

# THE MEPPERSHALL MESSENGER



**JUNE 2004**

# THE MEPPERSHALL MESSENGER

**Vol 20 Issue No 3**

**June 2004**

We have another full magazine this month, and quite a few events coming up in the Village, so I was able to **include** the Calendar of Forthcoming Events again. Please remember, it is a very good way of advertising your particular event, through the Messenger, as **the** magazine goes out to every house in the Village.

I should like to welcome all new families that have arrived recently to Meppershall. I hope you settle in and are very happy here.

It was a struggle getting the magazine out for this month as I was distracted by the wonderful weather we were having and wanted to **spend** time in the garden rather than in **front of the** computer! Isn't it lovely to be able to get on with those outside jobs and enjoy the sunshine at the same time?

The deadline for **articles for the July issue of** the magazine is 12th June 2004. Please either **leave them at the Post Office** or **drop** them through my letter box at 7 Brookmead. Thank you.

*Linda Gold*  
*Editor*

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<b>Advertising Manager:</b>	Steve Ansell, Post Office Stores	811252
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**CRIME INCIDENTS IN MEPPERSHALL**

**1/4/04 - 30/4/04**

- 2.4.04            Criminal Damage  
                    The Carriage House (night time)
- 26.4.04           Burglary Other Building (safe)  
                    The Carriage House (night time)
- 
- 

**Disturbed . . .**

Just after midnight on St. George's Day, 23rd April, some youngsters were disturbed trying to steal a small flag (a piece of patriotism) attached to the guttering of a bungalow in Shefford Road. What are youngsters of Middle School age doing out at that time of night?! Where were their parents? Did they know what their children were up to? Do they care?

Hmm... Now that is disturbing!

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*Ron, Doreen and All Staff at the Sugar Loaf would like to thank each and every one of you that came and supported the Bungee jumpers on Friday 14th May. Without your support it would not have been possible. We will let you know how much was raised for The Children's Hospice and Guide Dogs for the Blind. Thank you.*

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# **MEPPERSHALL FETE**



**10th July 2004**

**Once again, the Meppershall Fete will be happening at Meppershall Stores**

**Every organisation and/or charity based in or near Meppershall is invited to come along and run their own stall, at no charge.**

**Please contact Steve at Meppershall Stores  
01462 811252**



**This is your chance to join in with a village activity and meet all your neighbours.**

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## LOCAL OUT OF SCHOOL CLUB

Some parents have expressed an interest in investigating the viability of an Out of School Club starting in the Spring/Summer of 2005, initially for children who attend Meppershall Lower School. The Club would aim to provide affordable, good quality childcare for parents seeking to obtain, or remain in, employment or further training, as well as providing an exciting social club. A programme of creative, safe and fun leisure opportunities would be provided, according to the age of the children attending. The Club would be registered with the Early Years Directorate, OFSTED.

The exact times and hours of opening will depend on stated need, but the Club would run on a fee-paying basis and would be open for two hours after school in term time. If there is sufficient demand for morning provision, the Club may seek to open at this time.

We will keep you informed as to the progress we are making via the Meppershall Messenger and the School.

For further information and to receive a questionnaire for your completion, in order that we can assess the actual demand for such a service, please contact Carolyn Holmes on 01462 850619 before Friday 11th June.

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## MEPPERSHALL BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

The Meppershall Baby and Toddler Group is a friendly, active group run by committed volunteers who are nominated and voted for by the parents themselves.

We meet in the Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons (term time only) from 2.00pm until 3.30pm.

All are welcome, from new born babies to the more active toddler. Dads are also welcome.

- We have ride on toys, pushalongs, bikes, slide, seesaws and rockers. An art and activity table.
- Separate soft baby area – from new born to crawling with all the toys they could wish for.
- Toy Library – borrow (for a nominal fee) any toy we have.
- Organised events for children including Christmas Party, Teddy Bears Picnic, Easter Events and Halloween Fancy Dress Party.
- Photographer sessions
- Book, craft and clothes sales

**All this for only £1 per family per session.**

***Come along and join us, first session is free!***

Our baby corner is looking a little empty at present, if you have just become a new parent, please come



along to our group. We understand that it can be a little daunting at first but we are an easy going friendly bunch of parents – no cliques, just like minded parents who want to talk, share stories and discover that it is not just their little angel that 'does that'. Oh and of course the children and babies absolutely love it.

### **Teddy Bears Picnic**

We will be holding our annual Teddy Bears Picnic on **15 June 2004**. The cost will be £1.00 per child (under 1's free) and tickets will be on sale shortly.

Don't forget to bring along your blankets and most importantly your children's teddies to the party.

We will be holding a raffle to raise funds for the group.

### **LOOKING FOR**

**Do you have an hour to spare on Tuesday's between 2.15pm and 3.15pm?**

The Meppershall Baby and Toddler group are looking for volunteers to help out with the preparation of teas, coffees and children's drinks.

For further details please contact either Claire Penney (Chair) 850987, Louise Hutson (Secretary) 814148 or Amanda Harrison (Treasurer) 816896



**The Meppershall Players**

present their

# Mid-Summer Variety Show

an evening of music, fun and frolics  
on

## 24th, 25th and 26th June

at Meppershall Village Hall

Curtains up at 7.45pm prompt!

Seating at tables - bring your own food

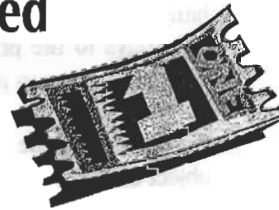
**Licenced Bar provided**



Tickets ; £5.00

from

Roger's Bakery, Meppershall





MEPPERSHALL W.I. May 2004

President, Barbara Horwood, welcomed 23 members to the May meeting.

Six members attended the Federation Meeting at Bedford and 13 had a very enjoyable evening at the Group Meeting at Campton.

Future events in the area include two county teas, one on Tuesday 6th July at Renhold Village Hall and one on Thursday 8th July at Billington Village Hall, both from 2-4pm at £5 per head. There will be WI stalls, bring and buy, a quiz and raffle at each event.

A tour of Eton College on Thursday 19th August followed by a cruise from Windsor to Runnymede, price £22.50, includes coach, tour of the College and river trip. Packed lunches or use of the many restaurants in the area. There are still some places available for the Treasure Hunt on foot around Shefford on Friday 16th July followed by fish or chicken and chips supper, cost £8 each, meeting at 6.15pm onwards at Digswell Hall car park, Shefford. Leaflets are available for guided walks around Bedford, Woburn Abbey Garden Show on 12/13th June and ceramic painting at Wootton.

Congratulations to our darts team who made a very good start to the season beating Milton Bryan and Battlestone 3-2.

Our speaker for the evening was Mr. Harrison describing his work of diamond mounting. To become a fully qualified goldsmith and diamond mounter there is a 5-6 year apprenticeship followed by a period at the Guildhall University, not a very popular prospect to most young people nowadays. Most of the jewellery designers are now women and there are 7 or 8 specific crafts involved in making each item. There has been a great change of clientele over the years from royalty and aristocrats, etc. in the olden days to the present day mostly Arabs, Russians, film and pop stars, also big increase in jewellery for men.

Our speaker at the meeting on 9th June will be Mrs. E. Whitehead on the subject of Hearing Dogs.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

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MEPPERSHALL W.I.

SUMMER OUTING

to

CAPEL MANOR GARDENS, ENFIELD

on

WEDNESDAY 11TH AUGUST 2004

Leaving Meppershall Village Hall at 10.15am and departing  
Gardens at 4pm

Cost: £10 per person

CAPEL MANOR has 30 acres of themed gardens:  
Japanese Garden, Rock Garden with Koi Carp, Italian Maze,  
Woodland Walk, Sensory and Victorian Garden and many  
more, plus plant sales.

Restaurant serving hot or cold food.  
There is a picnic area if you wish to take a packed lunch.

Contact Joyce on 815283  
or Barbara on 816177

*Calendar of  
Forthcoming Events*

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- Saturday 12th June      Meppershall Social Club  
Disco/Karaoke, Village Hall      8pm*
- 24th, 25th, 26th June      Meppershall Players  
Mid-Summer Variety Show, Village Hall      7.45pm*
- 10th July      Meppershall Fete at Meppershall Stores*
- 11th August      Meppershall W.I. Summer Outing  
Capel Manor Gardens, Enfield*
- Saturday 9th October      Friends of St. Mary  
Woburn Sands Band Evening*
- 

## *Skin Sense*

FACE AND BODY SALON

*Specialised Dermalogica Facials  
Waxing/Sugaring  
Aromatherapy and Reflexology  
CACI Non-surgical facelifts  
Manicures and Pedicures/Nail Art  
Universal Contour Wraps  
Thai Massage/Indian Head Massage  
Vertical Sunbed/St Tropez Tans  
Stockists of Sterling Silver Jewellery  
Collagen/Botox and Skin Peels  
Osteo/Physio/Acupuncture (Monday only)*

*8 Northbridge St. Shefford  
Tel 01462 851135*

Skin Sense Ltd Reg. No: 4600365

# St Mary's Parish Church Meppershall

The Rectory, Church Rd, Meppershall Tel:3813334

Dear friends,

My first words in print since I began my role as Rector in Meppershall and Shefford must be to convey my appreciation to all those who have clearly contributed so much to the work of the Parish Church during the lengthy interregnum. A great deal of care and effort is involved in sustaining the Church's worship and witness – much of it done quietly behind the scenes, and it is a great re-assurance to a newcomer like me to find the evidence for such faithfulness. In particular I should like to acknowledge the contribution that Ben Griffith and Pat Bass have so willingly put into St Mary's in so many ways, together with Jenny Dann from St Michael's and the local clergy, full time and retired. No doubt before long I will discover many others whose efforts should also be acknowledged, but till then I am sure you will know who they are, and will commend them accordingly. As from this month Ben and Pat's successors as churchwardens are:

- Brenda Wright, 75, High St, Tel: 816446
- Brian Bellammy, 125 High St, Tel: 815944.

Secondly, Sandra and I are most grateful for the warmth of the welcome we've received since moving into the Rectory. It makes such a difference to find such friendliness at hand, having arrived in an area where we are complete strangers. This month my work begins in earnest, and I look forward to putting names to faces and discovering more of the character of this beautiful place.

### **Open Day at the Rectory (just opposite the Church in Church Rd)**

Do call in to say hello and enjoy our wonderful views on:-

**Saturday June 5<sup>th</sup>** anytime between 3pm and 8p.m.

Drinks and nibbles. (If this doesn't suit please call when you can)

### **Open Gardens weekend**

Village Gardens will again be open in support of St Mary's building restoration over **Sat & Sun June 26 & 27**. Teas will be served in Church on both days.

Please help to spread the word.

**St Mary's Gift Weekend is due on July 3 & 4 – Look out for details coming soon**

With good wishes, John Harper

### Services in June

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> Trinity Sunday	8.30a.m. Holy Communion	6p.m. Evensong
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 1	8.30a.m. Holy Communion	11a.m. Family Service
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 2	8.30a.m. Holy Communion	6p.m. Evensong
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Trinity 3	8.30a.m. Holy Communion	11a.m. Family Communion

### **Additional Services**

There are also services of:

- Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) every **Wednesday morning at 10.30a.m.**
- Compline (night time service) every **Friday at 7.30p.m.**

### **Parish registers:**

**Holy Matrimony:** we ask for God's blessing on :

Claire Dunn and Stephen Parker on 15 May

**Holy Baptism:** we welcome into the Christian family:

Ethan Bentley Turner on 28 March

Neve Lilly Moan on 30 May

**Funerals:** we commend into God's hands:

Annie May (Nancy) Simons, aged 94, died 1 April, service 19 April

Phyllis Margaret Goos aged 77, died 27 April, service 7 May

### **Out and About:**

**Shefford Summer Fayre** – Sunday June 13, Digswell Recreation Ground Hitchin Rd.

United Churches Tent (drinks) and crockery smashing for Christian Aid.

### **Celebrate Saint Alban at the Cathedral**

St Albans Cathedral is inviting people from across the diocese to the **annual Festival of Saint Alban** celebrations on Saturday June 19th. The theme of this year's festival is 'Faith against Torture.' The day starts with a Pilgrimage Procession at 11a.m. followed at 11.30 by the Festival Eucharist. The preacher is the Rt Revd David Stancliffe, **Bishop of Salisbury**. During the afternoon pilgrims picnic on the orchard while there is music and other activity in and around the Abbey. **The preacher at the 4pm Festival Evensong is the Revd Frank Wade**, Rector of St Alban's, Washington DC, followed by tea on the Deanery lawn.

### **On course for healing**

All those interested in healing are invited to an evening course being run on Wednesdays by the diocesan Group for the Ministry of Healing. The course at St Swithun, Sandy, Beds, runs from June 2nd to July 7<sup>th</sup>. The sessions begin at 7.45pm in the Church Hall. The cost is £25 including booklet. More information: the Revd Dr Anne Shaw, 37 Sandy Lodge Road, Rickmansworth, Herts, WD3 1LP, 01923 827663 or e-mail [anneshaw@doctors.org.uk](mailto:anneshaw@doctors.org.uk)

### **Whipsnade Tree Cathedral Service Sun June 20 – 3p.m.**

Short informal service for all the family, with the Salvation Army Band. Teas available.

Bring own chair or rug. Speaker: Archdeacon of Bedford, Details 01582 872406

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**MEPPERSHALL YOUTH CLUB**

**STARTING SOON . . . . .**

*We would like to hold an "Open Day" for parents and young people to come along on **Saturday 19th June** 12 noon to 2pm to meet the crew at the Methodist Chapel, High Street. Light refreshments will be available.*

*We are hoping to start the Youth Club on **Friday 25th June** and then every Friday night after that.*

*It will be open to all young people, as follows:*

*Under 12's    7pm to 9pm  
Over 12's     7pm to 10pm*

*There will be music, tuck shop, football, dance mat, computer games, pool table, etc.*

*We would be interested in hearing what you would like to see at the Youth Club and also what you would like the Club to be called. Bring your ideas along on the Open Day.*

*Any parents interested in helping on a regular basis, or just now and then, please ring Linda and Matt Ford on 01462 851567 or Sue and Steve Covington on 01462 815736.*

**"See you there".**

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WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT IN MEPPERSHALLCHURCHESSt. Mary's Parish Church

Rector: Rev. John Harper  
The Rectory, Church Road 813334  
Church Wardens: Mr. B. Griffith, 61 Hoo Road 813354  
Mrs. M. Bass, 37 High Street 851609

Parochial Church Council

Secretary: Mrs. Linda Chillman  
76 Shefford Road 850543  
Treasurer: Mr. D. Bartlett, 14 Taylors Close 811191

Methodist Chapel

Minister: Rev. P. Snelson, 79 Ampthill Rd, Shefford 813284  
Treasurer: Mrs. N. Simons, High Street 813281  
Letting Secretary: Mrs. J. Taylor, 6 Stondon Road 814387

Roman Catholic Church

Priest: Father Bennie Noonan 813436

SCHOOLS

Meppershall Lower School: Head Mrs. Murray 813293  
Henlow Middle School: Head Mr. Payne 813733  
Samuel Whitbread Upper School & Community College  
Head Mr. Owen 629900  
Adult Education Tutor Mrs. J. Robinson 629906

DOCTORS

Cakebread, Baldock, Bietzk, Griffith & Baxter Appointments Only 819200  
The Health Centre, Iveldale Drive, Shefford All other enquiries 814899  
Puritz & Collins, The Surgery, 109 Station Road, Lower Stondon 850305

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

M.P. Jonathan Sayeed (Conservative), House of Commons, London 0207 2915142  
County Councillor - Mr. Alan Burnage, 23 Broad Street, Clifton 811681  
District Councillor - Mr. Paul Carne, 6 Hoo Road, Meppershall 857803  
Email: paul.carne@midbeds.gov.uk  
Fax: 01462 857804  
District Councillor - Mr. Tony Rogers, 3 Poppyhill, Henlow 816305  
Email: tony.rogers@midbeds.gov.uk  
Fax: 01462 816510  
Parish Council meets first Wednesday in month, Methodist Chapel at 7.45pm  
Chairman: Mr. P. Chapman, 9 Brookside 813497  
Clerk: Mr. C.J. Waghorn, 19 Icknield Green, Letchworth, Herts. 637531  
Email: wagers.uk@ntlworld.com

SHOPS

Roger's Bakery & General Store (next to School) 813398  
Mon-Fri 8.15am - 5.30pm Sat. 8.00am - 1.30pm  
Post Office & Village Store, 6 High Street 811252  
Post Office: Mon-Fri. 9.00am - 1pm & 2pm - 5.30pm Half day Sat.  
Shop: Mon.-Thurs 6.00am - 6pm, Friday 6.00am - 7pm  
Saturday 6.30am - 7pm Sunday 6.30am - 1pm

PUB

Ron and Doreen - Sugar Loaf Public House, 25 High Street 857991

ORGANISATIONSMeppershall Village Hall Committee

Chairman: Mr. Paul Carne, 6 Hoo Road 813305  
 Treasurer: Mr. D. Birch 817014  
 Booking Secretary: Mrs. C. Turner, 24 Orchard Close 812791  
 Village Hall Phone Number: 817359

Babysitting Circle Organiser: Mrs. Sharon Edwards 814326

Brownies Mondays at 6pm - 7.30pm Village Hall  
 Brown Owl: Mrs. C. Elbourne 811964  
 Snowy Owl: Mrs. Diane Lancaster 812108

Beavers Fridays at 6pm - 7.15pm Stondon Village Hall  
 Beaver Scout Leader: Mr. Steve Mann 816218  
 Tuesdays at 6.30pm - 7.30pm Shefford Scouts HQ  
 Beaver Scout Leader: Mrs. Hayley Henshall 817446

Bingo Fridays at 7pm Village Hall

Conservative Association

Chairman: Mr. I. McLuskie 813417  
 Secretary: Mrs. G. Bird 811260

Cubs

Red Pack Wednesdays 6.45pm Mr. D. Cousins 811441  
 1st Stondon Thursdays 7pm - 8.30pm Mrs. Alison Hammond 811548

Evergreen Alternate Thursdays at 2.30pm Village Hall  
 (Over 60s) Miss E. Ashton (Poppy), 20 Fildyke Road 07931 636544

Friends of St. Mary's Church

Chairman: Mr. T. Thorley, 9 Hoo Road 813357  
 Secretary: Mrs. M. Evesham, 107 High Street 814291  
 Treasurer: Mr. H. Davies, 15 Hoo Road 812127

Shefford Leisure Group Mrs. Enid Pamment, 112 High Street 851397

Lions Club of Shefford Mrs. Enid Pamment, 112 High Street 851397

Mepp'shall Players Amateur Dramatic Society

Contact: Mr. Frank Keen 815387  
 Minutes Secretary: Ms. Jenny Moore 01582 503381  
 Correspondence Secretary: Helen Gillett 816734  
 Treasurer: Mr. Frank Keen 815387

Meppershall School Association

Chairman: Louise Palmer 850113  
 Secretary: Dawn Addams 814707

Meppershall Social Club See Notice Board for opening times

Chairman: Mr. G.R. Walker, 37 Brookmead 815183



<u>Meppershall Baby &amp; Toddler Group</u>	Tuesdays at 2pm - 3.30pm	Village Hall	
Chairman:	Claire Penney, 3 Gregory Close		850987
Secretary:	Louise Hutson, 4 Coneygate		814148
Treasurer:	Mrs. A. Hamson, 22 Eisenhower Road, Shefford		816896
<u>Playgroup</u>	Monday - Friday at 9.30am - 12 noon	Village Hall	
Chairman:	Mrs. Julie Stock		817371
Secretary:	Mrs. Michele Brennand		816600
Registrar:	Mrs. Viv Thome		850821
<u>Tennis</u>	(at Langford) - Neil Franklin		815735
<u>Womens Institute</u>	2nd Wednesday in month 7.30pm	Village Hall	
President:	Mrs. Barbara Horwood, 8 Rectory Road		816177
Secretary:	Mrs. Doreen Pritchard		
Press Secretary:	Miss Betty Mather		
<u>AMENITIES</u>			
<u>Banks</u>	Barclays Bank, 6 North Bridge Street, Shefford		01438 202122
	Monday - Friday 9.30am - 4.30pm		
<u>Dentist</u>	Mr. Lakhani, High Street, Shefford		814020
<u>Electrician</u>	Mr. R.A. Price, 118 Spring Drive, Stevenage		01438 361715
			Mobile: 07710 821878
<u>Fishmonger</u>	Les Braithwaite (Mobile Van) - Thurs. Approx 11.45am		
<u>Greengrocer</u>	Nigel Mann (Mobile Van) - Fridays 2pm - 6pm		711802
<u>Hedgehog Rescue</u>	Beds & Herts Hedgehog Rescue - call Jeanette		711370
<u>Mobile Library</u>	Alternate Wednesdays:		
	Nursing Home 10.00	Rectory Road 10.25	
	High Street/School 10.50	High Street/Taliesen 11.10	
	Village Hall 11.30	Fildyke Road 12.00	
	Shefford Road 12.25		
<u>Library</u>	High Street, Shefford		<del>639070</del>
<u>Kennels/Cattery</u>	Wayside Kennels & Cattery, Chapel Road		813261
<u>Newspapers</u>	Meppershall Post Office & Stores		811252
<u>Plumber</u>	Alan R. Dellar		814584
<u>Police</u>	Emergencies/Police attendance required	Or	01234 841212
			01582 471212
	Shefford Police Post (non-emergencies)		01234 841212
<u>Livery Yard &amp; Training Centre</u>	Caroline Carter, Centre Line Dressage Fildyke Road, Meppershall		<del>07747 686118</del>
<u>Taxi</u>	Gilly of Biggleswade		01767 601253
<u>Whitbread Wanderbus</u>	Mrs. S. Cross, 96 High Street		850075

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## SERVICES IN MEPPERSHALL METHODIST CHURCH

June 2004

6th	Worship and Sunday Club	Mr. Neil Hitch	11am
20th	Worship and Sunday Club	Rev. M. Dawes	11am

There are services in neighbouring Shefford Methodist Church each Sunday at 9.30am and 6pm.

Firstly, we send our get well greetings to Kath Milner and Min Tink who are both recovering from illnesses.

We had an inspiring Service and Sunday Club on 2nd May when, despite the Bank Holiday weekend, we had a good number of children in Sunday Club run by Becky Snelson, and helped by Roma Lester as well as adults in the congregation. We continued on an Easter theme and celebrated again the Resurrection of Jesus. We welcome the arrival of Rev. Harper and his family to Meppershall and wish him well as he begins his ministry in Meppershall and Shefford. Finally, we thank Ben Griffith, out going Churchwarden, for his help and enthusiasm in bringing together in Family Worship Methodists, Anglicans and, not least, the 1st Meppershall Brownies who led the service with Mr. Brian Bellamy and Ben himself, on Remembrance Sunday.

### PENTECOST 30TH MAY

Last night I attended a dinner party with a difference. The difference was that all the guests were involved in a Murder Mystery role play to solve the murder of a Mr. Raymond Revue, a wealthy Night Club and Restaurant owner. I was cast as Lady Goodie Two Shoes, charity fund-raiser, but my other female friends were role playing a lap dancer and a socialite/modell! It was all good fun, but our characters were developed to the point that I began to feel distinctly uneasy as Goodie, as I didn't much like her at all. All in all, the lap dancer was much the better person!

We all have perceptions of others, what they do, the parts that they play in real life, their character traits both good and bad, and their relationships within their families and outside them. The BBC are currently broadcasting a series of programmes entitled "Brassed Off Britain" focusing on which occupations we all love to hate. May God help you if you are an honest Estate Agent or a diligent bank employee, or a helpful, skilled

tradesman, because, according to the programme's perfunctory statistics, the public at large are baying for your blood - ad demanding compensation!

I don't need to tell you what a bad press the early Christians had, facing the Chief priests of the Jews, local governors and not least the populations subjugated to the Romans, who were still searching for a Roman-Conquering Messiah, rather than the man who gave His love and life to reconcile His people as the Son of God. After the Ascension of Jesus to heaven, the disciples became Messengers, called Apostles, bearing the good news of the Gospel in a hostile world. In order to empower them, to infuse them with the love of God, Jesus sent his Holy Spirit to comfort, inspire and equip them spiritually, at the time of Pentecost, to make new converts and to help them to share the dark days of their ministries. They met together, breaking bread and wine, to sustain them as they baptised, taught, healed, prayed and preached the love of God and forgiveness of sins. As martyrs, they proclaimed the Gospel of the Son of God, dying horrific deaths as witnesses to His truth. So what of Christians today? We need the Holy Spirit too, very badly, and it is not simply a matter of attending Church. As we make our spiritual life journey, the Holy Spirit we accept in Jesus' name is there to enable us to stand up for Jesus in every way we can, every day. We fight apathy, indifference, marginalisation, but we must offer patience, understanding, compassion, faith, hope and love in our lives if we aim to follow Jesus, and if we wish others to join us. These are **huge** expectations, and we are only human, with our share of faults and buck passing and criticisms. But the Holy Spirit is on call, 24/7 for you and me - and Goodie Two Shoes.

Julie Taylor

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**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH  
HIGH STREET, SHEFFORD**

**Sunday Masses**

**First Mass of Sunday**

Saturday Evening	6pm	RAF Henlow
Sunday	9am	Shefford
	5.15pm	Shefford

Weekday Services see Notice at Church or telephone:

Parish Priest: Fr. Bennie Noonan 813436

Parish Secretary: Rose Boulton 811547

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### THE LIONS CLUB OF SHEFFORD

Our President felt honoured to be invited to attend the Induction of Rev. John Harper by the Bishop of Bedford as incumbent of the new Benefice. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Rev. Harper and his family to Meppershall. Once again, our Club is sponsoring Shefford Library for the Summer Reading Challenge 2004 for children. This year the subject is the Reading Rollercoaster. The charity is Keech Cottage Children's Hospice and the prize giving has been arranged for Saturday 18th September. The Challenge will operate with children receiving a collector's folder when they join and sticker sets for each of the first six books read. We will be taking part in the Shefford Fun Day on 13th June. Our collection of used spectacles is on going and would like to thank Lloyds Chemist, the Shefford Surgery and Stephen Hing for allowing us to place our boxes in their premises. A further consignment of spectacles has recently been despatched to the Lions Club in Chichester, where they sort and check them before despatching to Third World Countries. We meet the first and third Wednesday of each month. Why not come and meet us, you will be assured of a warm welcome. For further information, please contact Lion Enid Pamment on 01462 851397.

### SHEFFORD LEISURE GROUP

To think we are half way through 2004 - this year seems to be flying past and certainly insufficient time to visit even some of the most interesting and beautiful parts of the country. We try to arrange a variety of outings which, we hope will suit all tastes. At the end of April several people had an enjoyable visit to The Eden Project in Cornwall staying in Newquay. Day trips to Spalding for the Flower Festival and Rochester for the Sweeps Festival. Sunday 13th June RAF Cosford Air Show, celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of manned flight. Over 70 historic aircraft which are on display in three wartime hangers. Price £15.50 per person. On 26th July, arrangements have been made to enjoy lunch whilst cruising along the River Thames and then by coach to The Houses of Parliament for a 75 minute tour. The inclusive price is £27 per person. Friday Night is Music Night - a recording of the BBC Radio programme at The Mermaid Theatre in London. The coach will leave Shefford at 4.15pm prompt and the price is £7.50 (coach only) entrance is free. Sunday 29th August - International Glenn Miller Festival, featuring the world famous Syd Lawrence Orchestra. This is an all day event and the price is £22 per person including coach. All raffle monies are donated to Keech Cottage Children's Hospice. Space permits only a few of our outings to be shown but if you would like to receive a monthly newsletter, please contact Enid on 01462 851397.

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*Creating opportunities with disabled people*

# LEONARD CHESHIRE

All our 32 rooms are occupied and our 33rd, the respite room, is always fully booked. That respite room is very special. Any carer knows full well the meaning of the phrase 24/7 and the rest! So the room occupied by a different person each week provides a holiday for them but provides vital and much needed time off for their carers. We at Agate House thoroughly enjoy the change of occupants each week, as it is a new face to meet, talk to and have a laugh with. It is an opportunity for the outside world to come into the Home. Not that our residents don't go out - they do and as you may remember, residents visit a huge number of places. But, it's always nice to seize a chance to meet and chat about new topics at home. So, it may not just be the respite guest here that provides this opportunity, it could be you. Pop in and see us - we're a friendly bunch and you might just like what you see! One chance to meet us at Agate House is during Leonard Cheshire Week - 5th - 13th June. Our programme of events include:

Saturday 5th June	Sponsored Swim at Flitwick Leisure Centre 6 - 7pm
Sunday 6th June	Strawberry & Cream Teas & Silver Band 2.30 - 4pm
Monday 7th June	Agate Afternoon of Fun , Quizzes, etc. 2 - 4pm.
Tuesday 8th June	Book Sale Evening at Agate House 7.30 - 9pm
Wednesday 9th June	Open Morning at Agate House 10.30 - 12 noon
Thursday 10th June	Open Day. Gift and plant stalls, refreshments.
Friday 11th June	Coffee Morning Wear Red Day & Long Service Awards
Saturday 12th June	Car Boot Sale at Agate House 10.30 - 1pm £5 a pitch. Contact Judith Hagger on 01525 403247

Also, please don't forget our Annual Gala/Fun Day on 10th June, 12 noon to 4pm.

Look forward to seeing you some time soon. Warmest good wishes.

**Judith Hagger, Volunteer Coordinator/Fundraising**

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## A very happy birthday to those of you with birthdays in June

Charlotte Parrott who will be 10 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Luke Priestley who will be 15 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Francesca Gavin who will be 7 on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Christian Borthwick who will be 10 on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Abigail Lougher who will be 2 on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Hannah Stock who will be 7 on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Tilly Norris who will be 9 on the 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Bryony Peters who will be 11 on the 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Sarah Louise Mountcastle who will be 10 on the 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Lewis Savuto who will be 2 on the 10<sup>th</sup>  
 Jacob Hall who will be 11 on the 11<sup>th</sup>  
 Joshua Clark who will be 11 on the 13<sup>th</sup>  
 Natasha Staines who will be 15 on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Jamie Gainsford who will be 11 on the 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Samuel Holmes who will be 9 on the 19<sup>th</sup>  
 Michael Smart who will be 15 on the 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Hanna Laming who will be 10 on the 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Amanda Bryce who will be 12 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Adelle Gainsford who will be 7 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Lucie Morrison who will be 10 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>  
 Samantha Cannon who will be 11 on the 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Lewis Borthwick who will be 13 on the 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Naomi Crowson who will be 6 on the 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Jack Dellar who will be 15 on the 28<sup>th</sup>

And a belated happy birthday to Laura Stock who was 3 on 4<sup>th</sup> May

If you would like your name added to the birthday page  
please telephone Tracey Norris on 815 694