

MEPPERSHALL MESSENGER



November 2006

THE MEPPERSHALL MESSENGER

Volume 22 Issue 7

November 2006

Thank you to everyone who so very kindly responded to my plea last month for more volunteers to help with the running of The Messenger. To be honest, I was most surprised and delighted by the response; it is very gratifying that The Messenger means so much to so many of you. Thanks to the response I got, we now have plenty of people to help with all the duties. However, if there are any more of you out there, please let me know. Your names can be added to the list and called upon as and when needed. You can never have too many!

I do have another problem looming which, again, I hope someone can help me with. As you may have heard, Thermodata will be closing shortly and as the photocopier used by The Messenger, along with the paper, is kept in their offices, this will have to be moved to another location. I am therefore looking for another "home" for the photocopier and paper. It has to be dry and secure, and access obtained for the printers to come in one week a month. Can anyone help? Please?! We have looked into the possibility of sending it out to be printed, but the cost is far too high. Any ideas? Depending on various outcomes, we possibly may not need to look to move until the New Year, but I would like to get somewhere sorted out sooner rather than later. If anyone can help, please contact me. Thank you.

Next month's edition will be a double edition covering December 2006 and January 2007, so any dates for activities or events in the New Year should be given to me by the 12th November deadline. Please either leave them at the Post Office or drop them through my letterbox at 7 Brookmead. If you prefer, you can send articles to me at my e-mail address lindagoldl@aol.com. Thank you.

Linda Gold
Editor

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Dear Editor

I would like to thank Mr. West and his team for the hard work involved in organising the survey for the Meppershall Village Plan. The open days held in the Methodist Hall were so informative, friendly and helpful, in particular welcoming newcomers to the Village. As a resident for some 12 years, I certainly was able to learn so much more about the area. Thank you so much for all your hard work and I really hope you were satisfied with the support received from local residents.

Name Supplied

The Historic Churches Cycle Ride this year raised £474! I'm pretty sure this is a record amount for us – Trevor Wilkinson raised £200 alone and visited 48 churches, so a special mention for him. There were sadly only four cyclists (two over 70 years old), and also four “church sitters” who dispensed tea and sympathy to cyclists. Very many thanks to all and especially to the generosity of the sponsors.

Shireen Longlond

A useful telephone number for everyone to keep. Our local “Bobby”, PC Busby Mobile: 07768 468066.

Finally, a warm welcome to all “newcomers” to the Village. Judging by the number of “Sold” boards around, there must be quite a few. Welcome to Meppershall!

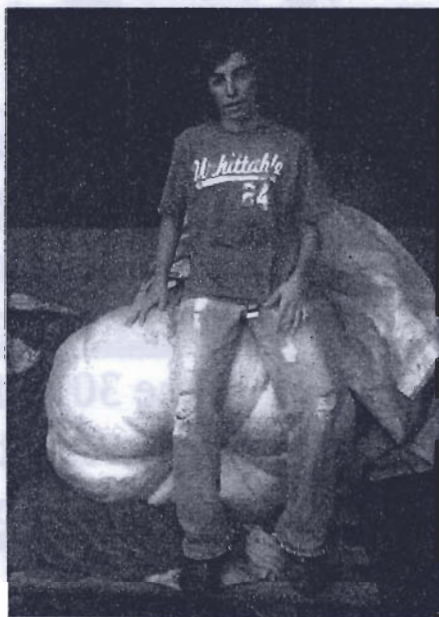
~ Announcements ~

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The Senior Citizen living in Meppershall and who competed last month at the finals of the Burley Horse Driving Classes was delighted by her result. She came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Exercise Class of 18 contestants.

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The Soham Pumpkin Fair took place on 8th October and Tony Primett, from Meppershall, won first prize with his own grown pumpkin weighing a massive 193 kg! Well done, Tony.



Village Plan – RAVE Bus & Open Days

In developing the Village Plan it is necessary to consult with as many sections of village people as possible. As part of this process the Steering Group, assisted by members of the BRCC (Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity), organized two events aimed at different groups. Both were an outstanding success.

The RAVE Bus is a travelling youth centre aimed at 13 to 18 year olds. This bus visited Meppershall on the evening of the 21st September and during the evening approximately 14 young people attended and gave their views on the issues facing Meppershall.

Yes the young people want more facilities aimed at their age group – football pitch, youth club & youth facilities, discos, the RAVE bus to call again etc, but they also want improved social conditions, they are concerned about drugs (use & dealing) and want better bus services and improved health clinic.

On the 22nd & 23rd September there were Open Days held in the Methodist Hall. At this event everyone was encouraged to come and have their say on the future, problems and good things about our village. Approximately 186 people of varying ages, from all parts of the village, new villagers and those who were born here called in. (We had hoped for between 50 and 100 visitors, so the Steering Group were extremely pleased with the attendance).

Not only was the attendance high, but all came with their own views on the future of Meppershall. Using “The Planning For Real” system loaned by the RCC everyone was able to identify what they wanted or didn’t want to happen to Meppershall. Over 1500 items of data have been collected as the result of this activity.

Please remember this is not the village plan, just information leading towards it. However we presented some of the early findings, first to the Steering Group and then to the Parish Council.

Two issues stood out (neither are a surprise)

1. A large number want something done about the traffic in the village. Too fast, too much, parking poor, pavements inadequate and so on. The Parish Council are awaiting a whole village traffic survey to be carried out and this information will be very useful in helping them get that done. Once that is done then it is possible to see what measures can or can't be taken.

2. Again no surprise – development / housing. This varied from NO more development, to needing family houses, sheltered accommodation, homes for the young and for the elderly. Overall it looks like the right type of development, development in line with the village character is needed rather than none at all.

The information gathered at these events and other consultations will enable a number of things.

- It will help the Steering Group to look at the questionnaire they are preparing and ensure it is as relevant as possible.
- Later, when it comes to analysing the questionnaires the team will not just have the data from the answers, but more information that will enable a fuller appreciation of the results.
- Provide immediate feedback to interested parties

Our thanks to all who gave up a few minutes of their time to meet the team, it was great to see so many villagers voting with their feet and showing that the people of Meppershall care about what happens to their village.

John West

Meppershall Parish Council Report

Your Parish Council met on 4th October to discuss a number of items some of which I have highlighted below: -

Planning & Housing

The full council discussed three planning applications. On two, objections were raised and the final application was returned for clarification that the proposed dwelling was within the building envelope. The councils' objections and comments are sent to the planning authority, Mid Beds District Council, where a Planning Officer or the Planning Committee have the final say after taking into account individual representations and Parish Council comments.

Highways & Lighting

Although the Council was pleased with the amount of resurfacing recently carried out they will still express their concern to the County Highways department about the condition of Rectory Road which is seen as a priority.

Parking on the pavements and verges was also discussed because of obstruction and danger caused to pedestrians and the potential damage caused to the utility services below ground. It was pointed out that obstructing the pavement is an offence and vehicles should be reported to the Police for action.

Environment & Leisure

A gate has been ordered to prevent unauthorised traffic from using the access path behind Crackle Hill.

New play equipment for the young children's play area has been ordered and will be installed as soon as possible. This will complete the current project of renewing and enhancing the young peoples play areas.

Old Road Meadow has been sprayed for ragwort again which hopefully will see the end of the problem. Work has started on controlling the hedgerows and two replacement trees will be planted in the autumn.

Meppershall Parish Plan

Following a highly successful consultation weekend the working group Chairman reported the initial findings to the Council. It is evident that road safety and speeding traffic concerned a majority of those who visited the exhibition. With these statistics the Clerk will again stress to the Highways Department that traffic survey requested early this year by the Council is a very high priority and we have waited long enough. The survey is a requirement before we can commence on traffic calming measures.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that all Council meetings are open to the public. The last meeting was attended by seven members of the public and all your District and County Councillors who report to every meeting about District and County matters. In every agenda there is always an opportunity for any member of the public to address or question the Council on any matter they wish.

Full copies of all the minutes of meetings are available on the village web site www.meppershall.org and the current minutes are displayed on the notice board outside the Village Hall.

David Foskett
Chairman

Meppershall Brownies
Operation Christmas Child
Fund Raising Fun Event November 6th
6.15pm to 7.30 pm Village Hall

On 6th November we will be holding a fund raising event to raise money to buy items for the shoe boxes to send to children in desperate need around the world this Christmas. There will be a bring and buy, side shows and whatever else the Brownies can dream up to raise money for this worthwhile event.

With all of the help and donations received from the village we hope to exceed the 120 shoe boxes filled last year.

We will be filling the boxes on 13th November and any contributions you wish to make, be it individual items or full boxes, can be brought to Brownies on either of these nights or given to any Brownie to bring along. The rules for filling the box are simple – no liquids, only clothing allowed are hats, scarves and gloves, and no war toys or books with writing.

My day time number is 01462 450111 if you have any questions.

Christine Elbourne and Suzanne Brightwell
Brownie Guiders

MEPPERSHALL W.I. October 2006

President Mrs. Gillian Thomas welcomed 29 members to the October meeting.

Future events in the area include Festive Flowers demonstration by Nick Grounds on Thursday 30th November at the Rufus Centre Flitwick at 7.30pm, cost £6. Carol Concert at Salvation Army Citadel Bedford on Friday 1st December commencing 7.30pm, cost £5 includes mince pies and non-alcoholic drinks – tickets may have to be allocated for this popular event.

More success for our darts team, beating Cranfield 3-2.

We received a letter advising us of the death of Mrs. Oates, a past President of our W.I.

Gillian asked members to consider forming a new Committee for our W.I. as four members will be stepping down in March. This will possibly result in the closing of our Branch, if no-one comes forward at our next meeting on 8th November, at the latest.

Our speaker for the evening was Jane McDonald demonstrating flowers for the home. Jane did four varied arrangements starting with an Autumn Collection, including peppers, sweetcorn, etc., one for Halloween, then Firework night and lastly a two tier display for Advent. She described how to form the shape required and gave us a delightful evening enjoyed by everyone. All the flowers were raffled afterwards.

Our next meeting on 8th November will be "Patchwork in Concert" by Mrs. Almond. Visitors and new members are always welcome.



Calendar of Forthcoming Events

<i>Saturday</i> <i>4th November</i>	<i>Meppershall Village Hall</i> <i>Build a Guy</i>	<i>10am</i>
<i>Saturday</i> <i>4th November</i>	<i>Meppershall Village Hall</i> <i>Bonfire and Fireworks</i>	
<i>Saturday</i> <i>11th November</i>	<i>Friends of Samuel Whitbread</i> <i>Quiz Night, SWCC</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>
<i>Monday</i> <i>13th November</i>	<i>Bible Society Group</i> <i>9 Clifton Road, Shefford</i>	<i>7.45pm</i>
<i>Saturday</i> <i>18th November</i>	<i>Barn Dance & Pig Roast Supper</i> <i>Village Hall</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>
<i>Saturday</i> <i>27th January 2007</i>	<i>Friends of St. Mary's</i> <i>Quiz Night, Village Hall</i>	<i>7.30pm</i>

Friends of Samuel Whitbread

Quiz Night

Saturday 11 November.

7.30pm

Samuel Whitbread Community College, Clifton
licensed bar

you are welcome to bring a picnic supper

Teams of between 6 to 8 people

Tickets just £3

Reserve your tickets on 629900

Our popular **Cryptic Quiz** will be on sale from mid-November with a high street shop voucher prize for the highest score

WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT IN MEPPERSHALL

CHURCHES

St. Mary's Parish Church

Rector:	Rev. John Harper	
	The Rectory, Church Road	813334
Church Wardens:	Mr. Brian Bellamy, 125 High Street	815944
	Mrs. Brenda Wright, 75 High Street	816446

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 Amphill Road, Shefford	813284
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Roman Catholic Church

Priest:	Father Bennie Noonan	813436
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SCHOOLS

Meppershall Lower School		813293
Henlow Middle School	Head	Mr. Payne 813733
Samuel Whitbread Upper School		629900
and Community College	Adult Education Tutor	Mrs. Robinson 629906

DOCTORS

Cakebread & Partners, The Health Centre, Iveldale Drive, Shefford	814899
Puritz & Collins, The Surgery, 109 Station Road, Lower Stondon	850305

LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

County Councillor:	Cllr. Robin Younger	
	Jesmond House, High Street, Flitton	01525 717090
	Email: robin.younger@bedsec.gov.uk	
Surgery/Advice Centre:	1 st Friday each month (except August), Shefford Library 10am – 11.30am	
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	1 st Wednesday each month, Methodist Chapel at 7.45pm	
Chairman:	Mr. David Foskett, 11 Orchard Close	851770
Clerk:	Mr. C. Waghorn, 15 Church Lane, Letchworth	637531
	Email: waggers.uk@ntlworld.com	
Member of Parliament:	Mrs. Nadine Dorries, House of Commons	
	London SW1A 0AA	0207 2194239
Member of Euro Parliament:	Christopher Beazley (Con)	
	C/o Herts & Stotfold Conservative Ass, 4a Swains Mill	
	Crane Mead, Ware, Herts. SG12 9PY	01920 463064

SHOPS

Roger's Bakery & General Store (next to School)		
	Mon-Fri 8.15am – 5.30pm / Sat 8am – 1.30pm	813398
Post Office & Village Store, 6 High Street		
Post Office:	Mon-Fri 9am – 1pm & 2pm – 5.30pm (half day Sat)	
Shop:	Mon-Thurs 6am – 6pm, Friday 6am – 7pm	
	Saturday 6.30am – 7pm, Sunday 6.30am – 1pm	

PUB

The Sugar Loaf	25 High Street (Mark Askham)	07724 243109
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ORGANISATIONS

Meppershall Village Hall Committee

Treasurer:	Mr. D. Birch	817014
Secretary:	Karen Lucas, 51A High Street	811581
Booking Secretary:	Kate Hall, Culpeper House, Chapel Road	812869
Village Hall Telephone Number		817359

<u>Babysitting Circle</u>	Mrs. Sharon Edwards	814326
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<u>Brownies</u>	Mondays 6pm – 7.30pm	Village Hall	
Brown Owl:	Mrs. Christine Elbourne		811964
Snowy Owl:	Mrs. Suzanne Brightwell		815752

<u>Beavers</u>	Tuesdays 6.30pm – 7.30pm	Shefford Scouts HQ	
Leader:	Mrs. Hayley Henshall		817446
Leader (Shillington):	Jan Montgomery		712386

<u>Bingo</u>	Fridays 7pm	Village Hall	
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Mid Beds Conservative Association

Chairman:	Mrs. Pippa McLuskie, 4 Stondon Road	813417
Secretary:	Mrs. G. Bird	811260

<u>Cubs</u>			
Shefford	Wednesdays	6.45pm	David Cousins 811441
Shillington			Pauline Goodman 711943

<u>Evergreen</u>	Alternate Thursdays 2.30pm	Village Hall	
(over 60s)	Miss E. Ashton (Poppy), 20 Fildyke Road		07931 636544

Friends of St. Mary's Church

Chairman:	Mr. Trevor Thorley, 9 Hoo Road	813357
Secretary:	Jill Wright, 9 Rectory Road	850253
Treasurer:	Mr. H. Davies, 15 Hoo Road	812127

<u>Shefford Leisure Group</u>	Mrs. Enid Pamment, 112 High Street	851397
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Meppershall Players (Amateur Dramatic Society)

Contact:	John Nye	814113
Secretary:	Karen Mitchell, 11 Crackle Hill Road	816336
Treasurer:	Lin Hurst	811533

Meppershall School Association

Chairperson:	Gail Fairey	817594
Vice-Chairperson:	Lorraine Jarvis	811216
Secretary:	Lisa Frost	851058

Meppershall Social Club (see Notice Board for opening times)

Chairman:	Mr. G.R. Walker, 37 Brookmead	815183
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<u>Meppershall Baby & Toddler</u>	Tuesdays 2pm – 3.30pm	Village Hall	
Chairman:	Claire Penney		850987
Secretary:	Louise Hutson		814148
Treasurer:	Nicola Metcalfe		816785

<u>Meppershall Pre-School</u>	Monday – Friday 9.30am – 12 noon	Village Hall	
Chairman:	Marian Fairweather		814516
Secretary:	Michelle Nesbitt		812102
Registrar:	Viv Thorne		850821

<u>Scouts</u>			
Shefford	Diane Landau	01234	381153
Shillington	Paul Major		834251

<u>Tennis</u> (at Langford)	Neil Franklin		815735
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<u>Womens Institute</u>	2 nd Wednesday in month 7.30pm	Village Hall	
President:	Barbara Horwood, 8 Rectory Road		816177
Secretary:	Doreen Pritchard	Press Secretary: Betty Mather	

AMENITIES

Banks	Barclays, 6 North Bridge Street, Shefford	01438 202122
	Monday – Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm	
Dentist	Mr. Lakhani, High Street, Shefford	814020
Fishmonger	Les Braithwaite (Mobile Van) – Thursdays approx 11.45am	
Greengrocer	Nigel Mann (Mobile Van) – Fridays 2pm – 6pm	711802
Hedgehog Rescue	Beds & Herts Hedgehog Rescue – call Jeanette	711370
Mobile Library (alternate Wed)	High Street/School 1.55pm – 2.10pm	
	Village Hall 2.15pm – 2.30pm	
	Fildyke Road 2.35pm – 2.50pm	
Library	High Street, Shefford	639070
Kennels/Cattery	Wayside, Chapel Road	813261
Newspapers	Meppershall Village Stores & PO	811252
Plumbers	Alan Dellar	814584
	G.A.S., 14 Cherry Trees, Lower Stondon	813781
Police	Emergencies/Police attendance required	01234 841212
	Shefford Police Post (non emergencies)	01234 841212
		Or 01582 471212
Livery Yard & Training Centre	Caroline Carter, Fildyke Road	07747 686118
Whitbread Wanderbus		701700

The Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin Meppershall

SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

For more information please ring 01462 813334
(Rev John Harper, Rector of Meppershall and Shefford
The Rectory, Church Rd, Meppershall)

- Sun 5** **4th before Advent.** 11.15a.m. Parish Communion;
Sunday School at Rectory for 3- 12's
6p.m. All Souls Service - see below *
- Sun 12.** **Remembrance Sunday**
8.30a.m. Holy Communion;
10.45a.m. Remembrance Service, with 2 minute
silence at 11a.m at the War Memorial
3p.m. United service at Methodist Chapel
- Sun 19** **2nd before Advent**
8.30a.m. Holy Communion;
6p.m. Evensong
- Sun 26** **Christ the King**
8.30a.m. Holy Communion
11.15a.m. Family Communion with Sunday School
- Sun Dec 3** **Advent Sunday**
11.15a.m. Parish Communion; Sunday School at
Rectory for 3- 12's
6p.m. Christingle for Advent - see below*

*The All Souls service is especially designed to give thanks for those whose lives are now completed. If you would like the name of someone remembered in prayer during the service, there will be a list for this purpose in Church as from Friday 27 October.

*The Christingle this year will have an 'Advent' flavour to it, though as usual will focus on the giving of lighted 'christingles' to all young people. Collecting containers for the work of the Children's Society will be available from School and Church from mid October. See poster on following page, or ring 813334

Weekday services....

Wednesdays	10a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
Fridays	7.30p.m. Compline (night prayer 15 mins)
Saturdays	9.30a.m. Morning Prayer (20 mins)

Barn Dance - Saturday 18 November, 7.30 for 8p.m. at the Village Hall
Live Band and Pig Roast Supper. Tickets £10 (family tickets £30 - 2 adults and 2 children under 10). Licensed Bar. - 850543, Rectory and members of the Church Council. Proceeds for St Mary's restoration fund.

Historic Churches Cycle Ride.

This year our local cyclists raised £474, possibly a record for our village. Trevor Wilkinson alone visited 48 churches and raised £200 - a hero!
There were juts 4 cyclists, the smallest number so far, and 4 church 'sitters'. Many thanks to all who sponsored us, and the riders and 'sitters' who did the deeds.' Shireen Longland.

Can you help?

I have received an enquiry about a long lost relative. Audrey Phyllis Ingram was the daughter of Edward and Phyllis (nee Rutland) Ingram, and was baptised in St Mary's in 1932. Does anyone have information about this lady's whereabouts - or of any of her relatives who may wish to contact a cousin? John Harper - 813334

A new Alpha course begins on Monday November 13, 7.15 for 8p.m. at Shefford Baptist Church. Alpha is an ecumenical programme in use world wide that covers the essentials of Christian belief. It includes teaching, opportunity for questions and discussion, and a home cooked supper!. This course is endorsed by all the Shefford churches. For more details please contact Phil Vass on 01462 626101 or shefford.alpha@ntlworld.com.

Care for the environment.

As a follow up to the topic I aired in the last edition to do with responsibility for God's creation, I would mention a very practical opportunity of expressing our concern for our earth's future. On Saturday November 4th there will be a major rally in Trafalgar Square - 'Stop Climate Chaos' 'I count'. Christian agencies including Tear Fund and Christian Aid are part of the coalition promoting the event, which takes place from 1.15 - 3p.m. There will be live music and speeches, and a chance to make your voice count. There will also be a service in St Martins in the Fields at 12.30p.m. when The Bishop of Liverpool will speak. The event is timed to increase awareness of issues that will be raised at the next big UN summit on climate change taking place from 6-17 November in Nairobi. The issues are both to do with our future and also are also concerned with justice for many of the world's most deprived peoples. I hope to attend the rally, and will be pleased to help with transport if others would like to join me. I have some leaflets and more details can be found on 0845 355 8355 or via www.tearfund.org/climatechange

John Harper

To view details of events at St Mary's sister parish of St Michael's and All Angels Shefford in the United Benefice see www.sm3a.org.uk.

Traditional NATIVITY

St. Mary's is staging a new **ADULT NATIVITY PLAY**
written by a local well known gardener!

Best not to miss out ... you may never get another chance!!!!
There'll be 2 rehearsals and the performance. All at St. Mary's.

Tues. 5th Dec. 7pm & Sat. 16th Dec. 4pm-7pm. Bring a nibble.
PERFORMANCE: Wednesday 20th December 7pm

OTHER WAYS YOU MAY LIKE TO HELP:

Someone to help Les Davies with sound and lights.

We need white [or silver!] sheets for costumes.

Costume makers - no wings!!!

Lanterns and a shepherd's fire.

Guitar and flute players.

Give us a ring. Let us know whether you're up for it or can help in any other way.

Pat Bass 851609 or Sandra Harper 813334 revjohnharper@tiscali.com

Here's an opportunity! Could it be for you?
Maybe a challenge! Definitely a joy!

GO ON ... JOIN THIS YEAR'S

St. Mary's CHRISTMAS CHOIR

Last year, St. Mary the Virgin, Meppershall's Parish church, formed an Adult Choir to sing at Christmas Services. It was very much enjoyed and appreciated by everyone. This year we are amalgamating the choir again for

THE VILLAGE CAROL SERVICE Sunday 17th December 6pm

And possibly MIDNIGHT MASS Sunday 24th December 11.30pm

There will be a practices at St. Mary's on:

Wednesday 6th December 7pm - 8.30pm

Sunday 17th December 3pm - 4pm

Celebrate this great Christian festival by sharing your singing enthusiasm and talent with God and the community.

More Info: Sandra Harper 01462 813334 revjohnharper@tiscali.co.uk

THE UNITED BENEFICE OF ST. MARY'S, MEPPERSHALL & ST. MICHAEL'S, SHEFFORD



for 7 yrs & upwards

NOW PRACTISING FOR CHRISTMAS

*Practices are at St. Mary's Meppershall
or St. Michael's Shefford.*

If you are 7 or older and enjoy singing then this is the choir for you. We sing all styles of Christian music. This year we are adding drama and dances to our repertoire. We also follow the national RSCM course, 'Voice for Life,' which covers some musical theory and voice training.

*Why not come for a trial session on
Sundays October 29th & November 5th
4pm - 6pm at St. Michael's Church,
Shefford. [next to the chemist].*

- **No experience necessary.**
- **Enthusiasm essential.**

More info: Sandra Harper

01462 813334 revjohnharper@tiscali.co.uk

Candlelit Christingle

Sun Dec 3rd 6pm

St. Mary the Virgin

Meppershall

With the United Benefice
Junior Choir

Donations for the
work of The
Children's Society

Service with an
Advent flavour

You may like
to bring your
own lantern
or torch!

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

First Mass of Sunday

Saturday Evening

6pm

9am

5.15pm

RAF Henlow

Shefford

Shefford

Weekday Services

Parish Priest:

Fr. Bennie Noonan 813436

See notice at Church or telephone

Parish Secretary:

Rose Boulton 811547

St. Francis of Assisi R.C. Church

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday 25th November

At

Shefford Methodist Church Hall

10am

Raffle, Festive Stalls and Seasonal Gifts

SHEFFORD LEISURE GROUP

During the past month we have visited the BBC TV Studio on two occasions, the first was to sample a programme with Anne Robinson in 'Outtake', quite hilarious in some parts, very interesting to see how these programmes take shape. Our other trip was an actual tour of the BBC TV Studios, where we were taken into the 'News' studio where we learnt how the 'News' takes shape and the route from which it comes – all electronically of course! Then came the 'Weather Forecast' another most interesting area, where it was explained that by wearing certain colours it would blank out other areas. Finally we were taken to the set where the TV programme 'Maria' took place. We were able to see Andrew Lloyd Webber's chair, the stage and audience areas. This was certainly a popular visit and well worth the journey, especially as we called into Ikea first for super refreshments – some even managed some shopping! Other trips included the Fen Marshes & Villages, an open day at Keech Cottage children's Hospice and a visit to Bletchley Park for the 'Churchill Weekend' This proved to be a very historic and interesting visit, especially to see the veterans who were there to sign brochures and to talk about their experiences during the second world war, the code breaking machine, how it worked and how the Enigma ciphers were broken. We have just returned from an interesting six-day excursion to Sicily where we were able to learn a little of their culture. Future trips in November include two separate coaches to Thursford (fully booked), Welney Wetland Centre, Friday Night is Music Night, at The Mermaid Theatre in London, Kew Gardens and Christmas Carols in December also Festive Wimpole, The National Trust Property will be dressed as it would have been during a Victorian Christmas, with original and re-created decorations on show and costumed characters on hand. Tinsel & Turkey at The Langthorne Gardens Hotel, Folkestone and in 2007 we have Canada and Niagra Falls to look forward to! If you are interested in travelling, to see new places near and far together with good company, then why not come along and see for yourself. We are a friendly group and everyone is welcome! Raffles are held on trips in aid of Keech Cottage Children's Hospice. For further information please contact Enid on 01462 851397 – I am sure you won't regret it!



Registered Charity No. 1077727

**Hospice at Home
Volunteers**

**West Mid Beds and
Ivel Valley
42 Luton Road
Wilstead
Beds MK45 3EX**

Tel: 01234 743063

Email – soniabanks5@aol.com

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED

What do our Volunteers do?

The Volunteers visit, give practical help where needed and become a supporting friend during a life threatening illness and – if required – beyond.

The Volunteers aim to compliment the statutory services such as Community Nurses, Macmillan Nurses, Social Workers, Hospices and Home Carers to support the person needing care and their family, but usually does not exceed three hours per week.

Who are our Volunteers?

Caring people who may have experienced the need for help and support themselves. All volunteers are carefully selected, trained and managed by our Volunteer Manager. All Volunteers are able to claim travelling expenses incurred whilst working with us.

If you would like to join our team of Volunteers please call

Sonia Banks

for further information on

01234 743063

**The only Charity in Bedfordshire to be awarded the
Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2006**

Registered address: 42 Luton Road, Wilstead, Beds MK45 3EX



**The Queen's Award for
Voluntary Service 2005**

Name Game

Study the picture below and see how many words you can find in the diagram. The circled numbers will tell you how many letters in each word. The unused letters will spell the witch's name.



A very happy birthday to those of you celebrating birthdays in November

Ben Halford who will be 2 on the 4th
Elliot Cooper Hughes who will be 8 on the 10th
Danielle Savory who will be 13 on the 10th
Mikey Long who will be 15 on the 10th
Freddie Hefford who will be 1 on the 10th
Emily Crowson who will be 10 on the 13th
Daniel Truett who will be 4 on the 15th
Abbie Saunders who will be 7 on the 19th
Lucy Wallace who will be 3 on the 23rd
Alex Thorne who will be 7 on the 28th
Joe Thomson who will be 15 on the 29th
Rebecca Croft who will be 13 on the 30th
Alice Geneux who will be 5

If you are under 16 and would like your name added to
the birthday page, please call Tracey Norris on 815 694

