some silver cooking foil onto cardboard and place on the inside to reflect light back onto the seedlings.

*Sow Outdoors under Cloche:* French beans, lettuce, sweet corn. Alternative sweet corn method: lay the seeds on damp kitchen paper in an ice-cream carton or a Tupperware box, then place a layer of paper over. Put the cover on the box and check daily. As soon as small white shoots appear, plant the seed half to an inch deep in a 3" pot of general purpose compost in the greenhouse. When shoots are about an inch high, plant out under cloche, being careful not to disturb the root as sweet corn hates root disturbance. Sweetcorn needs a lot of nitrogen and a teaspoon of dried blood per plant or water with urea (a chemical, do not pee on them!)

Many of the crops you can sow directly will also benefit from cloching, or being started off in modules in a cool greenhouse or cold frame and then planted out later.

### ***Fruit***

Plant Strawberries out now. Remove flowers in the first year to gain larger crops later. An easy way to gain strawberry plants is to plant the runners into pots and when rooted cut the runner. You need to replace them every three to five years.

Hand pollinate peaches and nectarines. Tickle the flowers with a small paint brush to spread the pollen. Cover if a cold spell threatens.

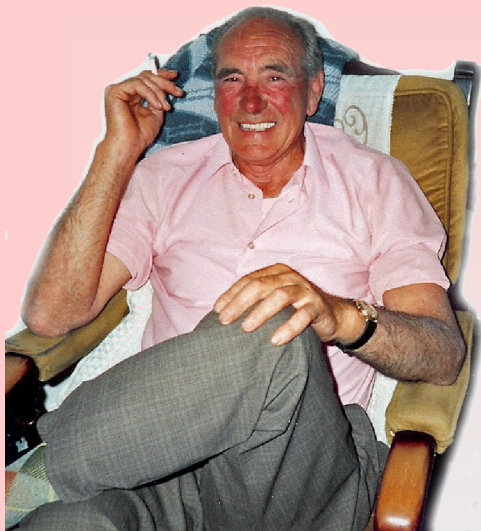
A good layer of compost around the base of fruit trees will ensure they have the nutrition to provide another good crop for you.

### ***Gardener's Pests***

The gardener's worst enemies are awakening. Slugs and snails are coming out now to munch entire rows of succulent young seedlings overnight, so take action now!



*24th September 1924 - 25th February 2009*



Sid was born in Front Street, the youngest of 8 children, 4 boys and 4 girls, the children of Maud and Arthur Rolt. Sid attended Slip End School up to the age of 14, when he went to work at Jim Walker's farm. During the Second World War Sid served in the local Home Guard. He met Winifred Coulson at a dance at Luton Hoo and they married a few years later in Newcastle. They set up home at Farley Cottages, which was to be his home until he died.

Sid loved to play football playing for Slip End United with his brother. During one match Sid took a heavy tackle which broke his ankle. Jeff Wilson recalls hearing Sid's ankle crack! Maybe that is how he got the nickname 'Tackle'.

Sid was a builder by trade and he worked for several local building firms, including Nevilles, Claydons and Garretts. After a day's work he would work on the farm until late.

Sid and Win had two daughters, Patricia and Debra. Win moved back to Newcastle with Debra after divorce from Sid. Sid had a smallholding in front of his cottage where he

kept pigs, chickens and geese. When piglets were born he would stay up all night, putting small piglets into a cardboard box and looking after them indoors by the fire. They would stay there and he would feed them until they were strong enough to go outside.

Sid had a weakness for meat puddings and bacon dumplings! I remember him often going back to his mum's for dinner in the evenings.

Sid loved to talk and liked doing odd jobs and bricklaying for anyone around the village. He is sadly missed by his daughters, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren as well as other relatives and friends.

*Gillian Plummer (Niece)*

*Slip End & District Association*

## **Senior Citizens Outing** **Saturday June 6th 2009**

*Put your name down at the Car Boot Sale (see below) for this popular free trip or call Gillian on 01582 723109. Let us know your meal preference, Fish & Chips or Ham Salad.*



*Slip End & District Association*

## **CAR BOOT SALE**

*Slip End Village Hall (inside & outside)*

*Easter Monday*

*10am to 2pm (approx)*

*For a stall call*

*01582 414796 or 723109*



# SLIP END YOUTH CLUB

## Parents Needed!

**We know how much you appreciate the peace and quiet for a few hours a week when your little darlings are at the Youth Club, but to help maintain peace and quiet at home we need some more volunteers at the YC!**

**If you can offer your services for just a few hours a *month* then Shirley Garner on 07866 215453 or [garn\\_s@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:garn_s@tiscali.co.uk) would love to hear from you!**



Frog &  
Rhubarb  
country pub & dining

01582  
452722

2 May  
**Charity May Ball**  
for parish community projects group

24 May  
**WII Championship**

30 May  
**Cup Final BBQ**

11 June  
**Darts Tournament**

21 June  
**Free Pint For Dad**

# CHARITY MAY BALL

Fun Casino

Live Music

Close-Up Magician

Buffet & Cocktail

8pm Saturday 2nd May  
Tickets On Sale Now

**Services & Events in April, including Holy Week & Easter**

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

Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Palm Sunday Service
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Childrens Activites at All Saints Caddington
	7.00pm	Evening Prayer in the Family Room
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Evening Prayer in the Family Room
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Evening Prayer in the Family Room
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm	Maundy Thursday Agape
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am	Good Friday Prayer Walk (Meet at Crossroads)
	12 noon	Good Friday Service
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	<b>Easter Day</b> Holy Communion
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>		Easter Monday Pilgrimage to St Albans Abbey
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Holy Communion
	2.30pm	Thanksgiving for the gift of a child
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	2.00pm	Woodside Home Service
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Morning Praise with Baptism (Jack Kelly)
	6.15pm	3:16 meet in the Family Room
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am	Little Stars meet in the Family Room
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	8.00pm	Footsteps meet in the Family Room

**An important time in the Christian Calendar!** After Palm Sunday we will mark Holy Week, which precedes Easter, with a series of short, quiet evening services in church and an Agape Meal on Maunday Thursday, when we remember Christ's last meal with the Disciples. Then on Good Friday, you may see a group of us as we prayerfully witness around the Village on the day of Christ's crucifixion.

**Then Easter is all Celebration, Christ is Risen!**

*Do join us if you can to all or any of our Services and Events.*



**London Walk**

The annual springtime Unlock Walk, when thousands have walked through many London areas, takes place on Saturday 25th April. Avoiding tourist trails, but extremely interesting none the less. A group will go from Slip End again, so if you are interested to join in call Mary Barker on 738435 for information.

**ST ANDREW'S COOKBOOK!**

*We are becoming only slightly inundated with recipes now but we need a lot more.*

*Get your recipes in or we'll send the boys out!*

Root out your favourite recipe(s) for inclusion, adding a small personal note to your recipe if you wish, and get them to

Joan (joanduncombe@slipend.co.uk)

or Marian (mariankingston@hotmail.co.uk)

or post your hard copy to

Marian at 7 Crawley Close or Joan at 49 Summer Street.

*All funds raised will be put towards Church Roof Fund appeal.*



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## **FRIENDSHIP CLUB**

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Last month's outing was on the Friendship Club's birthday when we went for fish and chips at the Green Man, Stanford. Situated in the heart of the Bedfordshire countryside, the Green Man is set in two acres of gardens with a large children's play area. The lunch was enjoyed all round.



Our Mystery Trip is on 12th May, so if you would like to come along, call me on 52978.

The club would like to give a very big thank you to the Brownies who invited us to their tea party in February. It was a lovely treat for us to be waited on and a good time was had by all. If there are any senior citizens who would like to come along to the Friendship Club, please don't hesitate to give me a ring.

*Pam King*

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## **FARLEY HILL METHODIST CHURCH**

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The annual Walk of Witness on Good Friday will start with a few prayers at St Margaret's Catholic Church in Bolinbroke Road at 9.30. Farley Hill Methodists, St Johns Anglicans and The World Wide Church of God will also join us. The procession will go to the Quadrant for a short service, past St Johns to Farley Hill Methodist church for hot cross buns and coffee.

The Farley Hill Methodist Easter Sunday Service will be conducted by Mr Greg Obong-Sshotse on Sunday 12th April 10.30 start.

The next Lunch Club is on Wednesday 8th April 12.30 for 1pm two course meal & tea £3. Lasagne with vegetables and potatoes with a glorious trifle for sweet.

*Ken W Cameron*

*These quotations are from 'Disorder in the American Courts' by Charles M. Sevilla. People said these things in court word for word, taken down by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while exchanges were taking place.*

*ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?*

*WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'*

*ATTORNEY: Did that upset you?*

*WITNESS: Yes, my name is Susan.*

*ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?*

*WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard.*

*ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?*

*WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.*

*ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?*

*WITNESS: Yes.*

*ATTORNEY: How does it affect your memory?*

*WITNESS: I forget.*

*ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?*

*ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the twenty-year-old, how old is he?*

*WITNESS: He's twenty, much like your IQ.*

*ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?*

*WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?*

*ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?*

*WITNESS: Yes.*

*ATTORNEY: How many were boys?*

*WITNESS: None.*

*ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?*

*WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?*

*ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?*

*WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.*

*ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?*

*WITNESS: All of them. The live ones put up too much of a fight.*

*ATTORNEY: All your responses must be oral, OK? Now, what school did you go to?*

*WITNESS: Oral.*

# Brownies

Thank you to all who turned up and supported our Tea Party afternoon. We raised just over £150 of which £50 has been donated to the Friendship Club. Thanks also to those who helped on the day to make it into such a success.

Congratulations to the happy winners pictured below!

*Tawny Owl*



## **FANCY A NATTER WHILE YOU KNIT?**

**THEN COME TO OUR  
KNIT 'N' NATTER CLUB!**

**We will be meeting on  
7th & 21st April, 1:30 to 2:45.**

Open to all regardless of ability: bring along any knitting projects you have on the go, Or just drop by for the chat and a cuppa!

Thank you to all who have donated wool: we would be most grateful for more as we will be knitting for the Christmas Child campaign.

*Contact Julie Taylor,  
on 413912 or e-mail  
[duncan.taylor@btinternet.com](mailto:duncan.taylor@btinternet.com).*

## **Parish News Subscriptions are now due for 2009-10**



**Yet again the sub is  
unchanged at £4  
What a bargain!**

**Please help your valiant distributor by having the correct money ready when they call and help us continue keeping the price down by making sure you pay your sub in 2009.**



Walking in deepest Hertfordshire a while back, BMC & DGK came across some spectacular examples of Henry Moore's work in the garden of his home near Bishop's Stortford. The young students aspire!

*Plant three rows of peas:*

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

*Plant four rows of squash:*

- 1.Squash gossip
- 2.Squash indifference
- 3.Squash grumbling
- 4.Squash selfishness

*Plant four rows of lettuce:*

- 1.Lettuce be faithful
- 2.Lettuce be kind
- 3.Lettuce be patient
- 4.Lettuce really love one another

*And our garden we must have thyme!*

- 1.Thyme for each other
- 2.Thyme for family
- 3.Thyme for friends.

*Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.*

### ***Easter***

*It means so much at Easter time*

*To keep in touch with friends*

*To wish them happiness and cheer*

*And joy that never ends.*

*This brings heartfelt greetings*

*Especially for you*

*Together with best wishes*

*For a happy springtime too.*



### **MP's Surgeries**

Margaret Moran MP holds a Surgery on Friday evenings, where you can meet and discuss on a person to person basis.

*For appointments:*

*call 01582 731882*

*or via [www.margaretmoran.gov.uk](http://www.margaretmoran.gov.uk)*

The Parish News committee met last month to discuss some important matters. Good News for our Readers! *The current subscription rates are held at the same price, especially with the current economic climate.* Please help our distributors when they call for subs, to have the correct money ready. At £4, a real bargain!

### ***Thank You!***

Thank you Councillors, for all the time and effort you put in on everyone's behalf. Some are standing down now so, in particular, we want to thank our 'local boys'.

Philip Penman beavered unseen, long and hard during the lead up to the recent changes in local government. Philip steps down from South Bedfordshire District Council now. However he will continue on the Slip End Parish Council, keeping an eye on planning and finance matters. *Having spent many hours at his desk, we sincerely hope that he enjoys more time with his family now.*

Not only did Richard Stay strive at high level in Bedfordshire County Council, he also was very responsive to our local needs as far as the County was concerned. Here at PN we always had a quick answer to the points and questions we raised with him and we are particularly grateful to him for his responsiveness. We understand that he will be standing for election to Mid Beds Council when elections come up in June.

So there are significant changes in local government and with people moving on, we are happy that at Parochial level two 'newbies' have stepped in. Already the energies of Sarah Minnighan and Paul Cooper are felt on the Parish Council!

### ***Best Wishes***

*We wish good luck to Luton Town at Wembley and for our readers a very Happy Easter. Hopefully we will be lucky with some brilliant Spring weather for the holidays.*

## **MARCH MEETING**

We traditionally hold 'Members Night' in March so the regular committee can have a break and the members take over.

Joan Bunyan did us proud, once again taking the chair with Josie Watkins acting as Hon. Secretary. This year the award for a deserving person went not to a W.I. Member but to Denis Martin, husband of our president for all his help throughout the year. Arranging the hall, chairs etc before and after meetings, vacuuming the floor after the meeting, giving lifts etc. Thank you from all of us Denis, it was well deserved.



A game of Boccia (indoor bowls) was enjoyed by us all for the rest of the evening. The 'Blues' winning by a mile! The 'How many marbles in the jar?' competition was won by Jean Turner. The Dunstable Ladies Choir will be singing to the village on Tuesday 12th May.

We hold our meetings at 7.30pm on the 3rd Tuesday in each month at the Baptist Church Hall in Caddington, next to the 'Chequers'. See you there, at the WI that is!

*Patricia Crick.*

### *April*

Who cares if April brings a shower?  
The birds sing in the sky,  
And keep on singing, knowing well  
The clouds will soon pass by.

When clouds blow up, and thick and fast  
Misfortunes fall like rain,  
God help us all to battle till  
The sun shines out again!

*Francis Gay*



# ***SLIP END SOCIAL CLUB***

***New Street, Slip End***

***☎ 415804***

**Live Sky Sports on the Big Screen - Pool - Darts - Crib - Dominoes  
Saturday Night Entertainment every fortnight**

**Golf Society**

**Opening times:**

**Weekdays: 4.00 to 11pm**

**Saturdays: 12 noon to 12 midnight**

**Sundays: 12 noon to 11pm**

*Be social  
make it  
your local!*

*New members  
& their families  
welcome!*

***Usual Club prices!***





# **THE PLOUGH**

**UPPER WOODSIDE**

☎ 01582 720923

**TRADITIONAL FOOD**

**BLACKBOARD SPECIALS**

**DINING ROOM, GARDEN & MARQUEE AVAILABLE FOR ALL TYPES OF PARTIES**

**BREAKFASTS, LUNCHES & BAR SNACKS**

**AFTERNOON TEAS & EVENING MEALS**

**WE TAKE BOOKINGS FOR LARGE PARTIES SO FOOD IS PREPARED JUST FOR YOU.**

**CAR PARKING, DISABLED FACILITIES & BABY CHANGING FOR MALES AND FEMALES**

**BAR OPEN:**

**MONDAYS TO WEDNESDAYS: 9AM TO 10PM**

**THURSDAYS TO SATURDAYS: 9AM TO 12 MIDNIGHT**

**SUNDAYS: 11AM TO 10PM**

Following expressed interest in the photograph published in PN last month, here is another, this time from the Minnighan family archive. Let the picture speak for itself: for starters I guess that is the horse drawn bus to Dunstable, although bus passes had yet to be invented in those far-off days. It is appropriate to find space on this page as Brian and Jackie Minnighan had connections with The Plough. Thanks to the family for sharing this and another remarkable view of Slip End in times past !



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## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

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**The concept of the Community Projects Group was approved at the Public Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> March, so the work of the Group begins.** The aims of the Group are:

- ◆ *To be a voice for the residents of this community regarding the future of their parish.*
- ◆ *To enable all residents to take part in projects and activities that will enhance the quality of life through the provision of social, cultural and practical amenities, opportunities and events.*
- ◆ *To promote opportunities for existing local business, charitable and interest groups to explore the benefits of working together and raising awareness of what they currently do.*
- ◆ *To be a forum for ideas, discussions and suggestions that will lead to a vital and relevant Parish Plan for our area.*
- ◆ *To be an “umbrella” group providing administrative and management support for the existing Slip End Youth Club, Slip End Chatty Club and Slip End Village Day Team and other such groups which may be formed in the future.*
- ◆ *To receive funds from the Parish Council to distribute amongst local charitable and not-for-profit organisations as agreed by Committee members.*
- ◆ *To take over from the Parish Council the distribution of Christmas gifts to residents of retirement age, with funds from the Parish Council augmented by donations from local businesses and groups.*
- ◆ *To actively seek funding to ensure the long term viability of this group. This may be via grants from the public or private sector. Funding will be used not only for projects but also for the employment of administrative staff and volunteers, to run the group, and to supply the resources they need.*



The meeting also agreed to a Parish Plan being constructed which will guide not just the Community Projects Group but the Parish Council as well over the next five years or so.

The first meeting is planned for 30 March when committee members will be elected. I am grateful to the people who came forward volunteering to take part in our new venture.

To make the plan truly representative of what everyone would like to see carried out, some new ideas for collecting residents views will be undertaken. Please do take part in this when you are approached and if you would like to be involved more, we would love to hear from you. It doesn't matter whether you are 8, 98 or somewhere in between.

All residents and businesses are welcome to join the meetings which will be posted on the web site and the Notice Boards around the Parish.

If you would like to see the two presentations given at the meeting, they are on [www.slipend.co.uk](http://www.slipend.co.uk). Just locate the Community Projects page. You might be surprised at what has already been achieved, the funding available for the Group and some of the ideas put forward!!!

Speaking of the website, in the “Contact Us” section of the St Andrews, Community Projects and Parish Council pages, there is a form which you can complete to contact any of the three organisations, make a comment offer advice or criticism. Completed forms will be responded to and when appropriate, with the writer's consent, published on the site.

Peter King, the webmaster, is in the process of setting up a new style diary of events. The idea is that someone from each organisation will have access to their own organisation's diary which they can use to record meetings,

events and the like. All of the diaries will be automatically merged into one so that anyone looking at the events calendar will be able to see everything that is happening in the Parish. It will also help organisations when planning events to ensure that there are no clashes. To make things easier recurring events can be added in one go so for instance the Friendship Club that meets every Thursday only need to have this added once and it will show every Thursday from now until the end of time! For more details on this, and to obtain your organisations' user name and password please contact Sarah Minnighan, her phone number and email are at the front of this issue.

### ***Roads***

Like most parishes, our roads have suffered the ravages of winter with the resultant potholes. Steve Fuell has had meetings with Bedfordshire Highways and arranged for repairs to be carried out. Woodside Road will have its surface repaired and similar work was planned for the Pepperstock end of Front Street. However, after Steve's meeting (and no doubt badgering) he now understands that stretch is going to be resurfaced and it is hoped the resurfacing works will be extended down Half Moon Lane. This work should be completed in May.

### ***Core Plan Development***

*I received the following note from Richard Stay following the recent JPTC meeting which considered the proposed development along the eastern boundary of the motorway. Although the Parish Council has not received detailed plans of the development, this decision would appear to rule out the possibility of local large scale development for the time being. Richard writes:*

When John Prescott was in office some years ago he set a target of 3 million new homes to be built in the South East of England by 2030, This policy has now worked its way through the system and a target of over 42,000 houses was set by Government for

the South Bedfordshire and Luton area by 2030.

Locally we had two choices, to say no at which point a development quango would have been set up and we would have had development imposed on us, or work with Government and apply as much local influence over development as possible.

The local planning authorities, South Beds, Luton and the County Council decided they wanted some influence over the plans and set up a Joint Planning & Transport Committee (JPTC) which had delegated planning and transport decision making powers. This was set up with 6 members from Bedfordshire and 6 from Luton and a rotating Chairman.

The past two years has been spent considering how this huge target should be met and identifying the most appropriate areas for development, most of the area being currently Green Belt in any case.

All this work resulted in a number of options that were widely consulted on some time ago and on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March a draft core strategy went to the JPTC for a decision on further consultation on a preferred set of options. The committee decided on a majority of 9 for, 1 abstention and 2 against to agree the core strategy, which will deliver over 40,000 houses by 2030, most of which will go to the North of Luton / Dunstable and inside a new Dunstable - Luton Northern Bypass between the A5 and the M1.

A few weeks ago developers, who own options on most of the Green Belt between Caddington, Slip End and the M1, put forward a proposal for 5,500 houses and significant commercial development along with a swimming pool and a football stadium on most of the land between us and Luton.

This is a proposal that has come out of the blue which was not part of the options consulted on by the JPTC.

As a result of the JPTC decision it will make it much harder for the developers to press

forward with their proposals for Luton West, but we cannot be complacent. If there is a change of Government next year then the rules may change around housing targets, but we may at that point be too far down the track to make significant changes to development in South Bedfordshire.

### ***Police Priorities***

On a quarterly basis our Police 'Safer Neighbourhood Team' assign priorities for particular focus over the successive three month period. If there is any policing matter which you feel should be dealt with in this way, please contact PC Wesley Hall and his team on 01582 473462 or e-Mail:

SNT.Caddington@Bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Alternatively discuss any police related issues with a Parish Councillor and the Council will take it up with the Safer Neighbourhood Team.

### ***Thank you!***

March marked the last council attendance of our County and District Councillors as part of the Local Government restructure. You will recall Bedfordshire County and South Beds District Councils are being replaced on 1<sup>st</sup> April by Central Bedfordshire Unitary

Authority. I am sure you will join me in thanking Richard Stay, Philip Penman, Ruth Gammons and Sally Hills for all they have achieved for us over the years. They have fought our corner hard and really have made a difference. Thank you.

I believe Richard and Ruth will be standing for the Central Bedfordshire election which will be held early in June and that Philip and Sally are taking a well deserved rest from District affairs. Fortunately we are not losing Philip completely, as he is continuing as a Parish Councillor.

*Ken Crosset, Acting Chairman*



**Reduce waste that goes into landfill  
by offering it to your local community for free!**

Post your unwanted items on  
<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/FreecycleLuton/>  
and an email is sent to all members  
who then make contact to  
arrange collection.

Everything ***must be free***,  
preferably local although some things can be posted.

## ***COMMUNITY PROJECTS GROUP***

### ***Latest!***

***Just after this issue went to press, a second Public Meeting was to be held on Monday 30th March. Good news is that a number of people from around the Parish have already volunteered to sit on the committee! We look forward to working together on a number of projects and expect to put in a grant application very soon in order to get the ball rolling on the Village Plan.***

***Watch this Space ....***

## ALEY GREEN FLOWER FESTIVAL

### *Precious Jewels & Stones*

I was very impressed by the recent Flower Festival at Aley Green Church, organised by Mrs Barbara Horton, ably assisted by members of the church. Take a look at the inside back cover and see a few of the beautiful arrangements. The flower displays incorporated precious jewels and stones into the arrangements and were very effective. The smaller displays on the Communion Rail had been arranged by the young children of the Sunday School, with the youngest being only three years old, perhaps a career in floristry beckons!

As I walked into the church, I was greeted by beautiful music from the organ. A team of pianists had kindly volunteered to play throughout the flower festival, which included Joe from All Saints Church (seen below) and Jan Rollings (training to be a preacher).



*Ann Meader with helper Vic and cakes*

preserves and home made cakes and crumbles were on sale too. The preserves are made throughout the year by Ann Meader, Barbara Horton, Lorna and Lorraine and offered for sale during the year, so if you enjoy chutney, honey or different types of jam why not pop along to the church yourself. The preserves are also sold at local events boosting Church Funds.

The Reverend Phil Horner, who joined Aley



*Jewel Box from All Saints Church*

Many of the arrangements came from church members and from Methodist Churches on the circuit list for the area and also included All Saints Church, Caddington Baptist and people from the local community. Not only were the flowers on display (of which many could be purchased for Mothering Sunday), some delicious refreshments could also be enjoyed in the school room. Books, videos,

Green Church in September was also there, chatting to the visitors (see inside back page) and kindly agreed to a photo being taken .

All in all, a very interesting visit to the Flower Festival. Well done to everyone who helped at the event or contributed a flower arrangement. I hope other villagers were able to go along and enjoy this colourful event.

**Schools Will Rock You!**

*After many months of hard work by staff, pupils and helpers, Manshead School put on a magnificent production of We Will Rock You in their school hall.*

After obtaining a performance license and auditioning for the large cast and musicians to play alongside them, it certainly was a night to remember for everyone. We Will Rock You is a musical based on the songs of Queen, and is currently on at the Dominion Theatre in Tottenham Court Road, London.

It tells the story of Globalsoft, the corporation responsible for the end of rock music and the banning of all instruments and musical originality. The stars of the show overcome problems along the way to destroy Globalsoft and find their way to Wembley and the return of rock ‘n roll.

The songs of Queen filled the hall and the cast soon had the audience clapping along to some of the favourites from the show. The young pupils had put their hearts and souls into the performance, playing their parts with enthusiasm and eagerness. The lighting (operated by Ian Wilson from Claydown Way) made it all look very professional and I think all the staff, pupils and friends can be extremely proud of their final achievements and no doubt there are a whole new army of Queen fans. Well done everyone.

*Sue Briggs*



*Some of the excellent young performers*



*Time for a 'Brian May' solo!*



*Ian at his lighting switchboard*



*Energetic young dancers from Globalsoft.*

We focus here on some of the things which the pubs are up to, serving interests in the community ...

**Chatty Club at the Rising Sun  
for the over 55s held at the  
Rising Sun Tuesdays 2pm - 4pm**

*I thought it might be good to have a few comments on the above club. I have been going since the beginning of the year and really enjoy the fellowship and laughs we have together.*

*We get an average of about 20 each week and even during the snow managed about 14 for the two weeks the pavements were really dangerous. I think the popularity of this is in no small way down to Lily of the Rising Sun who supplies us with endless cups of tea or coffee together with delicious sandwiches (and sometimes spring rolls) and cake.*

*As well as the above we always have Ken Crossett and Janet Crawley (local councillors) there, which is very handy if you want to have a moan about something going on in the Village.*

*To anybody out there who would like to have a bit of company and a laugh who does not already come I would recommend you try us .I am sure you would enjoy yourselves.*

*Veronica Williams, Pepperstock*

**Contact Paul or John at the F&R if you...**

- ◆ need publicity for local events: have it posted it on the new TV Display!
- ◆ need help with posters and flyers.
- ◆ have surplus produce in your garden or allotment. John would be pleased to buy local produce from you at trade.

*And don't forget to support community events such as the May Ball and children's Easter Egg Hunt!*



**Young Chefs take over at the F & R!**

Children from Slip End Lower School have been visiting the Frog & Rhubarb to cook and eat their lunch under the watchful eyes of the resident chefs. Five children each week prepare chicken breast wrapped in Parma ham, stuffed with brie accompanied by baby vegetables cooked in a bag. This initiative is designed to provide the children with an opportunity to try some different foods, and to understand that healthy food doesn't have to be boring and experience the excitement of cooking in a commercial kitchen.

The feedback from the children has been amazing, they talk about the experience for days afterwards! They all agree that food cooked themselves tastes better and even the most fussy eaters have tried everything, some even clearing their plates. (The success of the sessions has led the Frog & Rhubarb to add the dish to its children's menu.)

Paul Cooper says, "I thought the children would enjoy the sessions, but the reaction has been even better than I hoped. Parents have been stopping our chefs in the shop and popping into the pub to thank us." One parent emailed the pub to say, "I just wanted to say that one of my children came to do the cookery lunch session and had a fantastic time. He hasn't stopped talking about it and he loved the food he ate there too. So many thanks for extending this opportunity to Slip End Lower School, it's a big hit and you will be pleased to hear that your food is better than school dinners!"



Going to press, the Friday consultation dates in April had not then been fixed. The next confirmed dates for the Advice Bureau consultations are May 8th and May 24th.

However, if you want to check with the Caddington Surgery (where CAB consultations are held) about dates in April, please ring them on 01582 725673. They should have more information after April 1st.

A new Sunday School teacher was having trouble controlling her class. Feeling frustrated she said “I want everyone who thinks they’re stupid to stand up!” There was silence for a full minute and then little Johnny stood up. The teacher said, “So you think you’re stupid, Johnny?” “Er no” he said, “but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!”

*A young girl walked into a lift, tossing her keys up in the air and catching them again and again. After one too many tosses, she dropped the keys and they disappeared into the crack between the open doors and the floor. We all felt really sorry for her, until she cried out “Oh no, not again!”*



**CORONATION GARDEN**

Since the flower bed was reconstructed a few years back, the top soil had settled and more soil needed to be added. Andy Protheroe was busy recently, as you may have spotted, putting new soil in and replanting.

The young Sunday school teacher was telling the children the Bible story of Lot.

“The angel told Lot to take his family and flee to the mountains and not look back,” she told them. “Lot and his daughters escaped, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt.” Most of the class seemed to absorb the important moral lesson but one child looked worried and put his hand up to ask a question. “What happened to the flea?” he asked.

**MARGARET (CARRIE) DRAPER**

Carrie, passed away recently aged 95. Born in Slip End as Margaret Dyer, she married Reg Harlow and they lived in Pepperstock. A few years after Rod died she married Arther Draper and they lived in Luton.

Gil Plummer

**Keep Fit: Sorry cancelled this week.  
 Teacher still sick!**

**Weddings & Christenings**

*Looking for something special that won't break the bank?*

*We provide a wish tree and handmade tags designed to co-ordinate with your Wedding/Christening colours or theme. Guests write their best wishes for the bride and groom/new baby and then hang the tag onto the wish tree, creating a stunning display at your reception. Tags are then collected and presented in a pretty handmade album, the perfect keepsake to remember your special day!*

Phone Liz on 07968718468 or email [liz@blueskycrafts.co.uk](mailto:liz@blueskycrafts.co.uk)

Samples available to view



## **ALEY GREEN METHODIST CHURCH**

### *Services & Diary dates for April*

Wednesday 1st 7.30pm Coffee Evening  
in aid of Junior Mission for All

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> **Palm Sunday** 11.00am  
All Age Worship led by Rev Phil Homer

Friday 10th 10.30am **Good Friday**  
Walk of Witness starting at Aley Green

Sunday 12th 11.00am **Easter Sunday**  
Worship & Communion - Rev Bob Forrest

11.00am Sunday School  
*Christ the Lord is risen today  
Angels rolled the stone away  
From the tomb wherein he lay  
Come now people come and sing  
Glory, glory to the King  
Christ the Lord is everything*

Saturday 18th 12.00pm  
Spring Fayre in aid of Keech Cottage

Sunday 19th 11.00am  
Morning Service - Rev Jenny Spouge  
11.00am Sunday School

Thursday 23rd 7.00pm St George's Day Meal  
in aid of Methodist Homes for the Aged

Sunday 26th 11.00am  
Morning Service - Mr Mike Bull  
11.00am Sunday School

Sunday May 3rd 11.00am  
Morning Service & Holy Communion  
led by Rev. Philip Horner  
11.00am Sunday School



Our **March Coffee Evening** raised £72 for Leaders of Worship & Preachers Trust.

**The York Lent Course**, 'These Three, Faith Hope and Love' led by Mike Bull has been well attended with people from all four village churches.

We do hope you will join the **Walk of Witness on Good Friday** which moves off from Aley Green to St Thomas' Catholic Church in Caddington, then All Saints and finishing at the Baptist Church. We would be pleased to welcome you to our Easter celebrations, do come and join us at this very special time.

You will have read previously that our Church Council voted to support **Keech Cottage 'Rocking Mondays' Appeal**, a service for young adults, as our 2009 Project 500. We commit to raise an extra £500 for the chosen charity during the year.

The **Spring Fayre** on 18th April will be for this cause so please pop along and join in the fun of the Fayre. All the usual stalls and lunches from 12pm.

We shall be celebrating **St George's Day** again this year, with a traditional 3 course English meal and if last year is anything to go by, a fun evening! Put your name down quick. All proceeds will go to Methodist Homes for the Aged.

On 9th May from 12pm we will be holding our **Good as New Sale**, lunches will be served in aid of Christian Aid.

Also during **Christian Aid Week**, we will be having a Coffee Evening on Wednesday 13th at 7.30pm.

There will also be a **Cake Stall** outside the Co-op on Saturday 16th May organised by the four village churches.

*We hope and pray that you will visit us at Aley Green Church soon.*

Yours in Christ,  
Ann Meader



# **Village Weekend**

**(a sneak preview)**

*Join us for a Gala Evening ...*

**Friday July 25th**  
**Village Hall Centenary Party**

**Old Tyme Music Hall!**  
**Buffet!**  
**Community Singing!**  
**Theatricals!**

*Watch out for ticket availability later,  
seating will be limited.*

*Then the big one ...*

**Saturday July 26th**  
**Village Fun Day**

**Tug o' War - Games**  
**Hog Roast -**  
**Grand Raffle - Ices**  
**Teas & cakes**  
**Sales Stalls**

*And lots more*

*Then wind down and lick the wounds during Fun Day evening when special  
Fun Day fare will be on offer at the Rising Sun and Frog & Rhubarb!*

**VILLAGE HALL**  
**1909 - 2009!**

**DIARY:** *If you would like your events included, please contact the Editor*

**April**

- 1st *Mid Beds Council starts here!*
- 2nd *Tennis Club AGM: 7pm at Peter Edwards Hall*
- 4th *Operation CAPS at Village Hall: protect your car against theft*
- 6th *Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm*
- 11th *Charity Easter Egg Hunt, organised by the Frog & Rhubarb*

13th *SEADA: Car Boot Sale at the Village Hall*

21st *Women's Institute: 'The Chocolate Lady'*

25th *Unlock London Churches Walk*

**May**

2nd *Charity May Ball at the Frog & Rhubarb*

4th *Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm*

16th *Plant Sale at 2 Summer Street*

19th *Women's Institute: Annual Meeting*

**June**

1st *Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm*

6th *SEADA: Senior Citizens Outing*

16th *Women's Institute: 'Fron Chef to Clergy', Rev. R. Winslade*

**July**

6th *Parish Council meeting at the Village Hall 7.30pm*

**25th** *Village Weekend: Village Centenary Evening*



**26th** *Village Weekend: Village Fun Day*

Ladies: Get Fit in 2009 at ...

**DEBORAH'S  
AEROBICS**

Thursdays at 8pm  
Peter Edwards Hall.  
Only £3!

For information call  
Deborah on 01582 767916



*Items for inclusion in next month's issue should be in by 15th April*

If you would like a copy of Parish News delivered monthly, contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way (01582 724527), alanjan@buttery400.fsnet.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 Editor's own. Articles should be sent by the 15th of the preceding month to Sue Briggs, 4 The Oaks, Slip End or e-Mail parishnews@slipend.co.uk.

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Bin Days		April 2009		
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	

**Put out Black Bins & glass on Fridays highlighted above. On other Fridays, put out Green and Orange Bins, not Black Bins.**