

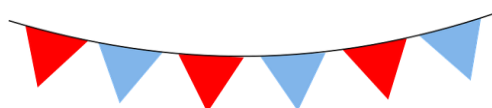
PARISH NEWS

covering
SHILLINGTON, PEGSDON & HIGHAM GOBION

SHILLINGFEST 24

Saturday, 29th June

at The Memorial Playing Field (SG5 3NX)
from 1pm



- ☺ *Vintage & veteran vehicles*
 - ☺ *Shillington & District Classic Car Group*
 - ☺ *Stalls & Sideshows by Village Organisations*
 - ☺ *Get your photo in a Ferrari*
 - ☺ *Fantastic Faces Face Painter*
 - ☺ *BBQ* ☺ *Pizza Van* ☺ *Mr. Ice Cream Van*
 - ☺ *Inside/Outside Bars & Pimms Tent*
 - ☺ *Demonstrations by Lantern Vehicle Recovery Trucks*
- See page 10 for programme activities and timings*



Issue 172 – JUNE 2024

Deadline for August edition - Friday, 26th July 2024

PARISH COUNCIL

Following earlier uncertainty about the timescale for replacing the leaking mains which have caused interruption to the water supply to Pegsdon on numerous occasions, Anglian Water have confirmed that work will start on Monday 3 June. Initially, the length between the bridge on the road to Lower Gravenhurst near Discolicious and Hanscombe End will be renewed. The company expect to finish this section by 19 July to avoid causing lengthy diversions for farmers when they are busy harvesting crops. Replacing the remainder of the pipe along Hanscombe End Road, Apsley End Rd and on towards Pegsdon has been deferred until 2025.

With the cost of electricity as volatile as ever, the parish council consults Utilitrack for advice about the contract for power to the streetlights around the village. We decided to continue with existing supplier, SSE, for the next 24 months.

At the Annual Meeting in May, councillors selected members for various positions for 2024-5. They voted to re-elect John Hyde as the chair for 2024-5 and Derek Turner as vice-chair. Liam Keane will represent the council on the Village Hall Committee. Tracey Petrie, Richa Mitra and John Hyde will serve on the Playing Field Management committee and John Hyde, Derek Turner, Tracey Petrie and Blake Stephenson on the Risk Management Working Party.

To save time at its monthly meetings, the Parish Council has set up more working groups to carry out research in various areas and make recommendations. An Environment Working Group will consider topics such as tree planting and grass cutting around the village. Another group will look into funding and grants and a third will deal with tenders before contracts with suppliers are renewed. Issues discussed will be reported to the full parish councils meetings where final decisions will be made.

The Parish Council has received data from the Speedwatch volunteers who have been busy, holding 5 sessions in both March and April. Between the start of the year and 5 May, the team has been out 18 times in total, monitored over 1,300 passing vehicles and recorded 94 motorists travelling at 35mph or more and considerably more than that in some cases. More locations where the team can operate are under consideration. The team pass information to Bedfordshire Police Traffic Management Unit who use it to decide where to deploy their 'speed traps'. Be warned that these may appear anywhere around the village at any time.

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) has received reports about flooding after heavy rain fell during the winter. A ditch used to run along the end of gardens of homes in the lower part of Bury Road, intercepting surface water coming from the playing fields area. During dry years, there was little flow in the ditch and some householders replaced the section across their land with a pipe. However, water is pooling near some homes, implying that there is a blockage somewhere along the line of the ditch.

At the end of March, a parish councillor met the Senior Drainage Engineer from the Flood Risk Management Team at Central Bedfordshire Council who is investigating the situation to seek a remedy.

Councillors welcomed the decision by CBC to reroute a part of public footpath 20 where it has been impassable in a field behind Woodmer Close. However, it will take a while before the path is usable once more as work is required including making a gap in a hedge and installing fencing and a new footbridge over a ditch. Elsewhere, Bridleway 8 from the church to Hanscombe End was dug up to unblock a pipe during the winter leaving a very muddy stretch for riders and walkers to negotiate. We are told that remedial work will be carried out there shortly. With vegetation growing rapidly and stretched resources at Central Bedfordshire Council limiting the amount of path maintenance and mowing that they can afford, the footpath officers are seeking volunteers to help with simple tasks to keep the footpath network walkable. If you'd like to help, please contact Derek Turner on derek.turner@phoncoop.coop

We're also calling for Volunteers to co-ordinate and help with setting up a village **CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)**. This would be a Whatsapp group to respond quickly and locally to events prior to help arriving from the authorities, emergency services, and utility providers. Twice in the last month volunteers from other village organisations have reacted to events to make people aware and slow traffic for a water mains burst which collapsed a large section of Hillfoot and a large branch that had fallen into the carriage way on Hillfoot Road. These were two adhoc events but some sort of more organised coverage would have been good. Contact Clerk to Council if you are able and willing to join this Team.



Following the investment of much time and funding for the new Play Area and equipment in early 2020, we were very disappointed to note what has recently happened to the seat for the Zipline. Obviously been chewed on a regular basis by a large dog. We can't believe the owner would have just stood there (with the dog on a lead as a requirement on our playing field) watching the animal chewing its way through the rubber. A replacement seat has now been ordered and will be installed as soon as received.

As we like to cater for all of our village residents, maybe we need to consider a dog play area, as some neighbouring villages are now able to offer this facility. Pets can then have their own equipment in a secure location, leaving other equipment safe and usable for those it is intended.

For all Parish Council issues please contact:

Miss Lauren Darnell, Clerk to the Parish Council

45 Tiger Moth Way, Lower Stondon, Hitchin, Herts. SG16 6GN. ☎ 01462-713224

email: clerk@shillington-pc.gov.uk <https://shillington-pc.gov.uk>

ANNOUNCEMENTS / ITEMS / NEWS IN BRIEF



WANTED:

Items for the Church Tombola Stall at Shillingfest24 on
Saturday, 29th June.

Contact **Margaret (Mags)** on **01462-711635.**

Many thanks for all donations.



SHILLINGTON CARE

Do you need help with transport from Shillington?

We can get you to the surgery, hospital and collect your prescriptions.

Shillington Care is an informal group of people able to give help.

Give us a call and we will arrange for someone to pick you up and bring you back.

Initially, speak to **Liz** on **01462-711594** or leave a message.

If there is a delay on this number then call **07930-812940**



VILLAGE GARAGE/TABLE TOP SALE

A big THANK YOU to Karen Walker for co-ordinating this village event on
the afternoon of Sunday, 19th May in aid of MND.



A great village turnout with over 20 stalls dotted around
the village selling a variety of items. We were very lucky
with good weather and as usual lovely community spirit.

The Village Hall Committee raised £337 towards their improvement funds
from refreshments and bric-a-brac sales.

Maybe an annual event eh Karen.....?



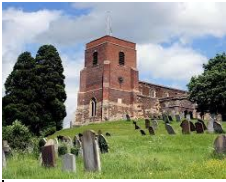
ALL SAINTS ILLUMINATED

To celebrate or commemorate your special occasion please

contact: **Catherine** on **07710-823384**

or e-mail catherine.scleater@btinternet.com

It only costs **£25** to sponsor a whole week's illumination -
a perfect way to commemorate a special family occasion or loved one's anniversary.



ALL SAINTS' CHURCH SHILLINGTON & GRAVENHURST

www.allsaintsshillington.org.uk



WHAT'S GOING ON

Any enquiries regarding All Saints Church during the interregnum please contact:

Churchwardens - Liz & Dick Brewer ☎ 01462 711594.

(Mobiles: Liz – 07930-812940 or Dick – 07785-638856)

SERVICES FOR JUNE & JULY:

- A Communion Service will be held each Sunday at 9.30 am, with the exception of 30th June when there will be a joint service with The Congregational Church at 10.30am.
- Evensong – 2nd June and 7th July at 6.00pm

No Sunday School at present, but children are always welcome at our services, and there are toys and books in the Lady Chapel to occupy them with a parent supervising.



WEDDINGS

May 11th - Sophie Coping to Ryan Stapleton.

Ryan's parents and grandparents were both married in All Saints Church.



FUNERALS/ BURIALS: None in this period.

200 CLUB – LUCKY WINNERS:

(prizes 1st £50, 2nd £25, 3rd £10)

April:

1st no. 199 – Tina Crow

2nd no.113 – Hannah Lovell

3rd no. 89 – Henry Gurr

May:

1st no. 200 – Tony Bird

2nd no.18 – Kris Karlake

3rd no.199 – Tina Crow

EVENTS:



Sunday Teas in the church each Sunday 3pm to 5pm. Some musical entertainment will take place on some Sundays (look out for Friends' notices) with the exception of 9th June, when the Church Events Committee will be hosting their **ANNUAL STRAWBERRY CREAM TEAS** in the Church from **3pm to 5pm**.

The church will be adding to their usual side shows and stalls at Shillingfest on June 29th. Please come along and support us, and all the other village organisations, who have been working hard over the past 6 months to get this now annual event up and running.

We are looking forward to welcoming **Rev. Jenna Dearden** and her family at the end of July, when she becomes Priest in Charge of our church. Her Licensing Service will take place in **All Saints Church** on **Thursday, 25th July** at **7.30pm** led by **Richard, Bishop of Bedford**. Her first service with us will be Evensong on **4th August** at **6pm**.

Best Wishes, Liz Brewer (Church Warden) - lizbrewer313@gmail.com



Shillington WI is going to make the most of summer and the lovely long evenings – we have got some great events planned for the next two months!



At our April meeting, David Duker gave us his talk 'A Higher Call', the incredible true story of two pilots - one of an Allied bomber and the other of a Messerschmitt fighter - encounter over wartime Germany. He had us sitting on the edge of our seats.

Kay Goddard was our speaker in May. Her talk 'The Patterned Path to Freedom' was fascinating. Regarding codes and quilts which helped slaves flee to Canada, one of our members summed it up by saying "it's incredible that something so beautiful came about from so much pain and distress".

Our cake stall (outside the Village Hall) on the 4th May proved very popular. The sponge cakes in particular disappeared rather rapidly. You had to be an early bird to get the cake! Our visit to the Cecil Higgins Museum in Bedford was most interesting. We had an enjoyable lunch at its restaurant.



Poppies have been knitted by some WI members so that every member can have one on June 6th to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day. On the same day, St John's Ambulance are giving us a First Aid training session. Visitors are welcome, as always, to come to this meeting. Please note that we are starting 30 minutes earlier at 7.00 pm.

At the end of June, some members are looking forward to an evening of storytelling and making willow stars in the beautiful woods at Wassledine. On the 29th June, look out for the WI stall and our scrumptious scones at Shillingfest.

July 4th will see members attending an American Picnic – here's hoping for a lovely warm, sunny evening. There's no meeting in August as it's our Summer Break.

Our walking, supper and lunch, book and knitting clubs are as popular as ever.

Our meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month in the Congregational Church at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are very welcome (£4).

For further information please contact:

Julia Bruce, President ☎ **01462 712412** or
Liza Starling, Secretary - lstarling@outlook.com

BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WISH FOR !

By Annie Palmer (WI Ambassador for Climate Change) anniepalmer@hotmail.com

I really must be more careful what I wish for. May 3rd was, like too many this spring, a miserable day with mist and low grey cloud hanging on the distant hills, bursts of heavy rain followed by mizzling and water everywhere. I spent the day wishing that the sun would come out and that things would dry up.



That evening, the weather forecast sounded very promising so I put a load in the washing machine. The rain stopped, the puddles dried up ... and so did the water in my taps. What little that did come out became so muddy I could have grown cabbages in it. I hastily turned off the machine.

The mains had burst across the way from me and, bless them, two Anglian Water men spent the night trying to sort the leak out. My water supply was restored at 4.00pm which was wonderful – the machine went back on.

I woke early the next morning to bright blue skies. I thought I'd make the most of it and put another load on. Soon afterwards, I went to wash my hands and the tap instantly ran dry. I hastily turned off the machine. I began to think the thing was jinxed. I thought that before putting on the next load, I'm having a cup of tea, doing the washing up, and going the loo (in that order) - these were the three things I'd regretted not doing, both times, before the water was cut off.

Not having any water coming out of the taps certainly made me appreciate how lucky I am to have this luxury. The first morning that I had no supply, I remembered that I hadn't emptied the hot water bottle that I'd had a couple of nights before. I used this water to have a wash (I didn't fancy making a cup of tea with it) – it made me realise just how little I need to be able to do this.

We have been informed that in less than twenty years our taps will run dry (The Rivers Trust). It's not that we haven't been warned. With regard to our area, we were told twenty years ago that: "technical fixes can address many of the water supply problems but often at the expense of creating other problems. Without any extra housing growth, the region is likely to face a water supply deficit within a few decades. The scale of growth envisaged (500,000 houses) is likely to have serious negative impacts on water resources, biodiversity, tranquillity, air quality and congestion" (East of England Regional Assembly). Perhaps we can ask our MPs and councillors if building three times that number of houses in our region (1,500,000) is a wise, and sane, thing to do.



With reference to biodiversity, Chris Packham's Restore Nature Now march is being held in London on the 22nd June 2024. Environmental organisations such as The National Trust, The Wildlife Trusts, The Climate Coalition (of which the WI is a member), and Surfers Against Sewage will be there. This legal, peaceful, inclusive and family-friendly march aims to be the biggest gathering of people for nature and climate that the UK has ever seen. It is both a celebration of British nature and a protest calling for urgent political action on the climate and ecological / environmental emergency. I've been to a few such marches in the past and am always pleased that I went – they have been uplifting and everyone's so friendly!

Annie x



TO MOW A MEADOW

by *Revd. Angus McCormick* ☎ 01462-712096

Minister of Shillington Congregationalist Church

So I was enjoying a cup of tea and a lovely sausage roll in the Friendly Space at the Congregational church when Juliet and David told me they had seven lawnmowers at one time! Wow, I thought, one for each day of the week. Maybe they had a competition to see who could mow the fastest? Well, I said, pompously that I had a “sit on” mower once! Mind you I couldn’t control it and what was more important for harmony ... the dogs did not like it.

Then still enjoying the company and drinking my tea... a cake was now offered... on my other side was Stewart who said he had seven bikes at one time! So how did you ride them all at once I wondered mischievously. I went on to say that I had a bike passed down from my brothers; how lucky I was because they had left the wheels on; no brake pads, no bell and some of the spokes were left. To have so much fun was my aim since I could do no more damage to the bike.



Mind you I reflected that I was given a racing bike once. Second-hand with lots of gears. I went immediately and bought some clips for my trousers. Felt very posh and up to date.



Over the years I had owned various mowers as one either wore out or not fit for purpose. My clear memory is of the lawnmower that completely exhausted me before I had even started mowing because it needed so much pulling on the starter cord before it got going. Then later on my father asked me to help with his massive garden. Though he cultivated most of it as well as having an orchard he had a large area of grass. So I regularly cut the grass and felt that I spilt much fuel ... it was cheaper then of course. Then my father would get the scythe and cut the other grass in his other garden much more efficiently than I did with the modern machine.

At the annual meeting of the parish this year it was lovely to hear Jo from Discolicious tell her life story. John, Chairman of the Parish Council, had invited her. Best of all was the very kind gift Jo had brought for us to share and enjoy... a sack of super potatoes! We all had a bag to take some home. Delicious!



So there we are. Times of plenty or not? Times of changes and still mowing to do or not. Times of leaving wild places for nature or remembering how many were involved in farming at one time. The Bible speaks of storing up in a barn... for a rainy day maybe... well for many that rainy day is here and now.

Happy mowing or not, *Angus*



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NEWS

47 Church Street, Shillington

www.shillingtoncong-church.org.uk

SERVICES:

The Revd. Angus McCormick is available for pastoral needs as always. His telephone number is **01462-712096**. Sunday Services continue at 10.30am every Sunday. Everyone welcome.



† 14th May - Funeral of **AUDREY MAY NELLIST**
“Blessed are they who mourn for they shall be comforted”.

CHRISTIAN AID MORNING:



Very many thanks to all who organized and supported this charitable effort. A record of £454.93 was collected on the day. £30.00 was later donated from All Saints Church to the appeal.

BEDFORD FOODBANK:

For over 7 years this essential support for families has been undertaken and donations from the village taken by the minister to the Food Bank. Thank you to the local community for your continued support. During the month of April 2,374 people were fed utilising 18 tonnes of stock.



Items currently in short supply:

Long Life Milk	Tinned Meat
Deodorant	Cup-a-Soup
Jars Curry Sauce	Long Life Fruit Juice
Jars Coffee	Tins Tuna
Tea Bags 40/80	Pasta Sauce

FRIENDLY WELCOME SPACE:

This weekly event (apart from public holidays) runs very successfully from 10.00am until 12.00 on Mondays at the Church. Special thanks to the volunteers who help and for donations of food and refreshments. It is a relaxing time and you can come and go as you please. Easy access for those who have mobility issues.

D-DAY - 80 YEARS - COMMEMORATIONS:

This special time of reflection will be welcomed by many, tears of sadness and joy. The Parish Council has organized a brief service of reflection at 11am on **Saturday 8th June**. Deputy Lieutenants will attend to represent HM King Charles III. The minister will attend with others at the War Memorial. The Union flag is flown to mark the occasion.

SHILLINGFEST 24 - PROGRAMME

Contact Sally on 07711-504489

if you need further information or want to get involved



EVENT OPENING by Andrew Elliman at 1.00pm



LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FROM:

The Shefford Majorettes at 1.30pm (20 minutes)



Flypast by Lancaster bomber
(fingers crossed for go ahead as well as weather dependent)
scheduled 2.08pm



Sloop Groggy Dogs - Sea Shanty Group at 2.00pm
(45-55 minutes)



Local Singer - Andy Neaves at 3.00pm
(45 minutes)



Pirouettes & Pullbacks - Dancing Display at 3.45pm
(30 minutes)



Flyover by Tiger Moths (weather dependent)
Scheduled approx. 4.15pm

SHILLINGTON MEN'S CLUB

(Now in its 19th year)

<https://Shillingtonmensclub.co.uk>

On the 10th April 21 members attended an evening meal event at the Red Lion at Great Offley. The 2 course meal was a choice between Minced Beef & Onion Pie & Mash or Sausage & Mash served with peas, roast parsnips and carrots, followed by Crumble and Ice Cream or a Berry Cheesecake. The meal was great, good helpings and well cooked, and of course washed down by plentiful amounts of your chosen beverage, yum, yum, a good night was had by all! Trevor Knight won the raffle. Many thanks to Colin Hands and Stewart Rataj for organising this event.



On the 17th April 16 members attended a Lunchtime Social at The View in Pegsdon. Our April cultural event took place on the 26th at the London Transport Museum Depot at West Acton. Here 19 Members had the opportunity to see and explore vintage transport vehicles of the bygone era. This turned out to be an extremely interesting and informative visit and enjoyed thoroughly by the members. Many thanks to Michael Bradley for having the foresight and arranging this memorable visit.

On the evening of the 8th May 23 members descended upon the Motte & Bailey at Pirton for our evening meal event. The members tucked into a 2 course meal of either Beef Bourguignon, Mash & Spring Cabbage or Fish Pie & Spring Cabbage, followed by Sticky Toffee Pudding & Custard or Apple Crumble & Custard. We all enjoyed the night in the pleasant evening sunshine and no doubt we will be back again at some point. Many thanks to Colin and Stewart for doing their research and using their negotiating skills and securing this very enjoyable evening. Angus McCormick won the raffle.

Unfortunately, our planned May cultural visit to the Newark Air Museum on the 22nd had to be postponed due to the very poor weather forecast on the day. This visit will have to be rescheduled to a later date.

Future events:

- 1st June - Narrow Gauge Steam Railway visit
- 12th June - Evening meal at the View in Pegsdon
- 19th June - Lunch Time Social at the Musgrave Arms
- 22nd June - Pickwillow Engine Museum at Ely, Cambridgeshire
- 10th July - Evening meal t.b.a.
- 24th July - Garden Party (partners' event).

Membership:

Current membership is 43 members. There are 8 elected Committee members who meet every 12 weeks to review and evaluate past events, plan future events and review the Club's finances.



The Club offers members a bi-monthly opportunity to socialise and enjoy friendly conversation and comradeship over a good pub meal and beverages or a visit to a place of cultural or historical interest. This is the essence of the Club.

New members are warmly welcomed, so any new residents to the village, please take the opportunity to embrace village life, meet local people and come along and see what the Club has to offer! Membership is £5 to join with an Annual Membership of £15.

Contacts:

Events Co-ordinator - Michael Bradley
(01462 711162)

Email - michael894bradley@btinternet.com

Chairman – Kevin Johnson
(01462 712768)

Email – kevinjohnson360@msn.com

REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR BLAKE STEPHENSON

Dear Neighbours,



You may have heard the news by now that I am a candidate in the General Election.

The timing of the election has taken everyone by surprise, and the timing of the parish magazine gives me an opportunity to explain to you all why I took the decision to stand.

People regularly reflect to me their dismay with politics.

I knock on doors and attend events throughout the whole constituency, and for a long-time, people have been telling me that they want an MP who lives here, understands our communities, and shares our priorities.

Nadine's departure allowed us to turn a page last year. Mid Beds made its choice. And the boundary changes at this election mean that it's all change once again.

I have put myself forward, so we have a compelling local choice. Someone committed to the long-haul, and already working with everyone and anyone to deliver the things we need in our communities.

Whilst I have had a 15-year career in the city and have worked on some of the most exciting projects in financial services, I have never felt more fulfilled than I have since my election to serve our villages. It is a job I love, and I think I have a lot to offer the whole of Mid Beds.

There is so much to be done, and I have decided that this is my best time and opportunity to try and make a difference.

Whatever the outcome, I will continue to live locally and remain focussed on the things that matter to our villages.

My best wishes,
Blake

PEGSDON VIEW



I'm writing this with Chelsea on the telly. I love the Chelsea Flower Show coverage, I get to see what it's all about without the sore feet, the train and the crush, but one of these days I would love to go in person.

Mind you, I've been seeing some pretty great flora in the Pegsdon hills recently. Most recently purple bell flowers have been popping up, I think it might be lungwort, dark red when closed and opening out into a purple flower. The Wildlife Trust are grazing heritage sheep and highland cattle in the field closest to Hitchin road at the moment, I'm hoping they don't eat it all.

The sheep are having great fun on the butterfly banks as usual. For anyone who doesn't know about the butterfly banks, there's some project information on the Wildlife Trust website:

Banking on Butterflies project | Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants (wildlifebcn.org).

The banks are greening up finally, the sheep are behaving like they are on an all day buffet and they love standing on top in groups. Dinner and a view, what more could they want.



Seeing the northern lights this month from so high up was a joy, something I never thought I'd experience so far down south. My parents in London were not able to see it, but here with less light pollution we really got a great view, lots of people were out on the hills making the most of it - we really are very lucky.



I've also enjoyed the return of Bridgerton on Netflix, though also furious with them for releasing only 4 episodes when I was ready for a solid binge watch, popcorn at the ready. Some of the filming happened just down the road at Wrest Park. We've been fairly regular visitors there over the last couple of months, the wisteria has been blooming in the last couple of weeks and has been one of the highlights.

A couple of points about our brilliant pub as there's been some changes over the last few months. You no longer have to pay a booking fee for the garden pods, you can just request these when booking as you might a favorite table. Also the new management team ended the contract with the parking company several months ago, there's no longer a need to log your car registration at the bar when parking in their car park. Hope to see you there.

Keep safe and well, *Caroline*

SHILLINGTON SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

MEET AT

SHILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

Monday afternoons - 2.00-5.00pm // Friday evenings - 7.15-9.15pm



We continue to play our Aussie Pairs competition and plan to hold the final on the 28th June after our annual general meeting. The club will then close for a well-deserved summer break reopening in September.

On Saturday the 18th May we had the finals of our club competitions, which was followed by a social evening where we all enjoyed a three course meal at the Raven in Hexton.

Congratulations to all those that took part, particularly to the overall winners:

- ★ *Fours* - Ros Lewison, Pauline Burnell, Brenda Hutty and Jeff Redman
- ★ *Triples* - Jan Rix, Toni Gearing and Paul Bruce
- ★ *Pairs* - Toni and Bill Gearing
- ★ *Singles* - Bill Gearing

We had club members represent Hertfordshire in the national competitions at Melton Mowbray from the 11th to the 14th April. All members did well and we had some teams get through to the knockout rounds. Playing at this level is a worthwhile experience as it helps members to improve their playing ability, plus it is a fun weekend.

Anyone interested in joining the club is welcome to come and have a try (for free) to see if they like it. We have spare sets of bowls available and you only need to have a flat pair of shoes with you to enable you to play. You can either turn up to the village hall on a Monday afternoon or a Friday evening, or if you prefer call or message Michelle (contact details below) in advance.

Experienced members provide support and guidance for new and developing players and members can join in with regular County playing and learning activities at the County venues in Hatfield and Stevenage.

For further information please contact
Michelle Conlon (☎ 07974-772702) conlonmichelle@sky.com
Or **Derek Lewison** (☎ 01462 711504)

SHILLINGTON WIVES GROUP



At our A.G.M on May 9th our Chairperson Pauline reported that our 2023/2024 session had been enjoyed by all. We had a variety of speakers, demonstrations, social occasions and outings.

The Election of committee then took place. Pauline would continue as Chairperson; Janet resigned as Vice Chairperson after 60 years of being involved with the group. Caroline was elected in her place. All other committee member were re-elected with the exception of Pat Fox who was replaced with Eileen Brightman for selling raffle tickets.

The highlight of our last session was when we celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the formation of the group in 1964. All members enjoyed a delicious Afternoon Tea at 'The Woburn' in beautiful surroundings.

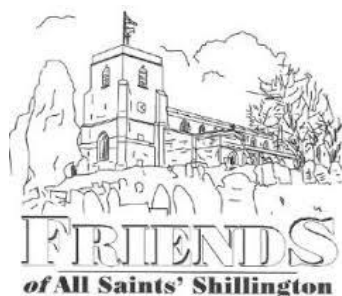


At our A.G.M. we again celebrated our anniversary with an anniversary cake made by Pauline and a glass of 'fizz'. A member's partner came and took a group photo of us all. Unfortunately 6 members were on holiday and so missed the photo shoot.

As we were in possession of the minutes of the formation of the Group these were read out. Members were surprised at how much prices have changed. Membership fees in 1964 were 2 Shillings & 6d. Each meeting we paid 9d and visitors could attend for 1 Shilling.

We are now on a summer break but look forward to resuming the Group in September when we hope to welcome back old and any new members who would like to join us. We will also have another different programme planned for 2024/2025 session.

HOLDING ON..... TO OUR PRECIOUS CHURCH ON THE HILL



My name is Andy Gibbs and I would like to introduce myself as the new Chairman of the Friends. My wife, Cheryl and I are newcomers to the village having moved here, from Hitchin, in March 2020. However, we feel very much at home in Shillington, which has been a very welcoming and enjoyable place to live.

My first 'duty' is to thank and congratulate Peter Lambert on his excellent stewardship of the Friends committee over the last few years. He and Maggie will be much missed by the whole village and I am sure you will join me in wishing them well for the future.

Secondly, I would like to thank the rest of the committee who have offered me their support in my role as chairman. The excellence of the committee together with the loyal support of the Friends' membership and the village community in general certainly helped me to agree to taking on the role.

I am delighted to be able to update you on the wonderful support from **The Crown**, who have made us their charity for the year. They have already donated well over £1,000 raised from their charity breakfasts, dog walk and quiz nights, for which we are very grateful. Do keep up with their events on the village events calendar

<https://shillington-hub.org.uk/calendar/> or on the Friends and Crown Facebook pages.



Our next major restoration project is the replacement of the eroded stonework around the north door, which will begin in June. We also hope to complete further repairs to the graveyard wall. Before, during and after photos will be available on the Friends' website so you will be able to see exactly how your generous donations are spent.



Events: - The Friends will have a much larger presence at **Shillingfest** this year. Let us all hope for fine weather on the **29th of June**. After that we have a **Bear Hunt** on the **8th of September** and then the much-anticipated return of **Joy to the World** on the weekend of **18-19th October**. If you would like to join the choir or get involved in JTTW please contact Joy Robinson jcmr@hotmail.co.uk

And finally, if you would like to support the work of the Friends in looking after our beloved Church on the Hill there is a form on the next page.

Many thanks,

Andy Gibbs, Friends of All Saints' Church (bazwell2@gmail.com)

If you would like to make a donation and receive regular updates on the work of

Friends of All Saints' Church, Shillington

THERE ARE 2 EASY WAYS TO PAY:

1. You can make a donation by cheque/post

I/we enclose a donation of £..... to Friends of All Saints' Church, Shillington for the current year.

Name

Home address

.....

email address

I would like Friends of All Saints to be able to reclaim tax on my donation (see below):

(Yes / No) (Please delete as appropriate)

Signed..... Date

Please return this form, signed, together with your donation, to the Membership Secretary of Friends of All Saints' Church:

Joy Robertson, 18 Vicarage Close, Shillington SG5 3LS

Or

If you'd prefer to pay online:

HSBC, Friends of All Saints Church, sort code: 40 24 20, a/c No. 71596985

How we can ADD 25% to your donation. Under tax legislation, the Friends can recover some of the income tax you pay on any of your taxable income. In allowing us to recover this tax, you must have paid, or be due to pay, an amount of income tax at least equal to that we will be able to reclaim on your donation, this being 25p for every £1 you give.

In order for us to reclaim this very valuable bonus to our income, you need do nothing at all except sign and tick the box above to confirm that you are a taxpayer. We thank you in advance if you are able and prepared to do this.

Alternatively, donations can be made via the QR code below.





D-DAY 80

Moment of Reflection

Saturday 8th June

10:40 for 11:00 Start

**Please gather inside the
War Memorial garden**

**Photo display afterwards
in the Village Hall.**



*Raffle
& Pimms*



*Strawberry
Teas*

Sunday 9th June

at All Saints

Church, Shillington

3:00 - 5:00pm



***For tickets, please call
Denise - 07414513683***

***£8 Adults includes strawberries and
cream, two cakes of your choice and
tea/coffee***

£4 Children under 12

All Saints'
Church
Shillington



SHILLINGTON & DISTRICT CLASSIC VEHICLE GROUP

Tuesday fortnightly summer meetings supporting our local community pub:

THE MUSGRAVE ARMS, APSLEY END ROAD, SHILLINGTON, SG5 3LX

*Arrive anytime, most enthusiasts congregate from 6pm onwards and stay until late.
Meetings take place on Tuesdays every 2 weeks until the end of September.*

*Bring along an interesting car, motorcycle, light commercial or 3-wheeler.
Even if you don't have a suitable vehicle, come to have a look and a chat.
These get togethers are informal and for all the family, the aim is to have a fun evening
with like-minded people.*

Why not join our lively WhatsApp Group?
Just contact **Zara** on **07860-646323** for more information.

DATES FOR 2024:

June - 4th & 18th ☺ July - 2nd, 16th & 30th ☺
August - 13th & 27th ☺ September - 10th



PIRTON TENNIS CLUB



Now the longer, warmer days are here, and with Wimbledon just around the corner – how about some tennis?

Pirton Tennis Club welcomes players of all ages and levels, especially women and juniors.

Club nights are on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 7 pm where play is relaxed and friendly.

We have teams in local leagues for those looking for a more competitive game.
Our own coach (Olga) provides group and individual lessons for all ages and standards of play (including beginners).

We also have an active social life with walks to local pubs and Christmas Dinners and are currently planning a week-end tournament and Open Day with Pizza and a BBQ.

For more information please contact **Graeme Low** (☎ **07733-334479**)

graeme@lows.myzen.couk



THE FRIENDLY PLACE


(Spring and Summer schedule from 15th April 2024)

At the Congregational Church, Shillington

**Mondays, 10.00 am to 12.00
noon** (closed Easter Monday and 8th April)

Join us for tea, coffee, cakes and friendly chat.
No charge but small donations are welcome!
We may be able to offer a lift if you need it.

Hosted by Linda and Trish of All Saints' Church and Angus
and Nola of the Congregational Church Shillington.
For more information you can call Linda 01462 711761
or Trish on 07754760073



VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE - UPDATE

(Registered charity no: 300066)



The long-awaited replacement of the flat roof on the side and rear of the hall and the eight dormer windows have now been completed and how nice to see how good it all looks, providing a much needed refurbishment to this old and valued village building.

We are very grateful for the funding from Central Beds Council and Shillington Parish Council which, together with Shillington Village Hall reserves, made it possible to undertake the work. Special thanks also to those who supported our successful bid applications including Cllr. Blake Stephenson.

We've also been very fortunate with support from the family of the late Mrs. Audrey Nellis – a lovely lady who enjoyed living in the village with its great community spirit. She wanted to support village charities and her family nominated both the Village Hall and the Playing Field as recipients of any donations from her funeral service on 14th May. We are very grateful for these kind donations.

We have a list of smaller projects that we would like to complete to bring the hall up to date and have already installed updated CCTV cameras. A new website will be launched shortly and we are looking at other fundraising to make further works a reality. A couple of events already in the pipeline:

Saturday, 7th December – the very popular **FYNNIUS FOGG** (legendary 70's pop group and charity band) return to the village with a great evening to look forward – more details on how to get your tickets in later editions of this magazine.

Autumn - another chance to see the village old picture collection (thank you Andy Gibbs). Date to be confirmed.

If you would like to join our committee or support us in any way, please let us know.

SHILLINGTON SPITFIRES CRICKET CLUB - 2024 GAMES

Opposition	Date	Location	Game Format
Flitwick IVs CC	Sunday 16 th June	Home	40 overs
King's Cross CC	Sunday 23 rd June	Home	40 overs
Saracens CC	Sunday 14 th July	Home	40 overs
Watton-at-Stone CC	Sunday 28 th July	TBC	40 overs
Silsoe CC	Sunday 1 st September	Home	40 overs
Pirton CC	Sunday 15 th September	Away	40 overs
Pirton CC	Sunday 22 nd September	Home	40 overs
Pirton CC	Sunday 29 th September	Away	40 overs

*Don't forget to come and support us in our first home game on **Sunday, 16th June** – the first game played on Shillington soil over many years.*

RAMBLING ON with DEREK TURNER

☎ 01462-712462

derek.turner@phonecoop.coop



Walking our local public rights of way has become more popular than ever, but with rising spring temperatures leading to rapid vegetation growth following heavy winter rain that caused flooding and deep mud, some of our footpaths and bridleways have become more challenging to use of late. However, just when you'd hope that the Central Bedfordshire Council Rights of Way team would allocate more resources to remedy these issues, their funding has been cut.

The Council's 2024-5 budget, according to its website "is under huge financial pressure due to substantial increases in costs, particularly in Children's Services and Adult Social Care. Meanwhile, inflation has been running at nearly 10 per cent for a whole year. Faced with a big gap between the council's income, and the cost of services, the council had to make some difficult decisions so it can continue to provide the vital services to support the most vulnerable". The difficulty in providing all the services that people need has manifested itself in various ways with the introduction of the charge for collecting garden waste being one of them.

Recently, I met Michelle Flynn, the CBC footpath officer who covers this area, to discuss the situation. Like her colleagues, she is hoping to recruit teams of volunteers to bridge the funding gap by carrying out some of the smaller and simpler jobs. An example of this is cutting back brambles and branches as well as trimming nettles and other vegetation that has grown rapidly in the conditions and encroached on the paths. Replacing broken waymark posts is another thing that volunteers can do along with digging gullies and levelling the ground to prevent water accumulating in large puddles.



Some of us have been here before. In the 1990s, we formed Shillington Conservation Volunteers, initially to carry out good deeds for wildlife by enhancing habitats. We set about planting trees, laying hedges, cleaning out ponds that had silted up and clearing bushes from areas where wildflowers were being shaded out.



When the Parish Paths Partnership (P3) was introduced a little later to help people improve the countryside path network, we agreed to join it. Shillington became one of dozens of parishes in the county where it operated and our team was one of the most productive.

We have more field paths than most other parishes in the old county of Bedfordshire and we made them some of the easiest and best to use for miles around. There were several bridges missing at the time but the biggest problem for walkers in Shillington itself was the large number of stiles that stood where footpaths crossed field boundaries.



They were very common and one of the old photographs in the village collection even shows one on the bridleway between Hanscombe End and the church - the Ash Path as older residents might call it - on the bridge where it crosses the brook. At this time, farmers kept far more cattle than now and stiles were the traditional means of preventing them escaping while allowing access for walkers - at least for those who were agile and fit enough to clamber over them. This was also a time before keeping horses for a hobby became popular.



With Bedfordshire County Council (as it was at the time) footing the cost and the agreement of many of the landowners and farmers, our merry band dismantled most of the stiles and installed wooden kissing gates in their place. These opened up routes through the fields for more people including those carrying small children, walking dogs or able to walk but unable to scale the stiles. Since then, keeping cattle has become less profitable, some of the pastures are ungrazed and some of the kissing gates we put in are now redundant or have been removed. The remainder stop horses from escaping now.

Many of those who joined me on these tasks have moved away or, like me, aged considerably since then. Sadly, a few have passed away. If we want our paths to remain in top condition, we'll need more people to get involved including some of you who may not have done this kind of thing before.

Could you devote a little time to assist? It's good exercise in the open air and fun if you're part of a lively team. You'll get whatever guidance and support you need. If this might be for you, please get in touch with me to discuss how you could get involved and when. With enough support, we can make Shillington's paths great again.



I hope to hear from you soon.



TALKING OF VOLUNTEERING.....

One or two village organisations have trustees who have been serving on their committees over many years but, like Derek and me, getting on a bit now and wondering who's going to step up when we step down!! It would be great to get some new, younger, fitter (and more enthusiastic) folk lined up for when such times/life events are finally upon us.

*From other articles in this edition, Parish Council is looking to set up CERT (**Community Emergency Response Team**) – made up of village folk with skills to help out when the community encounters emergencies which need an immediate response. Hopefully local businesses offering suitable support will step up for this one.*

We had an amazing response from all sorts of folk in the village with SHILLINGTON HELP when COVID took over our lives – such kind people happy to help out neighbours in trouble. Some of those who stepped up continue to do so.

We continue to have Shillington Care, with kind folk at the end of a phone more than happy to transport people to hospital or doctor's surgery, pick up prescriptions, fill out forms or change a light bulb... all volunteers with little expectation of reward. Most members are of retirement age and of course with a little more time on their hands, but always happy for younger volunteers.

Revd. Angus is running the donations for the Foodbank, making collections and transporting much needed supplies to Bedford on a weekly basis bless him. He won't thank me for saying this but again he's not the spring chicken he once was! Derek is now looking to set up a group to tackle our great footpath network, he can't do this alone – a good opportunity to meet new folk and feel you're doing something useful for the community.

Not normally one for blowing my own trumpet.... being born in Shillington I've been getting stuck in to most things since I was old enough to get involved.....I've been a Parish Councillor for 36 years (retired at last year's local elections); Parish News editor since 1995; serving on both Village Hall and Playing Field Committees for over 40 years (and still am); AND I held down a full time job until I retired at the end of 2017 aged 67.

So none of those excuses "well I've got a full time job so don't have much time".... sit well with me. Currently I'm also involved in co-ordinating Shillingfest and the annual Fireworks but won't be here forever.

I appreciate that younger folk do have families as well as that full time job, and it's a shame we have to wait until retirement before people have more time to 'get involved'.... But...most folk love living here and hope the village and lovely community spirit continue to shine but it can't be left to us 'old fogies' forever. There are plenty of younger folk who would benefit from learning more about the village and all it has to offer.

So this year I'm looking out for volunteers... it's all very well writing about it and sitting back, fingers crossed, hoping folk will step up, but I'll be looking to pounce on likely candidates if spotted hiding in the hedgerows... so be warned! 😊

Sally Stapleton



MORE THAN 150 HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES PLANNED ACROSS CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE

We have released our Highways Annual Plan for 2024/25 featuring over 150 improvement schemes throughout Central Bedfordshire.

The schemes include road surfacing enhancements, pavement maintenance, drainage schemes, street lighting upgrades, and bridge works. More than 50 schemes relate to road safety improvements, including speed reduction, traffic calming measures, and the provision of disabled parking bays. Additionally, there are 17 schemes relating to rights of way improvements.



To ensure that resource is being allocated in the right place, we use a data-led approach. This involves assessing the condition of roads, pavements and other highways assets, their repair history, the types of road, and the local infrastructure it supports such as emergency services, critical utilities, public transport facilities, education providers, and employment hubs. As well as carrying out the planned schemes, we'll continue to carry out reactive repairs for issues reported via Fix My Street or identified through our regular inspection routes. In 2023/24, we repaired over 2,000 potholes, cleaned 23,000 gullies, and fixed more than 1,000 streetlights.

Annual highways plan for Central Bedfordshire

We maintain a vast network of road, over 1,400km in total, together with a large footway network. In addition to this, our highways team maintains over 220 bridges and structures, 23,000 streetlights, pedestrian crossings, drainage, traffic lights and signs along the road network. Our team also manages improvement schemes including speed limits, traffic calming measures and parking services. We also look after other public rights of way, such as footpaths and bridleways.

Our annual plan shows the numerous highways schemes we intend to implement between 2024 and 2025 including:

- *structural maintenance*
- *drainage*
- *street lighting*
- *major schemes such as new roads*
- *bridges and structures*

More details can be found on Central Bedfordshire Council website



SHILLINGTON CHILDMINDERS

Childminders provide safe, friendly home environments for children to play and have fun whilst gently learning through their play. We take children on outings to farms, play centres, splash parks, museums and libraries, as well as teach them life skills such as helping to do shopping, gardening and cooking.

We are individually registered to Ofsted, have public liability insurance, follow the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum, undertake regular training including Safeguarding and First Aid and receive regular newsletters and bulletins from professional organisations.

We provide the children with opportunities to learn social skills and experience different play resources at baby/toddler groups and other settings. We are able to cover holidays and other absences for each other where possible.

Some of us are able to provide up to 15 hours of free childcare a week for eligible 2 year olds, as soon as care starts, in the same way that nurseries and pre-schools can. We are also able to provide the free sessions for all 3 and 4 year olds; at least 15 hours per week or up to 30 hours per week (for 38 weeks of the year) depending on parental eligibility and the childminder's policy. The free sessions normally start the term after the child's 3rd birthday. There may be additional charges to cover e.g. food and outings.

We each have differing childcare availability such as before and after school care, daytime childcare, overnight childcare, ad-hoc care or flexible care e.g. for shift workers.

Please contact us as below if you have any childcare requirements for now or the future:

<p>Katie Brettell 07974-676089 katiebrettell@icloud.com</p>	<p>Carli Mauger 07912-549931 carlimauger@gmail.com</p>	<p>Deb Pateman 07934-480446 debpateman@msn.com</p>
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PIXIES Pre-School



FOR LITTLE LEARNERS WITH BIG IDEAS!

Pixies Pre-School is run and managed by the school, we take children from 2 years until they start in Reception class, and we work closely to provide a smooth transition into school.

Children can start in Pixies class when they are ready to be in a pre-school environment.

We offer:

- ☺ A vibrant and fun classroom
- ☺ Qualified, dedicated, and experienced staff
- ☺ Fantastic outdoor area providing stimulating learning experiences
- ☺ We provide a range of imaginative and stimulating learning activities
- ☺ 15 & 30 hour funding

Come and see our fantastic new building. Tours are available, contact the school office.



Outdoor Explorers



Outdoor Explorers is our Monday morning adventure where we encourage all children to appreciate the natural world whilst developing their confidence, self-esteem and help create more independent learners inspiring our children about the great outdoors.

The sessions are run outside on the school field by our staff, come rain or shine.

Limited spaces are available.
Please contact the school office
for more information.

For more information, please contact us at:

Shillington Lower School

Greenfields, Shillington, Nr Hitchin, SG5 3NX

Tel: 01462 711637 Email: office@shillingtonlower.co.uk

www.shillingtonstondon.co.uk

“FAIRIES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GARDEN”

Donna's Garden Designs - ☎ 07833-670934



The garden is a riot of colour and fragrance. After all that relentless rain the real heat of the glowing sun is making everything grow at such a relentless speed.

One of my favourite flowers is the Hollyhock. Quintessentially, the cottage garden plant. It comes in an array of colours and looks like it's straight out of a painting from a chocolate box. Its graceful, tall spires tower over the other plants in the bed. It nods in the breeze as if dancing in the midsummer sunshine. Chubby bumble bees nestle their way into their trumpet like flowers. Buzzing from one flower to the next. So busy in their work. No time to stop and chat. Focusing on the job to be done!

Hollyhocks are easy to grow. Flowering from early summer straight through to Autumn. They often self-set and will randomly pop up in the most unexpected places. Also, surprising you with what colour they will bloom with their delicate crepe paper like petals. The fig leaf variety are less prone to rust. Alcea, the latin name, is a genus of over 80 species of flowering plants. Native to Asia and Europe. In the Victorian era they symbolised ambition. Quite apt really as they strive for the top!

I have seen how people pick the flowers and place the petals upside down as if they were fairies' dresses and then with a cocktail stick attach a bud for the head! I love this sort of quirky thing! It adds even more enchantment to the garden. Just a hint that your garden is escapism, not only from the busy modern world, but escaping into another world far more inviting and beautiful.

My Great Uncle Gordon, also a gardener and the most lovely man, often would talk of fairies at the bottom of his garden. As a little girl this fascinated me and I longed to see them. Even now I work on designs at the bottom of my garden completely surrounded by my plants and the magic they permeate and where I glean my most inspiration for designs.



So when sitting quietly in your garden just for a minute or two drift off into another magical world. It is divine!

Donna x

JOBS IN THE GARDEN FOR JUNE

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">✂ Weed and deadhead regularly✂ Keep an eye out for pests✂ Mow lawns regularly and keep on top of hedges✂ Give lawn a liquid boost if looking tired✂ Pot on young plants and seedlings✂ Pinch out side shoots on tomatoes | <ul style="list-style-type: none">✂ Pack bedding plants into gaps to give an extra wow factor✂ Mulch beds to keep moisture in and suppress weeds✂ Water in hot spells and don't let pots dry out✂ Plant out veg and plants from seed – it's not too late!✂ Protect brassicas from birds and butterflies |
|---|---|

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DECISIONS from CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL:

CB/23/02764/FULL – 17 Upton End Road.
Erection of a new detached dwelling with associated works. Demolition of existing detached garage and erection of replacement garage. **REFUSED**

CB/24/00755/FULL – 125 High Road
Proposed new garage building. **GRANTED**

CB/23/03922/FULL – Chibley Farm, Stondon Road
Conversion of the existing small barn into a single dwelling and associated works. **GRANTED**

CB/24/00695/FULL – 21 Marquis Hill
Widening of dropped kerb to form combined access for No. 21 & 23 **GRANTED**

DISCUSSED BY PC BUT AWAITING A CBC DECISION:

Appeal: APP/P0240/D/24/3338477.
re CBC refusal of application CB/23/03449/FULL – 20 Hillfoot Road.
First floor infill link extension including the raising of the roof of the existing side extension. Erection of a 1.5 storey side extension following the demolition of existing single storey flat roof extension. New pitched roof dormer to flank elevation following removal of existing dormer.
PC supported original application. NO FURTHER COMMENT

Appeal: APP/P0240/W/23/3330197
re CBC refusal of application CB/23/01499/FULL
The Old Rectory, Higham Gobion.
Erection of workshop outbuilding.
PC opposed original application. NO FURTHER COMMENT

CB/TCA/24/00189 – 66 High Road
Works to trees within a Conservation Area:
Up to a 6m reduction to Conifer Tree. **SUPPORT**

Appeal: APP/P0240/D/24/3340238
re CBC refusal of application: CB/23/03275/FULL. 126-128 Bury Road
Erection of a detached two storey sustainable dwelling together with a new vehicular access, parking and turning area, and associated private garden, landscaping and boundary treatment.
PC opposed original application. SUPPORT

VILLAGE FACILITIES

SHILLINGTON SOCIAL CLUB

Greenfields, Shillington ☎ 07826-518667 (Gavin)



- ☺ Meat Raffle every Saturday with proceeds to the Pavilion Refurbishment
- ☺ Local Free Range Eggs now available

BAND NIGHTS:

- ☺ *Saturday, 29th June - Free State Revolution - 9pm*
- ☺ *Friday, 19th July - Bu Bounce - 8pm*

CURRENT OPENING TIMES:

- ★ Mondays: 7.30pm-11.00pm ★ Thursdays: 7.30pm-11.00pm ★
- ★ Fridays: 7.30pm-11.00pm ★
- ★ Saturdays: 12 noon - 8.00pm ★ Sundays 12 noon-8.00pm ★

LICENSING POLICY:

Children aged 16 and under are welcome with an appropriate adult until 9pm on any day we are open. Social Club Committee



SHILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

All enquiries please contact:

the **BOOKING CLERK** on ☎ **07376-682935**

e-mail: shillingtonvillagehall@yahoo.com

*Large Hall - Stage - Small Meeting Room - Kitchen & Bar Facilities - Disabled Access & Toilet.
Fund raising Clothing Collection Bank in Car Park.*

- ★ **Children's Parties** ★ **Discos/Dances** ★ **Meetings** ★ **Toddler Groups** ★
- ★ **Indoor Bowls** ★ **Exhibitions** ★ **Circuit Training** ★ **Karate** ★

The Car Park (when not in use by hall bookers) can be hired for events where village parking is limited.

The Village Hall Committee would politely request residents making use of the Car Park for overnight parking to please note (see booking sheet on Notice Board) that Hall Hirers take priority for parking for their bookings, if you could ensure you are not occupying the car park during these times.

Thank you ☺



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS



CBC's trading standards department has provided the following numbers, to assist residents in identifying doorstep cold callers, purporting to be from energy or water companies, and enable checks with these organization if any reason for concern.

British Gas	General Enquiries	0800 048 0202
EDF Energy	Customer services	0800 096 9000
National Gas	Emergency Service Helpline	0800-111-999
npower	General Enquiries (landline)	0800 073 3000
	General Enquiries (mobile)	0330 100 3000
ScottishPower	General Customer Service (landline)	0800 027 0072
	General Customer Service (mobile)	0345 270 0700
SSE	General Enquiries	0800 980 8831
Anglian Water		0800 145 145
UK Power Networks	To report or get info on power cuts Text POWER and your postcode to 80876 www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk	National number 105

Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford Bedfordshire, SG17 5TQ. (www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)	
General enquiries	0300 300 8000 (customer.services@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)
Highways/Emergencies on the roads (fallen trees, etc). 24-hour emergency team	0300-300-8049
Dog Fouling/animal welfare	0300-300-8302
Flooding	0300-300-8049
Planning	0300-300-8307
Recycling/Flytipping	0300-300-8302
Police (Emergency)	999
Bedfordshire Police (non-Emergency)	101
Bus Information	0870-608-2608 or 01234-228337
Shillington Services (Martin Brogan) for washing machine repairs, etc... ..	07975-944394
High Road Stores/Post Office.....	0345 722 3344
The Crown Inn.....	01462-711667
The Musgrave Arms (Giuseppe).....	07739-864634 / pub 01462-712789
The View (formerly Live & Let Live).....	01582-882555

Parish Councillors – contact details:

John Hyde 07799-537346	Gavin Jenkins 07826-518667	Liam Keene 07867-993393	Angus McCormick 01462-712096	Richa Mitra via the Clerk
Annie Palmer via the Clerk	Tracey Petrie via the Clerk	Blake Stephenson 0300-300-8526	Mark Thyne 01462-712201	Derek Turner 01462-712462

VILLAGE CALENDAR

JUNE

- 1 Social Club – Hayley Vintner Darts Memorial Day – in aid of MND
- 1 Men's Club – Visit to Narrow Gauge Steam Railway
- 2 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10.30am
- 4 Parish Council Meeting – Congregational Church – 7.45pm
- 5 Shillingfest24 Meeting – Social Club – 8pm.
- 8 D-Day 80th Years – Service of Reflection @ The War Memorial – 11am
- 9 Congregational Church Service – Mrs. Sandra Galton – 10.30am
- 9 All Saints Church – Strawberry Cream Teas – 3-5pm
- 12 Men's Club – Evening Meal @ The View, Pegsdon
- 16 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10.30am
- 19 Men's Club – Lunch Time Social @ The Musgrave
- 22 Men's Club – Visit to Pickwillow Engine Museum, Ely
- 23 Congregational Church Service – Mrs. Hazel Beadle – 10.30am
- 29 Shillingfest 24 – Memorial Playing Field – 1pm to 4.30pm
- 29 Social Club – Band Night with Free State Revolution from 9pm
- 30 Congregational Church Joint Service with All Saints – Mrs. Sandra Hare – 10.30am

JULY

- 2 Parish Council Meeting – Congregational Church – 7.45pm
- 7 Congregational Church Service – Mrs. Sandra Galton – 10.30am
- 8 Playing Field Management Committee Meeting – Social Club – 8pm
- 14 Congregational Church Service – Henneke Cook, Missionary – 10.30am
- 17 Village Hall Management Committee – AGM – 7.30pm
- 19 Social Club – Band Night with BuBounce from 8pm
- 21 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10.30am
- 24 Men's Club – Garden Party with Partners
- 25 All Saints Church – Licensing Service of Revd. Jenna Dearden – 7.30pm
- 28 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10.30am

AUGUST

- 4 All Saints Church – Evensong with Revd. Jenna Dearden – 6pm
- 29 Social Club – Band Night with Free State Revolution from 9pm

The **PARISH NEWS** is a voluntary community paper produced by **Sally Stapleton**, published by **Lonsdale Print Solutions Limited (01933-233034)** web: www.lonsdaleps.co.uk and sponsored by Advertisers and Shillington Parish Council.

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www.shillington-hub.org.uk