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Welcome to the first spring edition of 2025

The Heathfield Centre – Hyde Road



Home to

Caddington Care Coffe Morning, Chair-based Exercises, Parish Council Meetings, Baby and Toddler, Slimming World, Toddler Parties, Caddington Crafters, Bingo, Badminton, Caddington Community Shed, Caddington Amateur Dramatics Society, Caddington Men's Club, Social Prescribing for the NHS, Saint Georges Day Celebrations, Consultation Events, Caddington History Society, Short Mat Bowls, Larger Social Gatherings and Pickleball

At the Heart of our Community

Can you help?

Have you any content you'd like to place in the next edition – perhaps you could share details of your special interest or hobby?

Perhaps you would like to advertise your business?

The magazine reaches nearly 2000 houses and is also shared on social media

Content deadline for the April edition is Friday 21st March

Contact John at cadvillmag@gmail.com



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday 7th March 2025 Churches together in Caddington and St Andrews Church, Slip End gathered together to celebrate World Day of Prayer which was held at St. Thomas' Roman Catholic Church this year.

The service this year was prepared by the women from the Cook Islands, sharing the stories of their struggles during Covid 19 and the devaluation of their culture.

All who attended were given colourful Leis to wear around their necks as they entered the church. A table was placed in front of the altar with seashells, photos of the Cook Islands and a large ornamental sailing boat. All these items were donated by the different churches which helped all those who attended to bring the atmosphere of these colourful Islands in the South Pacific to the service

A lovely service and celebration was had by all which concluded with tea and cakes.

Special thanks go to Lorna Martin for getting all the churches together and organising the whole service also Liz Higgins for playing the organ and leading us in singing the hymns. Special thanks also goes to Deirdre Smith for making two wonderful colourful cloth banners.

Thanks to all who attended and for the £150 raised which will go to the World Day of Prayer organisation.

Caddhist- your local History Group

We are a friendly group meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month 7:30 at the **Heathfield Centre** to listen to a variety of engaging speakers followed by lively discussion and questions. Coffee and refreshments too.

Thursday 27th of March

Kay Kempster- 'Queen Eleanor and her Crosses'

Thursday 24th April

A.G.M. followed by Marisa D'Alessandro showing her fantastic pictures and photographs.

New members and guests always welcome
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Please contact Peter Graham on 738470. The price will include, if you wish, a brief announcement in The Villager but note that my deadline is the end of the month preceding publication. A retrospective announcement is always possible.

All Saints Church Caddington

Vicar: Reverend Rob O'Neill
The Vicarage, off Chaul End Road,
Caddington, LU1 4BG
Telephone: (01582) 731692
email: rob@vicar.org.uk

(Please note that the vicar is convalescing following a major operation and will not be available until May)

Sunday Services

9.30 a.m. Informal Service
(1st & 3rd Sunday of month)
Communion service with choir
(All other Sundays)

Thursday

10.00 a.m. Caddington Bears
(A group for pre-schoolers and carers.)

Butterfly Funerals

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Bedfordshire

LU1 4HS



CHAT AND COFFEE

We are open every Monday from 10am till 12 at the Heathfield Centre. If you haven't been before do drop in. Good coffee and plenty of chat!

MEN'S CLUB

We meet every Thursday 10 till 12 at the Heathfield Centre. Drop in and see us- you will be sure of a warm welcome.

SEATED EXERCISES

Come along to the Heathfield Centre on Tuesday at 11.am. Good fun, good exercise and stimulating.

BINGO

First Mondays of the month - 2pm at the Heathfield Centre.
£5 for 6 games. Flyer and raffle. Everyone welcome

Walk - Wednesday 19th March - 10:30

Setting off at 10:30am from Wiggington Village Hall, car park HP23 6HH.
A 3.5 mile walk over easy footpaths passing through Tring Park with fine views along the escarpment. The Greyhound pub can provide refreshments to those in need at the end of the walk.

If you would like a lift please call – 07548 264672

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Careline is on every weekday from 9.00am till 4.30pm.

If you need help with shopping, a lift to a medical appointment, help with a small household task, help with a computer or paperwork or someone just to call round, please call the above number

WHEELCHAIRS

We have wheelchairs available for short term loan

www.caddingtoncare.com email: caddingtoncare@gmail.com



Caddington Local History Group



The History of the Luton and Dunstable Hospital

Janet Graham MBE

Janet started her nursing career at the Luton and Dunstable Hospital as a trainee in 1967 and retired in 2008. Even after that she has retained her connection as a volunteer archivist. She was rewarded with the MBE.

The first medical service recorded was at Dunstable Priory in 1132 however Luton had to wait until 1872 for its first Cottage Hospital set up by GPs who needed back up. The premises were two cottages in High Town.

Bute Hospital was opened in 1882, built on land given by the Marquis of Bute. The building, now a Medical Centre, can still be seen today. Photos show a large room full of beds very close together. The nurses, who look quite skinny, are wearing dresses with long sleeves. The Matron who ran the hospital was paid 10/- a week. The Children's Annexe was built in 1894 where children were admitted for tonsil removal and the like as well as accidents in the hat trade. Later, in 1929, St Mary's – originally the Workhouse became the Town Hospital.

In 1937 Luton Borough acquired a green field site on the edge of the town for a Maternity Hospital. This is the building with the green roof that can still be seen today and is now the Neonatal Unit.

Following a massive fund-raising effort from public subscription, local businesses, fetes and collections and a large bequest from Dunstable the new Luton and Dunstable Hospital was opened by Queen Mary in 1939. (Owing to the size of the bequest from Dunstable there was a body of opinion that argued that it should be called the Dunstable and Luton) The new hospital was state of the art and boasted balconies for fresh air and nappy changing rooms. There were private wards and a nurses home with tennis courts. A Nurses Training School was set up.

During World War 2 the grounds were dug up as part of the Dig for Victory Campaign and prisoners of war were drafted in to help.

Initially the pharmacy made their own drugs, now a robot is used to pick the orders.

Originally patients could smoke in bed – now smoking is completely banned.

The hospital continued to expand – the medical block in the 1960's, the surgical block in the 1980's and in 2003 the St Mary's Wing was opened by Princess Anne.

Development work has continued of late with a new administration centre – Nova House and an Energy Centre helping the hospital to become self-sufficient. Jane Payton

Did a Cursed Ancient Play Kill a Leading Man—Or Did It Have Help?

That's the question our intrepid detectives must answer in Stage Fright, the forthcoming CADS production that promises suspense, intrigue, and a touch of the supernatural.

One of six gripping murder mysteries featuring the determined DI Birch and the perceptive DC Jane Spiller, Stage Fright is undoubtedly the most chilling of the set. Inspired in part by tragic real-life events, this macabre tale revolves around a 200-year-old Russian play said to be cursed – and its eerie influence on a modern-day theatre production.

Audience members will have the chance to put their own detective skills to the test, interrogating the lead investigator during the interval and predicting the solution before the shocking truth is revealed. And if you don't crack the case, once the culprit is exposed, you'll realise the clues were there all along!

About the Author:

Jonathan Goodson, a seasoned performer with multiple local drama groups, is the author of 15 published stage plays.

Don't miss this thrilling whodunnit—prepare to be both entertained and unnerved!

Performances will be staged 2-5th April from 7.30pm in Heathfield Community Centre, Caddington, bring your own refreshments!

Tickets are £10 and available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/cadsociety



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Sunday Services 11 am - Please refer to website for dates
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STAGE FRIGHT

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Caddington
VILLAGE SCHOOL
A school at the heart of the community

March 2025

It is hard to believe that we are already halfway through the academic year. Life at Caddington Village School continues to be busy. As you can read below, Year 3 have been learning about the Romans and Year 2 have been on a trip to the Silverstone Museum. You may also have spotted our youngest pupils on a trip to the post box! This is always eagerly anticipated by Reception classes as they are able to post letters to their home address in a day and age when fewer letters come through our letter boxes. Following Children's mental health week, we were able to raise some money for CHUMS which will be passed onto them. We hope that you joined us in our no tech day and felt the benefits of not using screens for the day.

We urge you to keep an eye out on 6th March as the children will be celebrating World Book Day and we expect some fantastic book characters to be making their way to school.

In Year 3 we have been learning about the Romans and here is a summary of our learning:

Boudicca stood up to the Romans and began to lead an army against them. Boudicca gathered all her neighbours and everyone on the streets until she had everybody in her army to fight. Boudicca's army won three battles but at the fourth battle they failed. It is said that Boudicca died not long after the Battle of Watling Street.

The Romans successfully invaded Britain in AD43. During the time, many of the people living in the country belonged to Celtic tribes. The Romans forced many of the tribes to surrender to them. However, they let King Prastagus, Boudicca's husband to continue to be chief of the Iceni people in the East of England.

Continued on page 14 →

Continued from page 13

In Year 3 we dressed up and we went to the big playground to fight with our swords and costumes on. It was really fun. After, we went to the hall for battle 2 and when that finished we switched costumes and swords and went to the next hall for battle 3. Finally we finished with battle 4 and it made us feel how it would be to be in a real battle.

By Aubrey

Year 2 went to Silverstone Museum to learn about forces for their next Science unit. While there the children were able to sit in race car seats, try on real uniforms and gear which made them feel like they were in a real race car and moving. Children saw real tyres and cars from different periods in time. Children saw a massive racetrack and thought it was fantastic.

Interview by Rosetta and Chloe



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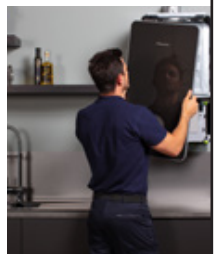


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Caddington Men's Club Quiz

Caddington Men's Club meets every Thursday from 10 until 12-o'clock at the Heathfield Centre.

Pool, table-tennis, darts, anecdotes and a quiz. A friendly bunch and you'll fit in nicely.

Here are some of our quiz questions for you to try - answers on page 23

1. What is the final round of "Countdown" called?
2. Who were the first landlords of the Rovers' Return?
3. Which three ladies sat in the 'Snug' of the Rovers' Return?
4. Which cartoon series features Pebbles and Bam Bam?
5. Is David Beckham's middle name Alex, Edward or Joseph?
6. What is a lift for food in a restaurant known as?
7. What kind of plant is maidenhair?
8. Can you now say, "Fred fed Ted bread and Ted fed Fred bread"?
9. Which 1993 Spielberg film was largely shot in black and white?
10. Istanbul has previously been known by what two other names?



News Central @ email alerts Central Bedfordshire

We are introducing cashless parking

The latest news from Central Bedfordshire Council

From week commencing 24 February 2025, all our car parks will no longer accept cash payments, making them less expensive to run, and keeping payments secure.

Blue badge holders remain unaffected by the changes as they can still park for free in any of our Blue Badge spaces in our car parks if they are displaying a valid badge.

Drivers can pay for parking using:

- **Pay and Display Machines:** these will continue to accept card payments, including contactless and chip-and-pin.
- **PayByPhone Service:** available via a mobile app, an automated telephone line, or online [MyParking](#).

PayByPhone offers users:

- SMS reminders when parking time is about to expire – charged at 20p.
- Easy app access on Google Play and the Apple App Store

People should always use the official PayByPhone app, phone number or website for secure payments.

For more information, visit [the council's parking information page](#).

Caddington WI

In February - 'The Chase from Couch to Contestant' was the talk from our speaker, Mark Goodman. An interesting and funny talk, with anecdotes about the whole show. Mark's team did not win and it took months before it took to Air. Our Rita Weber informed us that our Darts Team were invited to a Blooper Show in Xmas 2019. Much hilarity ensued, with Bradley Walsh at the centre.



The Rose Bowl was presented to Nicky Moore 1st with Linda Edwards 2nd and Carol Jones 3rd.

We presented Carol Jones with a bouquet of flowers to wish her well. She has been out of action for a few weeks.

Thank you to Angela Viola for becoming our Vice Chairman.

Our post-Xmas lunch at The Hunters Lodge was a success.

We are sending a team to the County Quiz.

We have our Annual Meeting in March with Dot Wigg presiding.

Resolutions. We have Voted for Incontinence this year. This is a very important subject for all sorts of medical ailments.

We have a talk in March about the Hygiene Bank and will be providing items for them in unopened toiletries and cleaning products. These will be given to people who need them.

The Competition is something Soapy.

It would be good to see you at our Meetings. We meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month at Caddington Sports and Social Club at 7.30 pm.

Linda Edwards 07771 340 108

Caddington Community Shed

A place where people come together to make things.

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Come along to the [Heathfield Centre](#) on Wednesday afternoons - 2 pm until 4.30 pm

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Kiran's Retirement

After more than 41 years of serving the people of Caddington, Kiran from Medigreen Pharmacy has decided to retire.

He approached Caddhist to organise a Cheese and Wine Event. The date of Thursday 30TH January was chosen, 6 pm at Heathfield Centre.

The Caddhist committee set to making this a very special event, and we were honoured to be asked to do it. Kiran had recently come to our local history group to give us a talk on his time in Caddington, which everyone really enjoyed, and there was a record number of attendees that evening (over 70 members and visitors)

The evening went off very well. The committee set up the hall with food and drink and many helpers from Caddington Care helped serve teas and coffees, and did the washing up in the kitchen.

Kiran greeted people personally when the doors opened at 6 pm, and for a while, there was quite a queue out of the door.

There were possibly 200 to 250 people who had come to wish Kiran well in his retirement.

People mingled and caught up with seeing friends and neighbours, that they hadn't seen for a little while.

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Mark Russell, gave a speech to Kiran and the crowd, and in return, Kiran, gave a wonderful resume of his life and happiness here in Caddington.

He cut one of the cakes, and then cake was distributed to one and all.

He was presented with a cheque of £750 from a few of the larger clubs and groups of the village, incorporating a few personal donations. I'm sure he will enjoy spending on one of his hobbies or one of his holidays.

Kiran suggested he still will be around to help the pharmacy at times, and it will be lovely when we do bump into him on those occasions.

Everybody wishes Kiran a well deserved retirement, and for the new management in the pharmacy, he will be a hard act to follow. Hopefully many of the employees will stay with the new management, so when we walk in, the same, happy, smiley staff will greet us.

Best wishes from us all to Kiran. xx

Caddington Parish Council

Website: www.caddingtonparish.gov.uk

Contact: email clerk@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Telephone : 07912 298 141

Meetings

Residents are welcome to attend Caddington Parish Council Meetings held at the Heathfield Centre.

Next Meetings

Monday 10th March at 7.30pm

Monday 14th April at 7.30pm (shorter meeting) followed by the Annual Parish meeting at 8pm

Please visit our website or take a look at the notice board on Manor Road between Cutting Crew and Nice Baps approximately a week before each meeting to view the agenda.

Parish Councillors

Chairman	Mark Russell	mark.russell@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Vice Chair	Matthew Tomlin	matthew.tomlin@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Planning Chair	Andy Palmer	andy.palmer@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Heather Palmer		heather.palmer@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
Bob Fitzsimmons		bob.fitzsimmons@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
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Jeff Lovell		jeff.lovell@caddingtonparish.gov.uk
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Central Bedfordshire Council - Ward Councillors

Cllr Vicky Malone - 0300 300 8559

vicky.malone@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Cllr Kevin Collins - 0300 300 8523

kevin.collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

Update from CBC Independent Ward Councillor Vicky Malone

Last week Highways attended the surface water problem outside Bury Farm on Dunstable Rd. It proved troublesome over the last 6 months or so, and especially in frosty weather resulting in accidents. I have worked with the resident for the last year to try and get something done, hopefully the drains and gullies will all be jetted out the first week of March and when the road is closed mid March the team will use cameras to check that it has been successful.



I have been complaining to my group and the Neighbourhood enforcement team about the constant fly-tipping that all six villages in the Caddington ward endure. Last week I had a meeting with the team leader to express my desperation, I explained that at some of the locations in the villages, it is happening weekly if not more, Hyde is experiencing fly tipping 4 days a week, as is Millfield Lane in Caddington and Lynch Hill Kensworth. I also expressed my disappointment at the length of time the Environmental team are taking to remove the waste... the raw meat fly tipped in Millfield Lane was left for over 5 days which is a health and safety concern. CBC is looking to prioritize fly-tipping so I have offered to compile a database of all fly-tipping in the Caddington Ward over the next month, it would still mean that the resident would need to report it to FMS to allocate necessary resources and help build a wider picture but if they message or email me with just the location and the date between now and March 3rd I can pass this over and I am hoping that if I put the work in we could be the trial area to implement some new ideas and methods to catch them, in the meantime I have asked if the environmental team van can make a daily visit to these tipping hotspots and pick up any tipping they see whilst driving through. Two large deployable CCTV cameras can be used but they need to be attached to a suitable lamppost column so they can feed off the main power and a lot of this fly-tipping is taking place in quiet lanes so they cannot always be used. Another idea they've suggested is a day of action where the safer neighbourhood team works with the Police using high visibility patrols and checks all waste carrier licenses of vans in the area. I have also been reading up on Solar powered 4G cameras which are not overly expensive and secluded positioning could help identify some Offenders I have a follow-up meeting on March 3rd so I will update you next month

The gully cleaning machine has finally arrived to carry out our Cyclic gully clean, the Contractors have been running behind so they have been visiting over the weekend and some evenings to catch up, if you see the gully cleaner in your area could you please check if any of your vehicles are blocking the gullies, they will return once to clear any gullies missed in the first run. As you may have seen from Facebook I spotted the Gully cleaning machine last week parked opposite my shop, I asked the operators if they could possibly clear the gullies outside the shops on Manor rd and the two beside the speed hump at the entrance to Manor Rd as they have not been jetted for many years due to cars constantly parked over them and we have been experiencing severe surface water flooding there for a good while, fortunately, we managed to get the vehicles moved that were parked in the layby and now all four gullies are running clear. I checked after the rain on Saturday, and all was dry so hopefully, they have done their job.

A quick reminder there are still 2 green bin collections from last year remaining which restart Friday 7th March, you can sign up for your new green bin subscription on Central Beds website on the bins and waste collection page or by calling Customer Services on 0300 300 8302

Last year I requested the white lines were refreshed in Chaul End rd but I was told they were only refreshing junctions, after Caddingtons Parish Council meeting where residents were keen from a safety point of view of pushing for these once again. I spoke to Highways and the lineage will be refreshed in Chaul End rd, Dunstable rd, Luton rd and Manor rd junction come April

As always happy to meet for face-to-face meetings and answer your emails or accept phone calls after I finish work at 2.30 pm

You can email me on Vicky.malone@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or call on 03003008559

Caddington Gardening Club

Caddington Gardening Club is a friendly group, meeting monthly to enjoy a shared interest in gardening , swap ideas, discuss gardening successes, the odd failure and pass on advice.

We have monthly speakers, some social events and summer trips to fascinating gardens
Meeting at the Baptist Hall on Luton Road 7:30 pm.

As March brings our gardens back to life, our first meeting for 2025 is on Tuesday March 11th

Timothy Walker will be talking to us on 'The Subtle Art and Exact Science of Pruning'

We look forward to welcoming you all back after the winter break.

Contact Sarah on 01582 419 793



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Caddington Men's Club Quiz - Answers

1. Countdown Conundrum
2. Jack and Annie Walker
3. Ena Sharples, Minnie Caldwell and Martha Longhurst
4. The Flintstones
5. Joseph
6. Dumb Waiter
7. Fern
8. Well did you?
9. Schindler's List
10. Constantinople and Byzantium



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Tel: 07729 306340

Carol's Cookery Corner

Crunchy Tuna Pasta Bake

Ingredients

1 can Campbells condensed tomato soup

125ml milk

330g cooked pasta

1 - 2 cans tuna - drained

1 small can sweetcorn - drained

Topping

2 packs plain crisps - crushed

50g grated cheese



Method

1. Add the milk to the soup and bring to the boil stirring frequently.
2. Add the pasta, tuna & sweetcorn, and simmer for 1 minute stirring continuously.
3. Pour the mixture into a heatproof dish.
4. Top with the crushed crisps and grated cheese.
5. Place under a hot grill until the cheese is golden brown

Serves 3 - 4 people.



A date for your diary

St George's Fun Day 2025

Sunday 27th April 11am – 4pm

At the Heathfield Centre in Caddington

Lots of stalls, entertainment, dog show and food served all day

Please contact us if you would like a stall

or can entertain our audience.

stgeorgefunday@gmail.com



Aley Green Methodist Church

March

Friday 7th	World Day of Prayer Service at St Thomas Catholic Church
Sun 9th 1	0:30am Morning Service led by Rev Nigel Bibbings (with Holy Communion)
Mon 10th	2pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship 1 led by Jo Prowse
Sun 16th	10:30am Morning Service led by Ivor Mitchelmore and Sunday School
Mon 17th	2pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship 2 led by Jo Prowse
Sun 23rd	10:30am Morning Service led by Steve Rogers
Mon 24th	2pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship 3 led by Jo Prowse
Wed 26th	7:30pm Coffee Evening in aid of A Rocha UK
Sun 30th	10:30am Local Arrangement (with Lorna Martin) Mothering Sunday
Mon 31st	2pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship 4 led by Jo Prowse

April

Sat 5th	Prayer Breakfast
Sun 6th	10:30am Morning Service led by Rev S-W Jung and Sunday School
Mon 7th	2pm Ecumenical Lent Fellowship 5 led by Jo Prowse
Tuesday 8th	10-12am Cakes and Company <i>and hopefully</i> Little Lambs Club to restart (Story time at 10:30am)

Recently we have not held Little Lambs Club alongside Cakes and Company but hope to restart again in April.

Sunday School has been growing, and we welcomed 11 or 12 children on some of the recent Sunday mornings. They usually meet on the first and third Sundays during the service, unless that week clashes with other activities.

Remember that we have moved a few of the regular evening activities to afternoons which appear to be welcomed, especially during the darker evenings.

God Bless, From all at Aley Green

Building One, Eden Brae Business Park, Dunstable Road, Caddington, LU1 4FF

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