

# PARISH NEWS

covering  
**SHILLINGTON, PEGSDON & HIGHAM GOBION**

## **SHILLINGTON FIREWORKS SPECTACULAR!**

**SATURDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2026**

**THE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELDS SHILLINGTON**

**5PM 'TIL MIDNIGHT FIREWORKS FROM 7PM**

### **TICKET PRICE DEALS**

#### **BUY ONLINE**

Adult: £9.00

Child (16yrs & under): £5.00

Family (2x Adults & 2x Children 16yrs & under): £20.00

#### **BUY ON THE NIGHT**

Adult: £12.00

Child (16yrs & under): £8.00

Family (2x Adults & 2x Children 16yrs & under): £30.00

**ONLINE TICKETS WEBSITE: [SHILLINGTONFIREWORKS.CO.UK](http://SHILLINGTONFIREWORKS.CO.UK)**

- **BBQ**
- **STALLS**
- **DRINKS**
- **LIVE BAND**
- **FUN FAMILY EVENING**
- **SPECTACULAR DISPLAY**

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**Issue 186 – OCTOBER 2026**

***Deadline for December edition – Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2026***

## PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council does not usually meet in August but did so this year to take more comments from local people about future development in the village. As part of the next Local Plan, landowners and developers had suggested 18 sites in the parish to Central Bedfordshire Council as suitable for housing or other uses up to 2050. The public consultation we held early in August attracted 67 parishioners and 24 came to the extraordinary meeting on 11 August, making many useful comments.

The Chairman reminded the meetings that the sewage works operating at full capacity and unsuitable access onto the existing road network were not reasons on their own to turn down sites as these problems could be remedied before they were built. Nevertheless, those present found many other reasons that made most sites unsuitable and only one of them attracted many favourable comments. Site 135297 (Bowles Garage) has the potential to accommodate development, although the scale and density should be appropriate to the character of the village and respect the village green opposite and the streetscape. We must emphasise that we are not aware of any plans to close or relocate the valued local business based there. Site 136558 next to 141 High Rd had been proposed for bungalows previously but turned down, among other reasons, because there was no pedestrian link to the village. The site might become viable if this could be overcome.

Housing was also discussed at the September meeting when two staff members from the Bedfordshire Rural Community Charity (BRCC) attended to discuss affordable housing in rural areas. House prices have outgrown incomes for many years in places like Shillington leading to many young people moving away as they cannot afford to buy or rent a home, even those who work locally. BRCC offer a Rural Housing Enabler service that acts as a neutral intermediary between councils, land-owners and housing associations to find a way forward. We received a quotation a few days later for them to carry out a Housing Needs Survey which Parish Councillors will discuss at their next meeting on Thursday, 1 October at 7.45pm at the Village Hall. We'll be pleased to hear from anyone who has been affected by this and had to move away or who may be affected in years to come. Come along to the meeting or if you can't make it, have a word with one of the councillors.

Many of the Council's contracts are due to expire in April 2027 and councillors were asked if they would like them to be retendered before then. It was agreed that the current contracts for amenity management and highway verge maintenance, grass cutting at the war memorial and grounds maintenance and litter collection at the playing field are all operating well and the current contractors would be invited to continue for another year. Several hedgerows around the village are not being maintained by land owners who are responsible for them and the council is contacting them to seek a resolution.

*For all Parish Council issues, please contact:*

**Miss Lauren Darnell, Clerk to the Parish Council**

**☎ 01462-713224**

**email: [clerk@shillington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@shillington-pc.gov.uk)**

**<https://shillington-pc.gov.uk>**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS / ITEMS / NEWS IN BRIEF

## 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** ☎ **01462-711594** or leave a message. If there is a delay on this number then ☎ **07930-812940**



## ACT OF REMEMBRANCE & WREATH LAYING

SUNDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

### Congregational Church & War Memorial



10:00 – Church Service at Congregational Church

10.45 – Procession from Church to War Memorial for Wreath Laying Ceremony

*Parish Council has requested official road closures during this period.*

*Management of pedestrians by our Streetwatch volunteers.*

*Attendees at the Memorial are requested to gather in and around the Memorial during the wreath laying, outdoor service and blessing where possible. Thank you.*

*All are invited back to the Village Hall following the Wreath Laying for light refreshments provided by our WI and display of old photos from “The Village Collection” courtesy of Andy Gibbs.*

*Contact **Shirley McGrath** ☎ **07702-009781** if you haven’t already booked your wreath and would like one. Please let Lauren (Clerk to Parish Council) know if you would like to lay a wreath at the Memorial.*



A Big **THANK YOU** to Shillington Care volunteers  
for being so helpful in recent weeks  
with transport to the hospital for my wife Nola.

Much appreciated. Angus



## Village Hall – Wine Tasting Fundraiser – 26 September



*Thanks to all who joined us for our wine tasting event on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> September. We had the most enjoyable evening in great company. A good selection of wines (courtesy of **Joe Olding** – sommelier) accompanied by lovely cheese charcuteries from **Jo @ Discolicious**. Grateful thanks too for the kind donations to our funds at the end of the evening. We hope to run a similar event next year.*  
*Special thanks to Village Hall supporters: **Mags, Katie, Lauren, Katarina and Sally** for wine waitressing duties !!*



# All Saints Church

## Gravenhurst and Shillington

[www.allsaintsshillington.org.uk](http://www.allsaintsshillington.org.uk)



Autumn Greetings from All Saints!

The harvest has been gathered in, the rain finally arrived and the landscape is changing once more. Despite the recent abundance of green we can see, the colours are still changing, the leaves are dropping and Autumn is here. It is a season of change and shift as we move into a different time of year. I am writing this on a very rainy day in September which seems so different from the heady warmth of the summer!

There is a wonderful reading in the Bible from the book of Ecclesiastes, chapter 3, where the author writes that "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven". We are reminded that in amongst all the change we see, and experience, there is time for it all and within that there is something of God.

Amongst the verses, we are read, that there is 'a time to plant and a time to uproot', 'a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance', and 'a time to tear down and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak'. There is time for so much, reflecting our everchanging lives. Sometimes change we don't want and sometimes change we do. Christians believe that in all of life's changes, God is present, offering goodness and love in all his generosity.

This is reflected not only in a time of dancing and the celebration of God's generosity at Harvest Thanksgiving, but also in the quieter more reflective time of November, when God's comfort and peace is sought in a time of mourning. God in it all.

All Saints' Church is open every day and everyone is welcome to come into the church to enjoy the space, a place of peace and prayer or join any of the services. We look forward to seeing you.

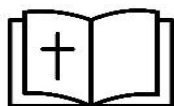
Every Blessing

*Revd Jenna Dearden*

**Email: [revjennadearden@gmail.com](mailto:revjennadearden@gmail.com)**

**Mobile: ☎07708 666612**





All are very welcome to services at All Saints in October & November!

### **SERVICES IN OCTOBER**

4 October 9.30am Holy Communion  
No Evensong  
11 October 9.30am Harvest Thanksgiving  
(with Holy Communion)  
6pm Evensong (and blessing of  
the Lantern at 6.30pm)  
18 October 9.30am Morning Praise  
25 October *No Service at All Saints*  
10am Joint Benefice Service at St.  
Peter's, Arlesey with Bishop Richard

### **SERVICES IN NOVEMBER**

1 November 9.30am Holy Communion  
5pm Evensong (NB earlier time)  
4 November 7.30pm All Souls Memorial Service  
8 November Remembrance Sunday Service at  
Congregational Church and Village  
Act of Remembrance.  
*No Service at All Saints*  
15 November 9.30am Morning Praise  
22 November 9.30am All Age Holy Communion  
29 November 10am Joint Service at  
Congregational Church  
*No Service at All Saints*  
5pm Advent Carol Service at All Saints

### **HARVEST LUNCH AND AUCTION HOSTED BY ALL SAINTS CHURCH**

Sunday 11 October 2026 at 12.30 pm - Tickets £10 (£5 for children)  
For tickets please call: Liz on 07963 199383 or Denise 07414 513683

### **BLESSING OF THE LANTERN**

Sunday 11 October 2026 at 6.30 pm

Following on from Evensong (at 6.00 pm) we will gather outside to bless the refurbished lantern over the steps. Please join us for Evensong or outside at 6.30 pm.

### **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS**

**Advent Carol Service** on Sunday 29 November at 5.00 pm  
**Christmas Fayre** on Saturday 5 December 2026 at the Village Hall, 12.00 noon – 3.30 pm  
**Christmas Carol Service** on Thursday 17 December at 7.30 pm  
**Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve** on Thursday 24 December at 11.30 pm  
**Christmas Day Holy Communion** at 9.30 am

### **THINKING AHEAD TO 2027**

**All Saints' Church Flower Festival - Saturday 5 June & June 6 June**

Calling all organisations to create an amazing flower display!  
If you are interested in getting involved, please email [revjennadearden@gmail.com](mailto:revjennadearden@gmail.com)  
Look for more details in the months to come.

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*Please see the Friends page for their forthcoming events.*

### **200 CLUB WINNERS**

| <b>AUGUST</b>   |     |         |              | <b>SEPTEMBER</b> |     |         |                    |
|-----------------|-----|---------|--------------|------------------|-----|---------|--------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | £50 | No. 069 | Julia Moss   | 1 <sup>st</sup>  | £50 | No. 062 | Catherine Scleater |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | £25 | No. 115 | Steve Layton | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | £25 | No. 037 | David King         |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | £10 | No. 074 | Derek Wilson | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | £10 | No. 188 | Sue Malamatinas    |

For further information contact: **Tim Watson** ☎ **01462-711123**

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## NO PHOTOS

*by Revd. Angus McCormick* ☎ 01462-712096

**Minister of Shillington Congregationalist Church**

Wow! How often I get shown some lovely photos from friends of someone or something that they wish to share. It's so easy when you have all the photos on your mobile phone. My phone gives me options of looking back on years ago on the same day and month in those years as well as sorting the photos into handy labelled files.



I suppose such a resource would help me if I ever needed to give an alibi for what I was doing a long time ago. Of course knowing my luck the days or dates under scrutiny would probably not be recorded anyhow. I don't think I have any reason to worry anyway since I live mostly by the rules!

So the other week someone shared some thoughts and memories with me of a holiday they had just been on. It was in fact a special pilgrimage. Quite personal and meaningful. An experience that was private and yet would last. No photos had been taken of the shrine which was the real focus of the pilgrimage. Quite a deliberate decision at the time not to take a photo.

It reminded me of how many poets have given such memories and shared feelings without photos or even sketches "I wandered lonely as a cloud.." etc. I also remembered personal times and special events which no photo could capture. The birth of a child; acts of love and kindness; praying at times with others.

Yes it can be wonderful and exciting to trace ancestors (perhaps) for some and even finding a photo that brings back a memory or brings forward an image that you would not otherwise have had. Even so I am reflecting on how important it can be and indeed vital to have another way of reflecting on and keeping some feelings, knowledge, and personal experiences available at any time without other means. I never do think I look like I appear in photos anyway!

So for a lot of people for example it matters not that there is no photo or drawing of Jesus Christ. The records we have of his life and work are sufficient to have built a meaningful relationship that influences their lives in a fulfilling way. Maybe it is important to remember at times that there is another way to go gently, kindly and thankful that some of the most meaningful times and experiences will remain without being photographed except in the eye of the beholder.

Enjoy the moments and make what memories you can.

I am also conscious that as we approach our national act of Remembrance so much is shared and remembered but without photos.



Every blessing, *Revd. Angus*



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH NEWS

47 Church Street, Shillington

[www.shillingtoncongregationalchurch.org.uk](http://www.shillingtoncongregationalchurch.org.uk)

*Led by God's love - welcoming all - serving our community*

## SERVICES:

All services commence at 10.30am unless otherwise stated. Visitors always most welcome. If you need to contact our Minister with any enquiries his number is **01462-712096**.



## MARRIAGE:



June Scott to Paul John Fisher

at the Congregational Church On 21<sup>st</sup> August 2026 - *"God's blessing on them"*.

## FRIENDLY PLACE:

The Friendly Place continues on a Monday - open from 10.00am to 12 noon. Come and enjoy company, friendship, chat, share tea, coffee, cakes and refreshments together. Everyone welcome, bring your knitting, reading or games if you wish.

## HARVEST THANKSGIVING:

Our Harvest service was held on Sunday 6th September and lead by our Minister. A wide variety grocery gifts were received for the Bedford Foodbank, in addition to monetary donations amounting to £150-00.

## BEDFORD FOODBANK:

Thank you to the local community for the continuing support of the Bedford Foodbank which is much appreciated. Without the support of individuals, community groups and organisations the Foodbank could not meet the increasing need in Bedford and the surrounding area.

### *Items currently in short supply:*

|                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Tinned Vegetables</i>     | <i>Jars of Coffee</i>            |
| <i>Tinned Rice Puddings</i>  | <i>Jars of Jam</i>               |
| <i>Long Life Fruit Juice</i> | <i>Cup-a-Soups</i>               |
| <i>500gm Microwave Rice</i>  | <i>Long Life Sponge Puddings</i> |
| <i>Sanitary Towels</i>       | <i>Laundry Tablets</i>           |

Collections can be left at **1 Bells Close** or at **The Congregational Church** when open.

## BIBLE SUNDAY - 20 SEPTEMBER 2026:



We marked 20 September as '**Bible Sunday**' – with the aim of comparing the many versions that members found they had at home. The number was wide ranging and many were found to be those awarded as prizes given to us when we were attending Sunday School when children. Some were older and had been owned in the family and passed to younger members of the family over the years. One was an Army New Testament given to a Grandfather when he enlisted into join the First World War. Many of the Bibles held memories about family members, special occasions, of local or national events, and loved ones too.



*"As October unfolds, may your spirit be as free as a leaf in the wind"*  
(unknown)

*"October air, complete with dancing leaves and sighing wind"*  
(Jaime Allison Parker)

After an amazing summer of sunny days and long evenings, Shillington WI is embracing Autumn. We have lots to look forward to over the next few months.

At the September meeting members brought along their favourite board games, many of which were new to those present. There was a lot of chat and laughter and the most popular games were added to a few shopping lists!



Shillington WI are holding a Multi-craft Taster evening in October. Members and visitors can try their hand at different crafts including making willow stars, knitting poppies (for a cascade in the Memorial Garden on Remembrance Sunday) and paper folding to create beautiful cards or pictures to frame.

In November we are looking forward to welcoming back Jennifer Hepworth. She will talk to us about her time as a flight attendant: "Life Behind the First Class Curtain". She'll tell us about the celebrities she met and what really went on behind the first class curtain!

December is going to be busy with so many exciting, fun events. On the 10<sup>th</sup> we will be entertained by the Military Wives Choir. An evening full of song and delicious seasonal nibbles.

The Lunch and Supper, Book, Walking and Knitting Clubs are certainly very popular.

Visitors are very welcome to our meetings. Do come and join us.

*For further information please contact:*

**Jo Carroll, President - ☎ 01462-711051 or [shillingtonwi@gmail.com](mailto:shillingtonwi@gmail.com)**

**Jacqui Turnbull, Secretary - [shillingtonwi@gmail.com](mailto:shillingtonwi@gmail.com)**

# **“SHE AIN'T HEAVY, SHE'S MY WHIPPET” !**

By **Annie Palmer** (*WI Ambassador for Climate Change*) [Anniepalmer74@gmail.com](mailto:Anniepalmer74@gmail.com)

To many the summer of 2026 will be remembered as being a scorcher. It even beat the famous summer of 1976. According to the Met Office, this year recorded an average daily maximum temperature of 21.3°C, beating the previous record of 21°C set exactly fifty years ago.



However, I will be remembering 2026 as the year of the broken hip. In June I bought a whippet puppy. Bess is a gorgeous, loving bundle of fun but she can be as crazy as a box of frogs. At the end of July, while walking her home, she saw something ‘tasty’ and took the shortest route between two points to get to it. This happened to be right in front of my feet. I went flying and landed on the pavement. I still can’t believe the damage I did. I ended up having to have a full hip replacement. There are times when the NHS is brilliant and this was one of them. I was so lucky.

I am slowly but surely getting there – all your lovely get well wishes, offers of help and kind thoughts have helped me to travel along the road to recovery more easily. Thank you so much.

I do feel guilty as there are so many people who are waiting for an elected hip replacement and have been for ages. I fall over and get one immediately – I feel as if I’ve jumped a queue. A couple of friends, who are on the list, said they might try piling into the concrete so that they can instantly get a new hip! One asked if she could borrow Bess. That got me thinking – maybe I could hire my little dog out on a ‘No Break, No Fee’ basis.



Bess, my delightful little dog, has a decidedly undelightful little habit. When out on walks, she grabs at every bit of toot going and devours it with gusto. To her they are rich pickings for the taking. She even lunged at a toadstool the other day. I muttered that it could have been a magic mushroom and that I’ve got enough problems without her getting upfront and personal with Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds.

When it comes to grabbing at things she shouldn’t, she’s on a mission. I say “No, leave it!” and she doesn’t hear me – or she does but, as per Simon and Garfunkel, she is “hearing without listening” (The Sound of Silence). And it obviously doesn’t bother her that the consequences of her actions is an unholy mess that I have to clear up.

I can see similarities between Bess’s obsession and developer’s greenfield site obsession. They see one and take it, they are on a mission. Our cries of “No, leave it!” are ignored. They say that they are listening but they are not; they are hearing. There’s a heck of a difference between the two. What’s awful is that we’re the ones who will have to cope with the mess that they’re creating. And they’re not oblivious to this - they know the substantial environmental damage they are doing by building on greenfield sites.

One day, in my exasperation with Bess, I threw a loaded poo bag right in front of her nose when she was eating sheep droppings. She immediately stopped, sniffed at the offensive missile and gave me such a look. She was obviously deeply affronted by my action but it worked. Perhaps, metaphorically speaking, we ought to do the same to developers - they keep throwing horrible stuff at us, isn’t it time we threw some back?



*Annie x*



## UPDATE FROM OUR MID BEDFORDSHIRE MP BLAKE STEPHENSON

Autumn has arrived, and since I wrote my last Shillington Parish News article, I'm delighted to have been appointed Shadow Home Office Minister by Kemi Badenoch.

I know that crime and immigration are important topics for local people so having this role will help me focus on those issues, but it won't distract me from local priorities such as protecting our countryside, supporting our farmers and pushing for better local infrastructure.

I know that people in Pegsdon have been facing real problems with their broadband in recent months and as a team we have been regularly raising this with OpenReach. My Office Manager Charley visited Pegsdon to try and speak to as many of you as possible. Please do continue to get in touch if there are issues and we'll do what we can to escalate with OpenReach.

Following concerns raised with me about accessibility on Apsley End Road, I asked Central Bedfordshire Council to investigate the difficulties faced by disabled residents, older people and parents with pushchairs.

The Council has now confirmed that it will install two new dropped kerbs, including one opposite The Musgrave Arms and another at the junction of Apsley End Road and Handscombe End Road, with further accessibility improvements also being explored.

I have also been working with local businesses affected by recent utility works and road closures around Lower Gravenhurst Road. Following representations from local businesses, both Anglian Water and Central Bedfordshire Council have agreed to review how road closures are signed in future, helping to ensure businesses remain accessible, customers know that they are open, and affected businesses receive clear communication and notice wherever possible.

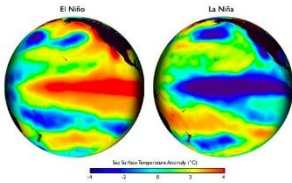
And finally, thank you to everybody who joined us for the walk of sites in Shillington in August to help people understand which sites have been put forward as part of Central Bedfordshire's upcoming Local Plan, and to discuss the best responses to the Local Plan consultation.

### ***Stay In Touch***

*You can book an appointment at one of my advice surgeries by emailing  
**blake.stephenson.mp@parliament.uk***

*You can also find me on Facebook (**facebook.com/BlakeMidBeds**), as well as X and  
Instagram (**@Blake\_MidBeds**).*

*I also send out a regular e-newsletter and you can sign up on my website  
**blakestephenson.uk**.*



# THE UNWANTED CHRISTMAS CHILD !

**By Alison Graham**

What is all this talk about EL NINO? Not going to affect us, is it? Or is it? What is it exactly?

Here are the basics then: we like to think about the sea as that big thing that washes up and down our shores, but it's actually part of an air con system for the planet. Currents of air flow constantly round the earth, both warming and cooling it. One blows along the equator, westward from South America towards Asia. Every five to seven years it reverses itself, for a year. It is a perfectly natural phenomenon called El Nino, the Boy Child. Normally it blows warm water near the coast of South America towards the coasts of Asia. Cold water rises to take its place, stimulating the fishing industry off the American coasts and stabilizing the land temperatures. On the coasts of Asia the warm water brings extensive rain, creating the monsoon climate which waters the crops.

What happens when the flow is reversed? The warm water staying near America turns to vapour and then rain. This stimulates intense storms and hurricanes. The cold water off the Asian coasts in turn creates cooler, drier air, increasing temperature there which lead to crop failure. So what is this going to do to us and Europe? We can expect a much wetter, warmer autumn because the British Isles is on the American side – the warm water. Next summer will probably be hotter too.

Why the panic? Because climate scientists see that the impact of increasing climate change is already accelerating the impact of this year's El Nino beyond what they anticipated. It is the worst on record. So floods, crop failure, food loss are all possible here in Britain.

That's why it's called the 'Unwelcome Christmas Child'.....

## **XMAS TREE SWITCH ON – MEMORIAL GARDEN SATURDAY, 5<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER – 6pm (Note: CHANGE OF DATE)**



*We will be having another tree in the Memorial Garden this year to lighten up the village during the darker December evenings. We're always open to sponsorship so if you'd like to make a donation to ensure we continue with this now established tradition it would be very welcome.*



*As part of this year's fundraising you are invited to 'sponsor a branch' (£5) and your name will appear on a 'recognition board' attached to the Memorial Garden railing. There will be some festive carol singing, mulled wine and mince pies so do pop down to see us.*



*We are delighted that Revd. Angus McCormick will be doing the big 'switch on' this year and hope he will be supported by Father Christmas and his elves if they can spare the time during their busy season.*

*Hope to see you there*

**Sally – 07711-504489 / Andy G / Clare R / Jacqui F-S / Dan H**

# SHILLINGTON MEN'S CLUB

(Now in its 22<sup>nd</sup> year)

<https://Shillingtonmensclub.co.uk>

*Our evening meal on the 12<sup>th</sup> August took us to the Greyhound pub in Haynes for our annual BBQ. Once again the burgers, sausages and chips were top notch washed down with some very well kept beers.*



*On the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 6 members attended our cultural event to the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge. It was an interesting tour around the museum of 500,000 artefacts and works of art from ancient Egypt, Greek and Roman times to a modern European armoury. A series of galleries displayed works of art from classical and renaissance periods to significant 20<sup>th</sup> century art. This was all housed in two interconnected neo-classical buildings in the centre of Cambridge. Lunch was taken in our favourite Wetherspoon's pub The Regal before returning by Trumpington Park & Ride. Thank you to Michael Bradley for organising this very interesting outing.*

*On the 9<sup>th</sup> September 18 members attended an evening meal at The Green Man in Stamford. Here members enjoyed a 2-course meal of a gourmet burger and chips or pork schnitzel followed by chocolate brownie or a cookie ice cream sandwich! The service was exceptional and we all had a good night. Chris Hobbs won the raffle. Many thanks to Colin Hands and Stewart Rataj for organising this event.*

*On the 16<sup>th</sup> September 11 members visited the Bottisham Airfield Museum which was opened in 2009 to commemorate the role of this airfield during World War 2. This museum is totally reliant on private donations and receives no public or government funding. The members were treated to a superb guided tour of the airfield and remaining airfield buildings, the highlight being a restored P51 Mustang in its new hangar. This museum is the only one dedicated to the R.A.F, the U.S. 8<sup>th</sup> Army Airforce and the Belgian Air Forces. After the visit the members enjoyed a*



*superb lunch at the nearby White Swan at Stow cum Quay. Kevin the landlord welcomed us with his warm hospitality and superb food, a day to remember for all and in the future sure to return. Thank you to Michael Bradley for organising this event.*

*Andrew Elliman continues to organise our monthly Games Nights at The Crown on the first Wednesday of the month and we have a monthly Lunch Social alternating at The Crown or the Musgrave Arms organised by Colin Hands and Stewart Rataj.*

## **Future Events:**

- ☺ 7<sup>th</sup> October- Games Night at the Crown Shillington.
- ☺ 14<sup>th</sup> October– Evening Meal at The Raven at Hexton.
- ☺ 21<sup>st</sup> October- Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker.
- ☺ 28<sup>th</sup> September- Lunch Social Musgrave Arms.
- ☺ 4<sup>th</sup> November- Games Night at the Crown Shillington
- ☺ 11<sup>th</sup> November- Evening Meal at the Motte & Bailey at Pirton.

## **Membership:**

*Current membership is 52 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! Annual Membership is £15.*



### **Contacts:**

|                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Events Co-ordinator - Michael Bradley</b><br><b>(01462 711162)</b><br><b>Email - <a href="mailto:michael894bradley@btinternet.com">michael894bradley@btinternet.com</a></b> | <b>Chairman - Stewart Rataj</b><br><b>(07984-206698)</b><br><b>Email – <a href="mailto:stewartgatewaylodge@hotmail.com">stewartgatewaylodge@hotmail.com</a></b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## **SHILLINGTON SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB**

**MEET AT SHILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL**

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



We are now back from our summer break and looking forward to returning to short mat bowls. The in-house triples league will start in the coming weeks and many of the club members will be trying their luck at national qualifying competitions. We will also be starting the Wilstead and Barnet Leagues at the end of September, fingers crossed we do well this year.

Short Mat Bowls is a fun game, as well as a competitive sport, but it's also a social group and members can come and play the game and meet up with friends.

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 turn up at the village hall on a Monday afternoon or 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](mailto:conlonmichelle@sky.com)**

**Or Derek Lewison (☎ 01462 711504)**

## **SHILLINGTON WIVES GROUP**



*The Wives Group held their first meeting after their summer break on Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> September. This was a Social afternoon with a Bring and Buy stall, several games of Bingo and a raffle. We concluded with a buffet of nibbles. A relaxed afternoon was enjoyed by all. We now continue each second Thursday in the month from 2-4pm. at the Congregational Church. We have a very interesting programme planned for our 2026/2027 session and we invite anyone who would like to join us to come to our next meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October when we have Jennifer Hepworth speaking on 'Life behind the first class curtain'. All our meetings are shown in the Village Calendar.*

## RAMBLING ON with DEREK TURNER

☎ 01462-712462

derek.turner@phonecoop.coop

How did the second World War affect life in Shillington? I scanned the old accounts book for the village hall to get a flavour of its uses and of village life from its opening in 1911 up to 1939 and reported my findings in Parish News 176 and 178. Now it's time to see what was going on after that.



If it weren't for the hire of the Hanscombe Memorial Hall (as it was still known) for whist drives that the Air Raid Precautions (ARP) team had been arranging monthly to raise funds for equipment, you'd hardly know that the war had begun on 1 September 1939. Other events carried on as normal as people fulfilled existing plans, assuming that hostilities would not last long. Three wedding parties took place before the year ended with 'Irons and Jenkins', 'Simkins and Ding' and 'Miss Phyllis Waller' getting hitched although her husband's name doesn't get a mention. The Women's Institute, formed only in July, continued to gather at the village hall until the October after which it met at the (old) school or in the Congregational Church school room. By February 1940, hall bookings reduced noticeably to 4 per month from 10 a year earlier as hopes of an early end to hostilities were dashed, although the Women's Institute returned for 6 more meetings during that year.

The ARP team, the Home Guard and the Fire Wardens gathered at the hall every night but only the first remained after the others moved to the (old) school and a barn at the Crown respectively. There were no social events at all at the hall in December and none are recorded again until June and July 1941, when Luton Co-operative put on film shows to boost morale. By November, the Simkins family had organised 3 evening and 7 afternoon whist drives and 2 socials to raise money to pay for "comforts for the services". The hall fees were paid in by D. Simkins. This must refer to David Simkins, son of George, who was the village butcher at 2 Church Street. It was commendable if David organised the events himself as he was only 7 years old then. He recalled "during the war, I remember seeing the aeroplanes flying over and a German bomber actually dropped a bomb on a field between Pirton and Stondon which blew a tree out. I also recall hearing a huge explosion in the night as a 'V' bomb hit cottages in Pirton". David would later go on to run Rose Hill Farm which his father had purchased in 1947 and he became a parish councillor for 34 years.

After another slow start to 1942, occasional social events continued at the hall but the biggest user was the army, paying £8/15/0 (£8.75) every 3 months. The Liberal Hall was also available for hire then and it's possible that some village groups moved events there. The shed that had been the early 19th century home of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in the garden of 91 Church Street was also available for smaller groups to gather in.

The village hall accounts list every penny of income and expenditure. It cost 6d to replace a broken cup and postage stamps, 1d in the early days of the hall, had risen to 2d in 1940. A new lavatory pail for the facilities round the back was purchased from Dawes garage in May 1943. Twice, payments for logs to supplement the heating were made to Mr Copperwheat, a name that's new to me.

Village hall bookings hit their lowest point during 1943 but started picking up again later in the year. In March 1944 for the first time, there is mention of an annex to the hall - a sectional wooden building, which the village ARP (Air Raid Precautions) team had started using. The accounts are silent about where it came from and what it cost but its presence freed up the village hall for others to hire.

After the war Dennis Wilsher, the cobbler, used the hut for repairing shoes before going on to run the main village shop (then in Hillfoot Rd) with his wife, Dorothy. He also became chair of the parish council. Later, the scouts made the hut their HQ and it continued to stand on the



right-hand side of the car park as you drive in until less than 20 years ago. Use of the hall increased again in 1944 with 6 to 10 meetings a month as the allies made progress on several fronts and optimism returned. The D-Day landings on 6 June marked the start of a successful campaign to liberate France. Victory now seemed to be in sight.

For the first time on 4 July 1944, a new name, Mr Mansfield, pops up organising dances every week or two. His name appears regularly in the accounts until the war ended 14 months later and then disappears as suddenly as it began. I had not heard of him before but maybe there are others who remember something about him. Wedding parties had been rare during the height of the war but resumed in 1945. I counted 7 between January and September. The Germans surrendered in May. The Women's Institute returned to the hall in October and the war was declared over on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1945. As with its beginning, nothing in the accounts indicates its end but we know it was celebrated immediately elsewhere with a street party on Church Street with singing around the Five Bells piano deep into the night.

**COULD THIS  
BE  
YOU?**

Meet officers and staff from our frontline, behind-the-scenes and specialist teams, learn about our entry routes, and explore the many ways you can make a real difference in Bedfordshire.

**SEARCH BEDS POLICE**

**BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE  
CAREERS FAIR**

**SAT 10 OCTOBER • 12-4PM**  
**WIXAMS ACADEMY**

**All Saints Church**   
Gravenhurst and Shillington

# **YOUR CHURCHYARD NEEDS YOU!**

The Churchyard is part of the Living Churchyard Scheme and is managed and maintained by a fantastic team of volunteers.

**We are looking for new volunteers**  
for all sorts of gardening tasks.  
Can you help?

**The next working party will be on  
Wednesday 7 October from 9.30 - 12.30 pm**  
**For more information, please contact  
Liz Allan on 07412 220764**

*Supported by Grangers  
Thanks to Martin and the team*





# SHILLINGTON SPITFIRES CRICKET CLUB

## Another successful season draws to a close



With just one game remaining at the time of going to press, it's time to reflect on the Shillington Spitfires epic 2026 season.

Shillington Spitfires Cricket Club have completed their fourth season since cricket was brought back to the village. There is a caveat to these stats as there is still one game remaining against Old Warden, but it has been another successful season for SSCC. The team played 21 matches with 27 players making an appearance, ranging in age from 13 to 67.

Alex Fouche finished the season as the Spitfires' leading run scorer, with 294 runs at an average of 36.75. Sethi Singh was once again the club's leading wicket-taker, claiming more than 30 wickets for the second consecutive season.

The highlight of the year was undoubtedly the inaugural ShillingTON Cricket Festival, when the Spitfires welcomed three local clubs to the village for a series of exciting 100-ball matches. The festival attracted a large crowd and provided an entertaining day of cricket for players and spectators alike.

Plans for next season are already underway, but the club will first be embarking on a fundraising drive, as the team's pitch roller is urgently in need of replacement. Any support from the local community would be very much appreciated and will help ensure cricket continues to thrive in Shillington for years to come.

Anyone interested in playing for the Spitfires or supporting the club through sponsorship is very welcome to get in touch with the club on social media or email us at: [shillingtonspitfires@gmail.com](mailto:shillingtonspitfires@gmail.com)



# The Friendly Place

Winter 2026-27

From November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026, we shall be welcoming friends old and new on Mondays, 11:30am to 13:30pm

At the lovely and warm Congregational Church, Church Street, Shillington.

Join us for tea, coffee, soup and a roll and friendly chat.

Hosted by Linda & Trish of All Saints' Church and Angus & Nola of the Congregational Church, Shillington.

There is no charge although small donations are welcome!

We can give you a lift if you need transport.

For more information you can call  
Linda: 01462-711761 or Trish: 07754-760073



YOU'RE INVITED TO A

# CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN CRAFTING EVENT

SPOOKY FUN • CREATIVE CRAFTS • MEMORIES TO MAKE!



FUN CRAFTS



CREATE & DECORATE



SPOOKY PROJECTS



GAMES & ACTIVITIES



TREATS & SURPRISES



DATE: SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER 2026



TIME: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM



VENUE: SPOOKY VILLAGE HALL  
HIGH ROAD, SHILLINGTON



ADMISSION £5

TICKETS FROM

DENISE 07414-513683 / KATIE 07974-676089

★ ALL CHILDREN WELCOME! ★

**All Saints Church**  
Gravenhurst and Shillington



# **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

**SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER**

**Shillington Village Hall**

**12.00 pm – 3.30 pm**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**Free Christmas Hamper Draw on entry**

**Games**

**Food**

**Raffle**

**Father Christmas!**

**Stalls**

**ALL WELCOME!**





## SHILLINGTON CHILDMINDERS

### ***Looking for Flexible, High-Quality Childcare in a Home-from-Home Setting?***

*We are experienced, Ofsted-registered childminders offering safe, nurturing, and stimulating home environments where children can play, learn, and thrive. Through play-based learning, we help children develop important life skills and confidence at their own pace. Our days are filled with fun and enriching activities - including visits to farms, play centres, splash parks, museums, and libraries. We also involve children in everyday experiences like shopping, gardening, and cooking to help them build practical life skills.*

We are:

- Fully registered with Ofsted
- Covered by public liability insurance
- Trained in Safeguarding, First Aid, and the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework
- Kept up to date with best practices through regular training and professional bulletins

*Children in our care enjoy opportunities to build social skills and explore a wide variety of toys and learning resources through baby and toddler groups and other local settings. We also work together to provide cover for each other during holidays and absences whenever possible.*

*We are registered to offer **15 and 30 hours of funded childcare** for eligible children from 9 months old, just like nurseries and pre-schools. (Funding usually starts the term after your child turns 9 months). Additional charges may apply for meals 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.*

***Get in touch today*** to discuss your childcare needs - whether you're looking for immediate care or planning ahead for the future, we'd love to hear from you!

Katie Brettell  
07974-676089

[katiebrettell@icloud.com](mailto:katiebrettell@icloud.com)

Carli Mauger  
07912-549931

[carlimauger@gmail.com](mailto:carlimauger@gmail.com)

Deb Pateman  
07934-480446

[debpateman@msn.com](mailto:debpateman@msn.com)

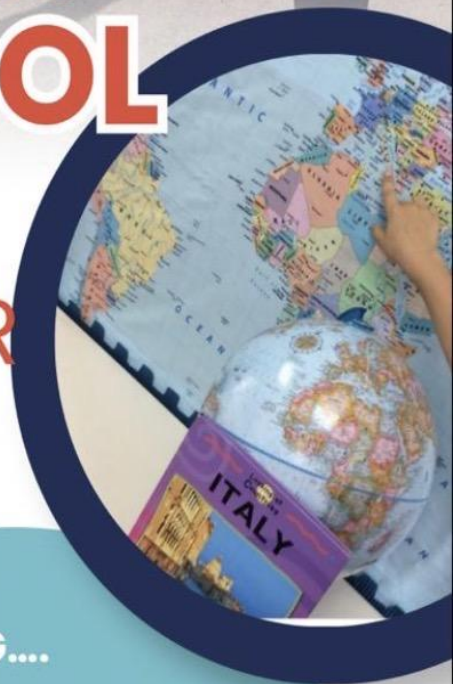
**SHILLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL, GREENFIELDS,  
SHILLINGTON, SG5 3NX  
WWW.SHILLINGTONSTONDON.CO.UK**



# **SHILLINGTON LOWER SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

**FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

**WE WELCOME YOU TO COME AND  
DISCOVER WHAT MAKES OUR SCHOOL A  
SPECIAL PLACE TO LEARN AND GROW**



**INCLUDING....**

## **PIXIE PRESCHOOL**

- FROM 2 YEARS 9 MONTHS
- FUNDED PLACES AVAILABLE
- COME AND EXPLORE  
PIXIE PRESCHOOL,  
WHERE LITTLE  
LEARNERS BEGIN THEIR  
BIG ADVENTURES



**BOOK NOW**

- 01462 711637
- [OFFICE@SHILLINGTONLOWER.CO.UK](mailto:OFFICE@SHILLINGTONLOWER.CO.UK)





We've had a fantastic start to the new academic year! We've welcomed some new families, and all of the children have settled really well into their new classes. It has been wonderful to see them returning so smart, enthusiastic and ready for the new school year.

Over the summer, we drafted in members of the team and their families to give some areas of the school a fresh coat of paint, while teachers were busy setting up their classrooms for the new academic year. We were delighted to see how many of the children noticed the difference.

During the first week back, we focused on routines, our values and behaviour expectations, and we were delighted with how well the children responded. We have also been very impressed with the effort children are putting into their presentation. We have increased our expectations of what children record independently in their books, and they are quickly getting to grips with organising their work more effectively. Already, we can see great progress!



This year, we have introduced a Superstar Award to replace the raffle ticket system. Children collect house points when they demonstrate our school values through their learning or behaviour and go beyond our normal expectations. We hope that before long we will be presenting Superstar Awards regularly in our celebration assemblies.

We have also expanded our house system this year. Previously, houses were mostly used for Sports Day, but from now on we will have eight elected House Captains from Years 3 and 4, and we will be introducing a range of house-related activities and competitions throughout the year. House systems are a fantastic way to foster a sense of belonging, encourage teamwork, develop leadership skills and build positive relationships across year groups, while also motivating children to do their very best. We're starting with a competition to see which house can achieve the most star cards.

On 25 September 2026, we hosted a Macmillan Coffee Morning, which was a roaring success! Parents were invited in to enjoy tea and cake while spending time with their children and looking at the fantastic work they have produced so far. We would like to thank everyone who attended and donated so generously, raising £219.83 for Macmillan Cancer Support.



### **Thinking About Your Child's First School? Come and Visit Us!**

Come along to our **Open Day on Friday 16 October 2026** and discover what makes our school a special place to learn and grow. Book your place through the school office by calling **01462 711637** or emailing [office@shillingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@shillingtonlower.co.uk).

**Shillington Lower School ☎ 01462-711637 email: [office@shillingtonlower.co.uk](mailto:office@shillingtonlower.co.uk)  
website: [www.shillingtonstondon.co.uk](http://www.shillingtonstondon.co.uk)**

# GNOME SWEET GNOME

**Donna Cameron - Donna's Garden Designs - ☎ 07833-670934**



Whilst carrying out a consultation at a garden the other day I noticed on the client's gate a sign reading 'Beware of the Gnomes!'. Sure enough they were hidden around the garden in many forms! Bikini clad, Brides, fishing gnomes! You name it they had one!

Love them or hate them they have adorned gardens for generations and it got me thinking where did they originate and how did they make their homes in our gardens!

Dating back to Priapus, who was a Greco-Roman God, he was God of fertility, livestock, vineyards and bees. Statues often adorned gardens in the hope of a bountiful harvest, donning a large red pointy hat as seen on gnomes today.

They had a resurgence in Germany, inspired by mining folk-law. The name Genomos meaning 'Earth dweller'.

In 1847 Sir Isham brought 21 of the little fellows to Britain to his estate, Lamport Hall in Northamptonshire. Only one survives today. Affectionately known as 'Lampy', he is insured for one million pounds!

They became fashionable in gardens, although the RHS were not so fond of them and they have been banned at Chelsea, viewing them as vulgar and distracting from the planting schemes! Although they have relaxed the rules a few times, most recently displaying a Mary Berry and David Beckham Gnome!

Some have escaped and retired to a Gnome Reserve in Bideford, Devon!

Would you allow one in your garden?

*Donna* x

## JOBS IN THE GARDEN FOR OCTOBER

|                                                      |                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| ✂ <i>Plant Spring Bulbs</i>                          | ✂ <i>Cut back Perennials and divide</i>    |
| ✂ <i>Tidy up Garden</i>                              | ✂ <i>Move tender plants somewhere safe</i> |
| ✂ <i>Harvest Pumpkins for Halloween</i>              | ✂ <i>Harvest Apples, Pears and Grapes</i>  |
| ✂ <i>Mow Lawn for the last time and lay any turf</i> | ✂ <i>Prune climbing Roses</i>              |
| ✂ <i>Trim Hedges</i>                                 | ✂ <i>Plant out Spring Cabbages</i>         |
| ✂ <i>Collect Seed from the Garden</i>                | ✂ <i>Enjoy the Autumn Colours</i>          |



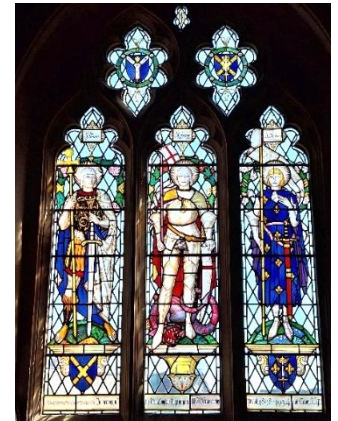
# HOLDING ON..... TO OUR PRECIOUS CHURCH ON THE HILL

## All Saints' Snippets

The fascinating history of the Church is one of the reasons it is so important to keep working on its preservation.

As we approach November it's a good time to remember the restoration of the Lady Chapel by Canon Postgate, vicar here from 1898 to 1934. The chapel was re-dedicated to the fallen of the Great War.

The beautiful south window shows St. George and St. Alban, for obvious reasons. It also includes St Joan (Joan of Arc). Her presence is less clear, but she was one of the patron saints of France and this may be a reference to our alliance and to the men who lost their lives there.



## 2027 Projects

Next year will be dominated by the huge project to re-roof the south aisle. All the preparatory work is progressing well and, if things go well, we hope to begin the actual building work by late summer.

We hope to be able to fund the project from reserves of the Friends and the PCC supported by grants. However, donations from benefactors would also be most gratefully received. Find out more on our website: - <https://foas-shillington.org.uk/>

Thank you for your support for our 'Church on the Hill'  
Andy Gibbs, Friends of All Saints' Church ([bazwell2@gmail.com](mailto:bazwell2@gmail.com))

## 2027 Events planned so far

- **The amazing success of 'Death Before Wicket'** took us somewhat by surprise. So, we will be doing another performance in the Spring. Date tbc, but those on the waiting list will have first refusal. The end of the play will be rewritten to ensure no spoilers!
- **The Lady Chapel Lectures** also went very well with 156 people attending and £720 raised. Next year's programme will include talks on the History of Shillington, The Russian Revolution, The Peasants' Revolt and the History and Culture of Tibet.
- **A sing-a-long film afternoon and evening in the Church** in the Autumn. A family film in the afternoon and a 'grown up' film in the evening.
- **Sunday Teas**, which seems to get ever more popular year by year will return on each Sunday afternoon from May to the end of September, often enhanced by music and other activities.

## How you can support the work of the Friends

*As ever, we are keen for more people to join our happy little band. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch. We are on the lookout for: -*

- ☺ New Committee members,
- ☺ People who could help at events and activities,
- ☺ Volunteers for specific one off projects
- ☺ Bakers and helpers for Sunday Teas,
- ☺ 'Specialists' who could help with specific projects, such as publicity, events management, fundraising or IT.

*If you could help in any of these ways, would like to know more about what we do or would simply like to make a donation towards our work, please contact our membership Secretary,*

**Jackie Fletcher** ☎ 07485-617556 or email [foass25@gmail.com](mailto:foass25@gmail.com)

## ALL SAINTS ILLUMINATED

*To celebrate or commemorate your special occasion please contact:*

**Catherine** on 07710-823384 or e-mail [catherine.scleater@btinternet.com](mailto: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.*



| Sponsor                                | Message                                                      | From             | To                 |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Denise,<br>Clare, Jane,<br>Liz & Julia | Remembering our dear friend Tracey Kindley on her birthday.  | Sunday<br>11 Oct | Saturday<br>17 Oct |
| David & Fiona<br>Howarth               | Donald MacKinnon - remembering your birthday on 31st October | Sunday<br>25 Oct | Saturday<br>31 Oct |

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### DECISIONS FROM CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

**CB/TRE/26/00327 – 1 Greenfields, SG5 3NX.** Works to a tree protected by a Tree Preservation Order MB/99/00014/T1 (T1) Lime tree, crown lift to 5.5m and 30% reduction.

**CONSENT GRANTED**

### DISCUSSED BY PARISH COUNCIL BUT NOT YET DETERMINED

**CB/26/02445/FULL – 19 Bury Road, SG5 3NY**

Detached cart shed, garage and cycle store.

**PC - SUPPORT**

**CB/26/02511/FULL – 7 Hillside Close, SG5 3NN.**

Demolition of existing garage and erection of a two-storey side extension.

**PC - SUPPORT**

# VILLAGE FACILITIES



## SHILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

*Registered charity no: 300066*

All enquiries please contact:  
the **BOOKING CLERK** on ☎ **07376-682935**  
e-mail: [\*\*shillingtonvillagehall@yahoo.com\*\*](mailto: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** ✳  
✳ **Indoor Bowls** ✳ **Exhibitions** ✳ **Circuit Training** ✳

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

*Thank you ☺*

## SHILLINGTON SOCIAL CLUB

*Greenfields, Shillington ☎ 07826-518667 (Gavin)*



### OPENING TIMES:

✳ Mondays: 7.30pm - 11.00pm ✳  
✳ Thursdays: 7.30pm - 11.00pm ✳  
**\*\* NEW FRIDAY OPENING HOURS: 5.30pm - 11.30pm \*\***  
✳ Saturdays: 12 noon - 11.00pm ✳  
✳ Sundays 12 noon - 8.00pm ✳

☺ Meat Raffle every Saturday with proceeds to the Club Refurbishment ☺

### LICENSING POLICY:

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



## 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               |
| <b>UK Power Networks</b> | <b>To report or get info on power cuts - text POWER and your postcode to 80876. <a href="http://www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk">www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk</a></b> | <b>National number 105</b> |

Central Bedfordshire Council, Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford Bedfordshire, SG17 5TQ. ([www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk))

|                                                                                      |                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| General enquiries .....                                                              | 0300 300 8000                   |
| Highways/Emergencies on roads (fallen trees, etc). <i>24-hour emergency team</i> ... | 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) <i>for washing machine repairs, etc...</i>      | 07975-944394                    |
| High Road Stores/Post Office.....                                                    | 01462-711676                    |
| The Crown Inn.....                                                                   | 01462-711667                    |
| The Musgrave Arms (Giuseppe).....                                                    | 07739-864634 / pub 01462-712789 |
| Baan Thai Restaurant @ The View, Pegsdon.....                                        | 01582-883042                    |
| Mobile Fish & Chip Van – Spartan's Feast.....                                        | 07707-787752                    |

### Parish Councillors – contact details:

|                               |                               |                                |                                 |                              |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| John Hyde<br>07799-537346     | Gavin Jenkins<br>07826-518667 | Liam Keene<br>07867-993393     | Angus McCormick<br>01462-712096 | Richa Mitra<br>via the Clerk |
| Annie Palmer<br>via the Clerk | Shelby Long<br>via the Clerk  | Joseph Olding<br>via the Clerk | Mark Thyne<br>01462-712201      | Derek Turner<br>01462-712462 |

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](http://www.lonsdaleps.co.uk) and sponsored by Advertisers and Shillington Parish Council.

*Views expressed in the articles and adverts do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Editor or members of the Parish Council.*

☎ 07711-504489.

[ed4shillingtonnews@btinternet.com](mailto:ed4shillingtonnews@btinternet.com)

[www.shillington-hub.org.uk](http://www.shillington-hub.org.uk)

# VILLAGE CALENDAR

## **OCTOBER**

- 3 Friends of All Saints – Murder Mystery Whodunnit Play – Village Hall.
- 4 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10.30am
- 6 Parish Council Meeting – Congregational Church – 7.45pm
- 7 Working Party at The Churchyard from 9.30am
- 7 Men's Club – Games Night at The Crown, Shillington
- 8 Wives Group – “Life behind 1<sup>st</sup> Class Curtain” Jennifer Hepworth – Congreg.Church – 2 to 4pm
- 11 Congregational Church Service – Mrs. Sandra Galton – 10.30am
- 11 All Saints' Church – Harvest Lunch & Auction – 12.30pm
- 11 All Saints' Church – Blessing of the Lantern – 6.30pm
- 14 Men's Club – Evening Meal at The Raven, Hexton
- 16 Lower School Open Day
- 18 Congregational Church Service – Mrs. Brenda Ballentine – 10.30am
- 21 Men's Club – Kelvedon Hatch Secret Nuclear Bunker
- 25 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Dr. Janet Wootton – 10.30am
- 25 Village Hall Committee – Halloween Crafting Afternoon – from 2pm
- 28 Men's Club – Lunch Social at The Musgrave Arms, Shillington

## **NOVEMBER**

- 1 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Peter Hyde – 10.30am
- 3 Parish Council Meeting – Congregational Church – 7.45pm
- 4 Men's Club – Games Night at The Crown, Shillington
- 7 Annual Fireworks Spectacular - Playing Field – gates open 5pm / fireworks from 7pm
- 8 Village Remembrance Sunday Service @ Congregational – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10am
- 8 Parade to War Memorial for wreath laying and two minute silence – 10.45am
- 11 Men's Club – Evening Meal at The Motte & Bailey, Pirton
- 12 Wives Group – “It's the Little Things That Count” Annie Palmer – Congreg.Church – 2 to 4pm
- 15 Congregational Church Service – local arrangement – 10.30am
- 18 Village Hall Committee Meeting – Jubilee Room – 7.30pm
- 22 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Barry Osborne – 10.30am
- 29 United Church Service for Advent - joined by All Saints' @ Congregational – 10am
- 29 All Saints' Church – Advent Carol Service – 5pm

## **DECEMBER**

- 1 Parish Council Meeting – Congregational Church – 7.45pm
- 4 Annual Xmas Tree Display @ Congregational Church – open for viewing – 2 to 5pm
- 5 All Saints' Church – Xmas Fayre at the Village Hall – 12 noon to 3.30pm
- 5 Annual Xmas Tree Display @ Congregational Church - open for viewing – 2 to 5pm
- 5 Village Xmas Tree Lighting – War Memorial Garden – from 6pm
- 6 Congregational Church Service – Revd. Angus McCormick – 10.30am
- 6 Annual Xmas Tree Display @ Congregational Church – open for viewing – 2 to 5pm
- 6 Closing Carol Service @ Congregational Church – Revd. Angus McCormick – 5pm
- 10 Wives Group – Christmas Meal – to be confirmed.
- 13 Congregational Church Service – ‘Favourite Carols’ – Mrs. Janet Worley – 10.30am
- 17 All Saints' Church – Xmas Carol Service – 7.30pm
- 20 Congregational Church Service – Mrs. Sandra Galton – 10.30am
- 24 All Saints' Church – Xmas Eve Midnight Mass – 11.30pm
- 25 All Saints' Church – Xmas Day Holy Communion – 9.30am
- 27 Churches Together – United Service @ Congregational – Shillington/Gravenhurst/Stondon – 10.30am