

SHOEBOX SENSATIONS - p6



To like our gift this
shoe box!

MERRY CHRISTMAS
I hope you like your gifts
Love, Luke and Jordan
My Dad, Stephen



Aley Green Pepperstock
Slip End Woodside
PARISH NEWS
December 2017

Editors' Notes

Remember—There is NO JANUARY ISSUE of Parish News. Our next magazine will be out at the start of February so please send anything for inclusion by 15th January. There's something very homely about this time of year, as the colours of autumn give way to the greys of winter, and the aroma of woodsmokes begin to drift over the Parish as the first log fires of the year are lit.

As the winds pick up, seasonal storms lash the streets, and there's the prediction of snow in months to come. There's nothing quite like locking yourself away from the world outside, cracking open a decent red and watching Strictly in front of an open fire. However, don't squirrel yourselves away for the whole of winter, there's still plenty going on across the Parish!

After the excitement of Hallowe'en, which saw an amazing turn-out by trick or treaters young and old, thoughts are inevitably turning towards Christmas.

How lucky are our children to receive a visit by the man in red himself, as Santa and his elves make their way through the village in the weeks to come?

The full details of Saint Nick's route and the charities benefiting this year are published opposite, so make sure you're in on whatever evening he visits your street, and have plenty of change in your pocket for donations!

Lest we forget the true meaning of the festive season, details of church services over Christmas are also included in this issue. Young residents should make sure to watch CBeebies bedtime stories on December 15, when Woodside author Louise Treleven (pictured) has her book *Snowflake Mistake* read by Dr Foster star Suranne Jones.

Snowflake Mistake is for ages 3 to 8 years, and here's an extract: "High, very high, almost too high to see, an ice palace floats like a ship on the sea... Princess Ellie lives with her mother, the Queen, in an ice palace in the sky where she makes perfect, identical snowflakes."

It just remains for all of us on the Parish News team to wish our readers a truly wonderful Christmas and a fantastic 2018! We'll see you again in February!



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO THE VILLAGE AGAIN

Look out for him on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December (weather permitting) between 6pm and 8pm making an appearance in a road near you with his elves.

The expected route is:

Thursday – Summer Street, Church Road, Markyate Road, Claydown Way, Front Street, Crawley Close and Pepperstock.

Friday – New Street, Front Street, Rossway, St Andrews Close, Prebendal Drive, Woodside Road, Elaine Gardens and The Grove.

This may be subject to some change, but you will be sure to hear us coming, and the elves and helpers will be knocking on doors, to let you know Santa has arrived, to hand out treats to the children and to ask for donations in our buckets which will go into the Community Projects Group fund.

The money collected will be sent on to our chosen charities. Last year we raised £900 thanks to your generosity and half went to Keech Hospice Care and the other half, in small donations, to several groups in the village.

We plan to do this again.

We still need more helpers so if you feel you could walk with us one evening, for some or all of the way, please call Mrs Claus, or Jill on 0795 858 7595 or 01582 728865 and volunteer to be one of Santa's helpers.



Slip End School Reunion

It was 60 years ago when Gordon Fleckney, Michael Plummer, Dawn Lawrence, Margaret Bicker (deceased) and Julie Collyer all left school at Christmas 1957. They did not have to go to Rotherham School in the September, so stayed on at Slip End doing odd jobs. The Under 10s stayed at Slip End School until the age that they then moved on to Rotherham High School.

Michael thought that, as they are all 75 years old now, it would be a nice idea to have a reunion. They all agreed. This was held at the Market Cross on Tuesday 17th October. with their partners. A most enjoyable evening was had.\

Michael brought along some old school registers to see who they could remember. They all want to do it again next year.

Gill Plummer



Remembrance at St Andrew's

The Remembrance service at St Andrew's Church was well attended. Representatives of the Parish Council and Central Beds Council joined the congregation, along with members of Brownies and Beavers, and other local residents. The names of the local residents listed on the war memorials were read out as wreaths were laid. This was followed by the two minutes silence. The uniformed groups paraded into the church from the playing field entrance at the start of the service.



Message from St Andrew's

The Christmas story is full of journeys. And this is reflected in many of the carols and readings that we hear in the run up to Christmas Day. This was taken a bit far when I was young with alternative lyrics, which are probably still doing the rounds now:

*"We three kings of Orient are
One in a taxi, one in a car,
One on a scooter, beeping his hooter,
Smoking a fat cigar!"*

Seriously though, there is the journey when Joseph and Mary travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem to register in the Roman census. A group of shepherds, outcasts of their day, are told to journey from the hills down into the town of Bethlehem to find the baby Jesus, lying in a manger. On a separate journey, wise men set out on an epic journey from somewhere in the East (Babylon near modern Baghdad?) guided by a star until it stopped over the place that Jesus lay. Later warned that King Herod was planning to kill male babies, Joseph and Mary left their homeland and travelled hundreds of miles to Egypt until it was safe to return home to Nazareth.

The greatest journey of all is the one that Jesus undergoes in being born! As a Christmas carol says "He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all...With the poor, the mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy." ¹ That was a life changing moment for all humanity. It is the moment where God intervenes in history: "And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him." (1 John 4:9) But it doesn't stop there as a piece of ancient history about a little baby, does it?

What does it mean in practice in our lives? Another refrain of Christmas carols is that God is with us. God is with us in whatever situations we find ourselves this Christmas, whether we are stressing at fitting 20 plus members of family around the table and feeding them, or sighing at the thought of Christmas alone. God is with us – we need only turn to him and ask him to walk with us. At St Andrew's we will be offering a resource called #GODwithUs: Your Christmas

Journey. It is a small booklet that can be popped in your bag or pocket so that whenever you can grab a moment of peace and quiet – not easy I know – you can go on a Christmas journey leading closer to Jesus, whose birth we celebrate in this "most wonderful time of the year."

We are holding a number of carol services at St Andrew's in addition to the 10.30 a.m. Sunday services, and we warmly invite you to come along to all or any of them. Details are elsewhere in this magazine. Don't feel reticent if you haven't been to church for a while. We are here as YOUR Parish Church and you are always welcome. Wishing you joy at Christmas and throughout the New Year.

From Julie Taylor (Reader in Training) and everyone at St Andrew's.

¹ Second verse of Once in Royal David's City, if you were wondering

A Series of Impossible Events by Mark Greene

*'Of all the impossible things you ask me to conceive,
Which one', you wonder, 'do I find most difficult to believe?'*

*That a child might be born without paternal seed?
That God would lie in a trough where animals feed?*

*That a billion-year-old star should time its flight
To point so small a band to the royal light? That winged angels sing impossible news for all the earth*

To nobody-nightworkers on nowhere turf?

Or this:

*That God, creator of time and space,
Mediterranean azure, and gazelle grace,
That God, immortal, should come down in mortal flesh, God with us, in all our human mess?*

God with us? In bomb blast? And first breath? And some slow dimming towards a memoryless death?

God with us? In the crushed commute, and the lonely bed? In the sleep, wake, eat, work of our daily tread? In our petty snipes and bloated ambitions?

In all the twists of our confused decisions?

God with us in all of that? God with me in all of me?

No, that I could not believe, if, with outstretched heart, he

Had not given free his blood and life on that barren tree,

And, with love and mercy, tender, wiped my eyes so I do see.

Operation Christmas Child

This year Gracie Smith from Slip End decided she would like to do as much as she could to help make up shoeboxes for needy children. Throughout the year Gracie and her mum Karen have been collecting items for the boxes and she has managed to do 17 boxes on her own—a brilliant effort and truly inspirational.

Thank you so much Gracie and Karen, I am sure the children who receive your boxes will be forever grateful that you took the time and money to think of them.

Gracie then came along on Shoebox Sunday to do more boxes with the other children from St Andrew's Church and was a great help.



We have heard 'via the grapevine' that Heathfield is to close in March which will be very sad and probably mean we will be looking for new premises next year if anyone knows of any that might be available.



Gracie is pictured filling her boxes

It's been a hectic first week at Heathfield Community Centre to begin the process of checking, sealing and packing all the boxes that have been collected so far from Luton and beyond. New volunteers have arrived alongside old friends who come back year after year and they are all doing a wonderful job for which we are really grateful.

Some of the volunteers relentlessly collect 'fillers' for the boxes that may need extra items and we have a wonderful array of hats, gloves, stationery, soft toys, balls, games and toiletries to help fill some of the boxes.



Shoebbox Sunday proved to be a hectic morning with lots of children eager to help fill the empty covered shoeboxes and the Go Boxes.

We watched a video of children receiving their boxes in Eastern Europe and Swaziland which showed just how important these boxes are to those children who receive them—sometimes it is the only gift that child will receive. Thank you to everyone who has helped in any way and also to Slip End school pupils who have also been busy doing boxes .

By Sue Briggs

Dates for St Andrew's Church - December & January

December

Sunday 3rd: 10.30am: Advent Sunday – Christingle Family Service “Jesus is the light of the world”
Sunday 3rd: 3pm: Bereavement Carol Service – Organ & Singers
Sunday 10th: 10.30am: Informal Communion “Prepare the way of the Lord”
Sunday 10th: 3.30pm: Family Carol Service (band)
Sunday 17th: 10.30am: Holy Communion “A witness to the light”
Sunday 17th 6pm: 9 Lessons and Carols by Candlelight
Tuesday 19th: 11am: Woodside Care Home Service
Sunday 24th: 10.30am: Nativity
Sunday 24th: 11.15pm: Midnight Mass
Monday 25th: 10.30am: Christmas Praise (band)
Sunday 31st: 10.30am: Informal Communion

January

Sunday 7th: 10.30am: Family Service – The Wise Men look for Jesus
Sunday 14th: 10.30am: Informal Communion – The Big Picture
Tuesday 16th: 11am: Woodside Care Home Service
Sunday 21st: 10.30am: Morning Praise – Modelling Godly Character
Sunday 28th: 10.30am: Holy Communion – Making Good Work

Little Stars for December & January

Every Wednesday parents, babies and pre-school children gather in the family room at St. Andrew's for chat, a story, crafts and songs – all based round a simple Bible story or theme. All are welcome and we are very relaxed about timing if the morning doesn't pan out quite as expected. If you are new to the Village or new to motherhood do come along, you will receive a warm welcome.

Refreshments from 10.00 with a 10.30 start

December

Weds 6th: The boy king Josiah
Weds 13th: The angel visits Mary
Weds 20th: No Little Stars today
Weds 27th: No Little Stars today

January

Weds 3rd: Simeon and Anna meet Baby Jesus
Weds 10th: The bright star and three visitors
Weds 17th: An angry king
Weds 24th: Jesus as a boy
Weds 31st: Jesus teaches us to pray



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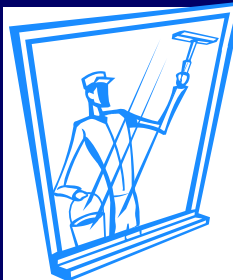
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OUR FARMING YEAR

Angela Speirs of J Speirs & Son, Pepsal End Farm, provides a monthly insight into agricultural life

Beautiful weather in October and little rain has made the sowing of next year's crops a relatively simple task with all crops being sown by the end of October. Having recently visited relations in Scotland we count ourselves very lucky that we haven't had the appalling weather that they have experienced this year. We saw in early November that they still had acres of spring barley lying unharvested and ruined in their fields. This summer's catchy weather during the harvesting period has made our malting barley tricky to market. Malting barley is subjected to four main tests: moisture, germination, nitrogen and grain size. As a result of the continual rain during harvest the germination which has to be 98% is proving to be variable. This has led to a number of rejected loads particularly in a

variety we grow for Budweiser beer. These loads are then redirected and downgraded and used as animal feed. The discrepancy may be only 2-5% but it makes the whole process of growing malting barley quite difficult as there is around £30 per tonne difference between full specification grain and sub-standard. So far only about 50% of our barley has gone on the full specification contracts. Our cattle are gradually being brought in from the grass fields, cows and calves separated in readiness for the cows to have their next calf in December, January or February. The suckled calves are now big enough to be weaned from their mothers and although a noisy few days are endured it is essential that all the mothers have a rest before their next labour.



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Art at Beavers

To join Beavers, contact 07956 833488

We spent a great evening with the Slip End Beavers creating their autumn paintings using brushes and feathers. When all 24 children finally got started it was difficult at times to see where the painting began and finished, this included the floor and the children! They painted their own sunsets and then used a feather to create autumnal trees. The concentration and fun they had can be seen in these photos.

We did feel for some of the parents whose children might have had as much paint on them as on their pictures!

A most enjoyable evening was had by all and we would like to thank Finch and her team for inviting us.

Andy & Debbie Prothero



NEWS IN BRIEF

Smalls for All update

The latest parcels are going off to Smalls For All containing 181 bras and 31 pairs of knickers! Our grand total since we started in February 2016 is now standing at 2,102 items. Many thanks to those kind people who collect, donate, buy or deliver month after month.

Nikki West

Jason Cunningham latest

Jason strode from his corner at Bethnal Green's York Hall on Friday October 13 looking cool, calm and confident that the defence of his Commonwealth Featherweight title would achieve a successful outcome.

His opponent Reece Belotti from Watford possessed an impressive record of finishing a good number of his fights inside the distance, and was a clear favourite with the bookmakers. He also enjoyed the support of most people present, who packed out the East End arena. However, from the word go it was the man from Doncaster who was catching the attention. Jason was using the ring stylishly and his varied array of punches were a delight to watch. Indeed, by the end of Round 4 Belotti's nose provided ample evidence of the amount of punishment it had taken.

The Yorkshireman continued to dominate matters in the early part of the 5th but Belotti's attacks were

becoming more difficult to quell now, when out of the blue he delivered a vicious right hook just before the round ended. It hit its target and really hurt Cunningham, who fell to the canvas and only just managed to beat the customary count of 10.

Jason rose from his stool for Round 6 ready to continue if clearly shaken, but the referee intervened after 40 seconds had passed. He raised Belotti's hand and declared him the winner and new Commonwealth champ.

Cunningham's supporters simply could not believe their eyes. For four rounds they had watched their man deliver a sustained and succulent boxing lesson of the highest calibre which had the word "class" written all over it.

Now one solitary punch had managed to sever Jason's defences and cost him both the fight and his title. It was a high price to pay for a momentary lapse and he will rue the way it happened for a long time. Rest assured that this talented boxer will bounce back and soon as well. The latest news is that he will be competing shortly at the Super Bantamweight 8 stone 10 rounds level, and seeking awards there. We wish him well and will be reporting his undoubted progress and success in the near future.

Tony Strong
Reporting from ringside

The Good Neighbour Scheme

GNS

"Get ready for Christmas" Tea Party

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2017

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Mrs Eleanor Lucy Larsen (nee Hough)

9th March 1929 – 19th September 2017

Eleanor Larsen of The Grove, Woodside Park, died on 19th September, having lived in the Slip End area for the past 35 years.

Eleanor was born on 9th March 1929 in Abbey Road, Bermondsey, London, and was the second of two children. Her brother Albert was approximately 18 months older.

Eleanor and her brother were not evacuated during the Second World War and stayed in London throughout the Blitz.

When Eleanor left school at the age of 17 she started work at Crosse & Blackwell's, which was based close to her home.

She subsequently worked at Readers Digest, where she met her future husband John P Larsen, a handsome Danish gentleman, and they were married in 1953. Eleanor and John had four children, John (1954), Alan (1956), Kay (1960) and Jill (1962). Eleanor and John moved to Woodside Park in 1983.

They soon became involved in the local community and volunteered at Whippsnade Zoo and with Meals on Wheels until the death of John in 1997.

Eleanor was also a member of the local Women's Institute and helped out making tea/coffee for the toddlers club. In later years she went to Aquaerobics, was a member of the Carpet Bowls Club and enjoyed Line Dancing.

Eleanor's funeral service and

cremation took place on Friday 13th October at The Luton Crematorium, The Vale, Luton. The chapel was full of her friends and family and many attendees joined the family afterwards at the Wake, which was held in the Plough at Woodside. Eleanor is survived by her four children.





Join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ, who is God with us, during this wonderful season.

Thousands of Christmas services and events will be taking place in churches all over the country this December.

Experience #GodWithUs at your local Church of England Church and explore what the Christmas story might mean for your life.

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Aley Green Methodist Church

Services and Diary Dates for December & January

Saturday 2nd

8.30am Prayer Breakfast
9.30am Noon Bacon Butty Coffee Morning

Sunday 3rd Advent 1

No Morning Service
4pm Ecumenical Service at All Saints
Caddington

Sunday 10th Advent 2

10.30am Morning Service - Rev N Bibbings
10.30am Sunday School

Tuesday 12th

10.00am - noon 'Cakes & Company'
10.30 - 11am Little
Lambs

Sunday 17th Advent 3

10.30am Morning
Service - Hyacinth
Taylor
10.30am Sunday
School

Monday 18th

7.30pm Fellowship
led by Jo Prowse

Tuesday 19th

7.30pm Carol Service

Sunday 24th Advent 4

10.30am Morning Service - Peter Baker
10.30am Sunday School

Monday 25th Christmas Day

9.30am Morning Service - Chris Berry

Sunday 31st No Service

2018 January

Sunday 7th

10.30am Covenant Service - Rev N Bibbings
10.30am Sunday School

Tuesday 9th

10am - noon 'Cakes & Company'
10.30am - 11am Little Lambs

Saturday 13th

8am Prayer Breakfast

Sunday 14th

10.30am Morning Service - Elisabeth
Bibbings
10.30am Sunday School



Monday 15th

7.30pm Fellowship led by Jo Prowse

Sunday 21st

10.30am Morning Service - Martin Wallis
10.30am Sunday School

Sunday 28th

10.30am Morning Service - Geoffrey Best
10.30am Sunday School
4pm Ecumenical Service at Caddington
Baptist Church

Wednesday 31st

7.30pm Coffee Evening - Action for Children

~~~~~  
Our October Coffee Evening in aid of Keech Hospice Care raised £75.30. It was a busy evening with a good attendance, lots of chat and coffee and 40lbs of apples were peeled, cored and sliced ready to freeze for our preserves.

The October Take Time meeting was a great success. 36 people attended and brought 262 items for the foodbank plus donations of £15. A most interesting and moving talk from John Bowes reminded us how very lucky we are. We all tucked into a delicious afternoon tea and drained the tea and coffee pots. Thank you to all who supported and helped.

As a church we have again collected and filled 52 shoe boxes for Link of Hope. Our thanks go to Elizabeth for co-ordinating the collecting of items and filling the boxes. Donations totalling £104 were received from members and friends to cover the postage of £2 per box.

The Prayer Breakfast is going from strength to strength, do join us, there is no pressure to pray aloud, do what you feel comfortable with.

We will be getting in the Christmas mood with our friend Pat Batchelor playing seasonal music at our Bacon Butty Coffee Morning on December 2nd. Stalls, preserves, Christmas gifts and of course our bacon and/or egg butties, plus the usual goodies.

We wish you love and joy this Christmas and a peaceful and Happy New Year from all at Aley Green Methodist Church.



**Ann Meader  
Senior Steward**



## **Gardening Tips** *by Russell Sprout*

It's nearly Christmas again and as usual I am still trying to figure out where the year has gone! Not helped by waiting for the summer which never happened. There has to be something in global warming, we just don't get the seasons like we used to.

Damp leading to botrytis/mildew is the major problem in the greenhouse, so ventilate on dry days and reduce any watering to the absolute minimum. Lag outdoor taps and drain hoses and spray guns until dry to prevent frost damage. If we have heavy falls of snow this winter knock the snow off the branches of trees and shrubs to prevent them from breaking under the weight of the snow. If you haven't done so already clean and lubricate mowers before putting away for the winter.

Prune climbing roses now, cutting away diseased or damaged growth and tie in any new shoots to their support. Prune older flowered side shoots back by two thirds of their length.

Start to winter prune your wisteria, cutting back summer side shoots to two or three buds. Leave the faded flower heads on your hydrangeas until the

spring, they will provide frost protection to the swelling buds further down the stems.

Remove fallen leaves from alpines and rockeries, fork over between plants with a hand fork and remove weeds. Sweet peas started under glass will require the tips pricking out above the second or third pair of leaves to encourage side shoots to develop before planting out in the spring. Examine dahlia tubers, if shrivelled plunge in tepid water overnight and if any are starting to rot cut off damaged part and dust with flowers of sulphate. Spray fruit trees with a tar-oil winter wash this month or next to kill eggs of pests laid earlier in the year. Tar-oil can be sprayed on all fruit except strawberries. Keep a check for mice damage amongst stored fruit and vegetables and also amongst autumn sown peas and broad beans and take appropriate action.

Recycle as much waste as you can on the compost heap and burn any woody matter that won't break down, **but check carefully for hibernating hedgehogs before starting a bonfire.**

Nothing to sow or plant so use any leftover compost on the garden, don't be tempted to keep it for next year. Inspect plants & fruit trees to see if any are in need of TLC, such as tying or firming in where they are suffering from wind rock. The seed catalogues are available now but remember, it is first come first served so get that order in as soon as possible. Remember when comparing a modern F1 hybrid against an older open pollinated type that the F1 will always mature in the same week, whereas the open pollinated varieties will crop over several weeks.

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

## **GARDENING CLUB**

**MON 22nd Jan  
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**AGM followed by guest  
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Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising a free donation for FoSELS (the PTA to Slip End Village School)? There are over 3,000 retailers on board, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, thetrainline and Sainsbury's, who will donate a percentage of the amount you spend to FoSELS to say thank you for shopping with them.

With Christmas on the way, this is a fantastic opportunity to raise even more money for FoSELS whilst spending online!

It doesn't cost you anything, and is as easy as 1, 2, 3...

All you have to do is:

1. Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/invite/CO303Q/> and sign up for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping (or even better, download the Donation Reminder – see below for details).
3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation for no extra cost whatsoever; those donations will be collected by easyfundraising and automatically sent to FoSELS. It couldn't be easier! There are no catches or hidden charges and FoSELS will be really grateful for your donations. By using the link above, we'll also earn an extra £2 bonus donation for every new supporter, when you shop via easyfundraising for the first time.

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Thank you for your support – and happy shopping!

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## Waste Collection Update

### **Kerbside collection of household garden waste will be suspended across Central Bedfordshire over the winter months.**

The collections will be suspended from Monday, 4 December 2017 until Friday 2, March 2018 inclusive. This means the last collection in the Parish will have been the week commencing Monday 20th November. The decision to stop the kerbside collection service during the quietest time of the year for garden waste was made as part of the council's financial planning process, and comes as a result of Government funding cuts. Council Tax alone doesn't raise enough to cover all the services the council provides, and so the council focuses on delivering services that meet the periods of high demand, in this case restricting garden waste collections to during the growing season.

*Update received by email from Central Beds Council*

### **Sandra's Winter Warmers**

On 17<sup>th</sup> October, I went to NOAH Enterprise with my good friend Sarah Robinson from Caddington (and her children) to deliver all the coats that had kindly been donated by residents of Caddington and Slip End. Sarah's mum, Sandra, who died last year, was a long term supporter of this local charity that helps homeless people and those on the margins of society.

To commemorate the anniversary of her loss, Sarah wanted to do something in honour of her mum and asked NOAH chief executive Jim O'Connor what would be most useful to them. He said that they were in dire need of winter coats, their existing supply having dwindled to just three and the weather

already getting colder. Sarah set up Sandra's Winter Warmers and we appealed to everyone we knew for any spare men's coats, and were delighted and overwhelmed by the response. Sarah had hoped for 100 but we nearly doubled this with over 180 coats collected in just two weeks. We also received many donations of tea, coffee, hot chocolate and biscuits. Every coat was wrapped in cellophane with a sticker and Sarah gave the charity a card with the names of every person and organisation who had donated. Thinner coats were coupled with body warmers, and fleeces were paired up with waterproof layers. All other donated items were dropped off the following week – this included other menswear items and toiletries kindly donated by local people. Anything that is not suitable for their existing clients will be sold in one of their Luton charity shops and the money raised from that goes to provide services for all the people that visit the hostel every day. On the day we went to deliver the coats they had organised flu jabs and TB testing.

On a day to day basis they provide hot meals, hot drinks, showers, medical care, training and support services. They prepare 40,000 meals per year and in the last 12 months have supported over 600 homeless people just in the Luton area. They also provide a night shelter during the very coldest winter nights.

Many thanks to everyone who generously donated! If you would like to support NOAH in the future please see their website for items most needed – they also have a Just Giving page and even an Amazon wish list to make giving appropriate items even easier!

*Nikki West*





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# Shop & be entertained...

**FREE** events in Luton town centre this Christmas

**Saturday 2nd December**

## Santa in Luton

Meet Santa, Mrs Claus, Christmas elves, stilt walkers, jugglers and dancers as they wander through Luton town centre from **11am - 3pm**.



**Friday 8th December & Saturday 9th December**

## Dynamic light display

Come and see the dynamic light display onto Luton Central Library, rotating every three minutes from **4pm - 8pm**. Be entertained by walkabout performers, fire-eating stilt walkers and a magician, and enjoy some hot chocolate and mulled wine while you're there too.



**Saturday 16th December**

## Merry Christmas

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**Saturday 23rd December**  
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'My Sewing Journey So Far' was the topic for our November speaker.

Anne Wilcox gave a very interesting talk on patchwork and quilting. She gave a short talk about her life, and how she first became interested in sewing at a young age, before talking about patchwork and quilting.

The members thoroughly enjoyed the talk and liked looking at Anne's creations, which included quilts, wall hangings, bags, cushions and table runners, which were either hand or machine-quilted.

She also brought along some designs from the USA and Canada which she had purchased while on holiday.

Anne now runs workshops from her newly constructed barn conversion. After her talk she judged our competition for the Best Pin Cushion. Valerie Dallinger was the winner with Carol Jones second and Mary Wildman third.

Carol Jones laid a wreath on behalf of the Caddington W.I. on Remembrance Sunday. Our Darts Team is on a winning streak. Keep it up ladies!

We had the Dunstable Choir along to entertain us with their Christmas songs on 28th November, which is always a good evening.

The Christmas Tree Festival is in Caddington this year and we shall be decorating a tree for this event.

Our Christmas Winter Wonderland meeting is being held at the Heathfield Centre, where we catch up with other W.I.'s from our group and have a lovely evening together.

W.I. House in Bedford will be open to view its display for Christmas.

There is a trip to Rushden to a shoe factory where we will learn how modern day shoes are made. The icing on the cake is visiting two shoe shops for reasonably priced shoes. You know how we love shoes!

We are looking forward to a celebratory Christmas Meal at the Horse & Jockey which has been organised by Valerie Dallinger. Two events for 2018 are a talk with Giles Brandreth and a Literary Lunch with writer and barrister Simon Michael on 'My Life in Crime'.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our readers a Happy and Merry Christmas also best wishes for the New Year.

You are always welcome to join us. We meet on the first Tuesday of each month starting at 7.30pm at the Baptist Church Hall, Caddington, LU1 4AF.

We usually have a speaker, demonstration or in-house evening. Refreshments with cakes are provided too!

*Linda Edwards*





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# Pub News

**Christmas is approaching rapidly, so remember to book your Christmas celebrations. Ask in the pubs for details.**

## The Plough

We are now the local pickup point for the weekly Herald and Post, you can collect copies from inside. See advert for information.

[www.theploughwoodside.co.uk/](http://www.theploughwoodside.co.uk/)

## Frog & Rhubarb

The Chatty Club meets here every Tuesday between 2pm and 4pm

## Slip End Book Club

Do you enjoy reading? Are you stuck with the same authors or genre, over and over? Would you like to meet new people from the village? The Slip End Book Club is now well established and we would love to see new faces!

We are a small, friendly group who meet once a month, at 8pm in the Frog and Rhubarb. Every meeting has been lots of

fun, full of lively debate (we don't always agree) and interesting conversation. We tend to choose our books based on recommendations from well-known Book Clubs such as Simon Mayo's on Radio 2, or Richard and Judy's. In addition, we look at award lists such as the Costa Book Awards and everyone in the group contributes their ideas.

## Future book selections and dates:

The House (Simon Lelic) – December 5<sup>th</sup>  
Hillbilly Elegy (J.D Vance) – January 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine (Gail Honeyman) – February 27<sup>th</sup>

If you would like to know more we have a closed group page on Facebook.

Please let me know if you'd like to join and I'll add you to the group - email [infoatedo@aol.com](mailto:infoatedo@aol.com) – Janice.

[www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk](http://www.frogandrhubarb.co.uk)

## Social Club

See the noticeboard at the Club for events.

## Rising Sun

Drop in to find out what is happening.







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

**December**

- Sat 2nd Bacon Butty Coffee Morning & Sale—Aley Green Church 9:30—12:00  
Mon 4th Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7pm  
Tues 5th Caddington WI (Social Evening) Baptist Hall 7:30pm  
Wed 6th GNS Tea Party Village Hall 2:30—4pm (see poster for details)  
Tues 12th Photography Group Christmas Party Slip End Social Club 8pm

**2018**

**January**

- Tues 2nd Caddington WI (Luton Street Names) Baptist Hall 7:30pm  
Mon 8th Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7pm  
Mon 22nd Gardening Club AGM Village Hall 8pm

**February**

- Tues 6th Caddington WI (Owls, owls, owls) Baptist Hall 7:30pm

**NO PARISH NEWS IN JANUARY SO SEND US YOUR DATES SOON**



**Bin collections**

**Black bin and Glass** - Friday 1st and 15th December, Saturday 30th December, Friday 12th, 26th January

**Orange bin**- Friday 8th, 22nd December and Saturday 6th January and Friday 19th January



**Don't forget to advertise your events here!**

Please contact us with details of events to add to our diary so that everyone in the community can read about what is on in the Parish and hopefully avoid any clash of dates for events!



## YOUR PARISH & CENTRAL BEDS COUNCILLORS

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

clerk@slipend.co.uk

### Parish Councillors:-

|                                |              |                                   |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Paul Cooper (Chairman)         | 07703 599006 | paul-cooper@indigo-tiger.com      |
| Sarah Minnighan (Vicechairman) | 07868 742904 | s.minnighan@outlook.com           |
| Steve Baird                    | 738205       | Steven.Baird@cooperindustries.com |
| Simon Patterson                | 07767 615714 | smp@amida.fsworld.co.uk           |
| Carol Brennan                  | 453049       | carolbrennan74@aol.com            |
| Carol Beeton                   | 405597       | cmbet@gmail.com                   |
| Paul Shaw                      | 07957 188947 | porkypygge@gmail.com              |

## WHO DO I CALL?

**Fly Tipping (CBC)** 0300 300 8000 [wasteservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:wasteservices@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

**Road issues** [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport/report/highways-fault.as](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/transport/report/highways-fault.as)

**Police** 01234 473211 or 101    **Aircraft noise** 395382    **Airparks** 749495  
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### Your Central Beds Councillors



Cllr Kevin Collins

01582 417933

[Kevin.Collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Kevin.Collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)



Customer Services  
0300 300 8000



Cllr Richard Stay

01582 402602

[richard.stay@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:richard.stay@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

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### MP's

#### Contact details

Gavin Shuker's local office  
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## COMMUNITY AND SERVICES

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**Slip End Garage** Markyate Road, 456888  
**Doctor** Caddington Surgery 725673  
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**Schools:** **Slip End Village School** 720152 **Manshead** 679400  
**Caddington Village School** 726058 **St Mary's Catholic Primary School** 602420

### Churches:-

**St Andrew's Church**  
**Rev. Cathy Pullinger—vicarage** 480391  
or 07425 148046  
**Wardens:** **Nick Sandle** 723029  
**Susan Wiltshire** 727000

### Aley Green Methodist Church

**Minister:** **Rev Nigel Bibbings**  
**Senior Steward: Ann Meader** 733668

### Sport:-

**Bowling Club** 412506  
**Darts League** 425323  
**Football** 517042 or 07515687160  
**Pepperstock Archers** 615216  
Email LBP121@aol.com (Lee Prebble)  
**Tennis** 733253  
**Gardening Club** 423622

**Slip End Stompers Line Dancing**  
redhotstompers@googlemail.com

**Dance Classes** dance\_liana@hotmail.com

**Runners** Peter Baber **07587 189260.**

### Community:-

**Photography Group** 01582 452851  
**Brownies** 01582 723109  
**Beavers** 07956 833488  
**Cubs & Scouts** 01582 418014  
**Allotments** 01582 736892  
**Friendship Club** 01582 452978  
**Playgroup/Pre-School** 01582 724888  
**S.E.A.D.A** 01582 414796  
**FoSELS (PTA)** 0789 603 7853  
**Women's Institute** 01582 737036  
**Chatty Club** [pja32@outlook.com](mailto:pja32@outlook.com)

Jean Anderson

**Slip End Veterans Football** Wayne Leslie  
[wayne@dngsales.co.uk](mailto:wayne@dngsales.co.uk)

**Book Club** [jobullen@hotmail.com](mailto:jobullen@hotmail.com)

Slip End Parish Community  
is now on



### Items for the next issue to us by 15th January

(Editor — Alison) Adverts by 10th please

Any delivery problems? Contact Alan Buttery at 1 Claydown Way  
(01582 724527), [alanjan4546@gmail.com](mailto:alanjan4546@gmail.com)

Anything interesting to report about village activities, photos, holidays, etc  
Please contact us, letters and e-mails are encouraged.

Views expressed by our contributors are not the Editors' own.

Articles should be sent by the 15th of the preceding month to the Editor - Alison Wilson,  
23 Claydown Way or Matt Adams, 32 Summer Street or e-Mail [parishnews@slipend.co.uk](mailto:parishnews@slipend.co.uk)

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