

MATT POULTER PLUMBING & HEATING

All plumbing and heating work undertaken
 Complete bathroom refurbishment
 Gas boiler Installation and service
 Air source heat pumps—MCS Registered and Eligible for RHI Payments



Checkatrade

07974212232 / mppoulter@gmail.com

www.poulterplumbing.co.uk



Barnes Tree Services

ALL TYPES OF WORK UNDERTAKEN

Trees reduced or removed ~ all waste chipped on site and taken away
NPTC qualified ~ Fully insured

Traditional family business ~ Woodland management since 1980

Ash logs always available for delivery

Telephone: Roger Barnes for a free quote on 01933 356205

REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

Tuesday	7.30pm	Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
Thursday	Currently closed	Book Barn	Barn next to The Sun
Saturday	Currently closed	Book Barn	Barn next to The Sun

REGULAR MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday in each month	7.30pm Wednesday Sisters	The Sun
2nd Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room
3rd Tuesday in each month	7.30pm WI	Pinchmill School

CHURCH OFFICERS

Rector	Revd Paolo Di Leo	(782000, 07968 606 377)
Curate	Revd Dr Diana Stretton	(07807 341 638)
Lay Leaders of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
	Jane Templeman	(07885 617 583)
Churchwarden	Sue Whitehouse	(781300)
Treasurer	Stephen Hill	(781064)

Editor : Jane Carwithen (782185) or email janecarwithen@gmail.com
 Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25th of the month

HOUSE NEWS

February 2023

Parish Online www.felmersham.net

From Revd Paolo Di Leo

On 15th February 1971 'pennies, bobs and half-crowns' disappeared as the United Kingdom went decimal. Oh!! and don't forget the beloved 'thrupenny bit', and the dear old 'tanner gone to never come back. The confusion and pandemonium this change caused may have been forgotten. I remember it well.

In my father and mother's shop in Luton, we were given large government public notice posters. These detailed the changes and the relative values of the old money versus the change to the new money. I was 9 years old helping my parents out. As I tried to explain to many, that for example, 2 old pennies were now worth 1 new penny, some thought they were being cheated; some just found it all baffling. Some just swore at me. Who could blame them?

Similarly, today, we find ourselves facing unexpected and imposed changes, many occurring at great speed. We do not need to list them here. Some are unjust and unfair; some are painfully familiar. We know that change is something we all experience and live with. But change that is unexpected, imposed and unexplained is difficult to accept, confront or understand. It is at times like these that we may need to reflect, try to think, and pray what our response may be.

Many times, in my life I've needed a helpful aid in framing a response to such changes. The Serenity Prayer has been a prayer I have turned to over and over again.

(Ctd. Overleaf)

This Month's Header: Many thanks to Sarah Axtell Royal for permission to use one of her recent photographs of Felmersham Nature Reserve.

**The United Benefice of Sharnbrook, Felmersham
and Knotting with Souldrop**

St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook MK44 1HU, St Mary's Church, Felmersham MK43 7JP All Saints Church, Souldrop MK44 1EX

www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org



Welcome



FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES FEBRUARY

Wed 1 Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 5 Feb	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's (ZOOM'd)
Thurs 9 Feb	7.30pm	Prayer and Praise at St Peter's
Sun 12 Feb	9.00am 10.30am 3.00pm	Choral Holy Communion at The Sun PH Holy Communion at All Saints, Souldrop Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 15 Feb	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 19 Feb	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's (ZOOM'd)
Wed 22 Feb Ash Wednesday	7.30pm	Choral Communion & Imposition of Ashes at St Peter's
Fri 24 Feb	9.00pm	Compline on Zoom
Sun 26 Feb <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00am 9.00am 3.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's Choral Holy Communion at The Sun PH Evensong at St Peter's
Also every		
Monday	10.00am	Christian Meditation at St Peter's Room
Thursday	9.30am	Morning Prayer on Zoom



We believe good value and excellent service go hand in hand.

NEVILLE. Because there is a difference.

BEDFORD

48 Roff Avenue MK41 7TE

t: 01234 359529

e: bedford@nevillefuneralservice.com

www.nevillefuneralservice.com



**Computer support,
consultancy and
maintenance
for business or home**

www.allforit.co.uk

Tel: Clive Just 01234 783246

VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Laura Hewlett 782063	Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
Babysitting	Jasmine Bunker 07368 466 948	Painting & Decorating	Eric Barford 781719
Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
Community Care	07786 344 176	Maths Tuition (inc. A Level & Further Maths)	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
Dog Walking, feeding/ boarding	Ch. Tweeddale 781279	Vinyl and Carpet Fitter 8 years experience	Danny O'Grady 07720 779275
Animal Care and Dog Walking	Annette Courtney 783164		

A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE

Book by Terrance McNally Music by Stephen Flaherty Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens

Tuesday 28th March – Saturday 1st April, 2023, 7.30pm

A musical drama set in Dublin, 1964.

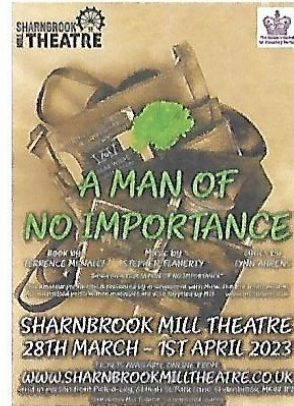
A bus conductor plans to stage
a controversial play at his church.

Personal truths are revealed that will change
his life forever and show the power of family,
friendship and acceptance.



TICKETS £16 (+ £1 booking fee)

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets or
Pick-A-Lily Florists, 61 High St / Park Lane, Sharnbrook, in Person



CHARITY NIGHT will be
Tuesday 28th March in support of: **Rotary**  Club of Rushden Chichele

Tickets: £16 includes complimentary glass of wine, or soft drink. Raffle
Please contact: Richard Abington, phone: 07715 376098 or
richardabington@gmail.com

Dan Raza – Folk Singer/Songwriter

Accompanied by 'The Lefthander' on violin

Saturday 29th April, 8pm

Join us for a special evening of music with internationally
acclaimed artist Dan Raza, one of the leading lights on the
UK singer-songwriter & folk roots scene.

We look forward to welcoming them to the Main Stage
A fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre



TICKETS £14 (+ £1 booking fee; unreserved seats), from
Pick-a-Lily, Florists, Sharnbrook in person, or online:

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

(Ctd) It is a prayerful poem that is: practical, useful and hopeful, holy and heavenly. May we pray this prayer together?

God grant me the serenity
To accept the things, I cannot change;
Courage to change the things I can;
And wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time;
Enjoying one moment at a time;
Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;
Taking, as He did, this sinful world
As it is, not as I would have it;
Trusting that He will make all things right
If I surrender to His will;
So that I may be reasonably happy in this life
And supremely happy with Him
forever and ever in the next

Amen

A prayer attributed to Reinhold Neibuhr (1892-1971)

Online Link for Church Services

<https://zoom.us/j/763110804> The Password is: 079014

- **WARM SPACE** St. Peter's Church on **Wednesdays** from 9am to 6pm.

COFFEE MORNING SATURDAY 4TH FEBRUARY

Jane Wells

The first Church Coffee Morning for 2023 will take place at the home of **Jane Rhodes, The Spinney, Hunts Lane, Felmersham on Saturday 4th February at 10.30 am.**

There will be a small raffle and plenty of chatter!

Do come along. Bring your friends and neighbours to help to raise much needed funds for St Mary's Church. Everyone is welcome.

The next Coffee Morning will take place on Saturday 4th March. The venue will be announced in the next Ouse News.

CM HEATING MAINTENANCE LTD

Domestic Oil Boiler Service

**SERVICE
BREAKDOWN
OIL TANK INSTALLATION**
The Oil Boiler Specialists

J.C Keep Tel: 01234 824400

Email: sales@cm-heating.co.uk www.cm-heating.co.uk



As part of our solidarity work, our companions support local people sleeping rough on the streets through the 'Rucksack Stomp', providing them with hot drinks and food, as well as sleeping bags, tents and warm clothing.



It's also good to show solidarity with other charities too, which is why we help Animals in Need, which does such great work helping animals in and around Northamptonshire. We also provide the Woodgreen animal shelter with supplies too where we can."

If you can help by donating items for their solidarity work, you can drop them off at the shop in School Lane, Carlton, MK43 7LQ, every Wednesday to Saturday from 10am – 2.30pm and Sunday 10am – 2.30pm.

For enquiries call Emmaus Village Carlton on 01234 720826 or visit its website: <https://emmaus.org.uk/village-carlton/>

Pinchmill
INTERIORS

Hand Sewn Curtains, Blinds and Accessories

Made to Measure Service, finished to your exact requirements

Contact Sarah Bunker on 01234 783220 or 07946 620821

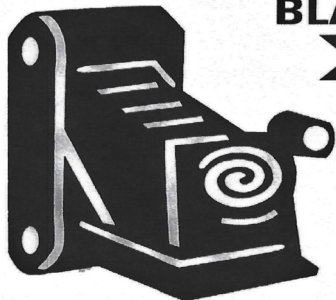
Website: www.pinchmill-interiors.co.uk Email: sarah@pinchmill-interiors.co.uk

BLACK AND WHITE REVIVAL
Helen Dawkins LRPS

- Traditional Photograph Restoration & Conservation
- Archival Storage: Antique Frames
- Darkroom printing
- Sepia Toning: Hand Colouring

01234 782265

www.blackandwhiterevival.co.uk



In business since 1992

K M Lovell
General building

- ◆ BLOCK PAVING
- ◆ EXTENSIONS
- ◆ ROOFING
- ◆ PATIOS

All work considered

01234 782869

RP TESTA

PLUMBING & HEATING SERVICES LIMITED

A professional service with over **25** years experience :

- ◆ CENTRAL HEATING inc. LPG
- ◆ BATHROOMS: Full Design & installation inc. tiling etc.
- ◆ UNDERFLOOR HEATING
- ◆ UNVENTED HOT WATER
- ◆ All general plumbing requirements



FOR A LOCAL AND RELIABLE SERVICE CALL

T: 01234 781827 M: 07793527386

www.testaplumbingandheating.co.uk

HARROLD-ODELL COUNTRY PARK

Ed Green, Country Park Officer

It might not seem like it with a recent cold snap and a wet winter so far, but the first signs of spring are returning to the park with winter aconites in flower and snowdrops beginning to show. The lake still holds some winter wildfowl where there have been 5 goldeneye amongst the regulars, with fieldfare and redwings patrolling the grassy areas and woodland for food.

If anyone is interested in helping out in the park, we do lots of practical work on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. You can come for half or a full day, once a week, once a month or all 4 days a week as suits. Please call Ed Green on 01234 720016 or e-mail hocp@bedford.gov.uk.

The Friends of Harrold-Odell Country Park are looking to fill a voluntary role – Events Officer, to help organise and administrate various events across the year. If you are interested in the role, please call Nina Bransgrove-Knight on 07814 096679 or e-mail nina@theknights.org.uk.

Every other Thursday, there are health walks around the park and/or local area. Meeting at 10:30am at the woodland entrance to the Dragonfly Café, they last about 1 hour. The dates are 9th & 23rd February and 9th and 23rd March. More info can be found at <https://hocp.co.uk/get-involved/health-walks/>.

Designed by a volunteer and available to buy in the park for £1, we have an I Spot activity booklet – ideal for children to take them into different areas of the park & spot various sculptures and wildlife. Points are available for each ‘spot’ and add them up for a bronze, silver or gold star!

We hope you enjoy your visits to Harrold-Odell Country Park!

Emmaus supporting Animals in Need

Emmaus sets aside donations of pet carriers, blankets and other useful items to give to Northamptonshire charity, Animals in Need. The items are all put to very good use supporting the animal charity’s busy rescue, adoption and rehoming work.

Emmaus Village Carlton volunteer of eight years, Eileen Schubert, who lives in nearby Bromham said: “We always set aside pet items such as cat and dog beds, carriers, blankets and towels for Animals in Need as it’s good to support other charities.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: 10 JANUARY 2023

EDITED HIGHLIGHTS

Traffic Data

The following traffic data is available from the installed speed activation devices:

Felmersham traffic monitoring:

61-day period during November and December 2022:

- 16,178 vehicle movements were detected.
- 13% were doing speeds between 21 and 25mph.
- 45% were doing speeds between 26 -30mph.
- 23% were doing 31-35mph.
- 11% were doing 36-40mph.
- 5% were exceeding 40mph.
- 43mph was the maximum speed recorded.

Radwell traffic monitoring:

61-day period during November and December 2022:

- 29,345 vehicle movements were detected.
- 34% were doing speeds between 31 and 40mph.
- 5% were doing speeds between 41 -50mph.
- <1% were exceeding 50mph.
- 2 instances of vehicles doing over 80mph.
- 90mph was the maximum recorded speed between 6-7pm on Tuesday 20 December 2022.

Winter Travel

The Borough Council has a dedicated winter updates page on its website to keep residents informed of changes to public, school and adult services transport as well as waste collection changes and information on road gritting. This can be accessed via <http://apps.bedford.gov.uk/winterupdates/>.

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting is the Annual Parish Meeting and will take place on **Tuesday 14 March 2023 commencing at 7.30pm.**

POST MEETING NOTE REGARDING ROAD CLOSURES

Temporary road closure for **the whole length** Felmersham Road Radwell, Radwell Road Felmersham for carriageway re-surfacing. This temporary road closure is anticipated to be in operation between **08:00 to 18:00 hours from 13th February 2023 to 17th February 2023** and **09:00 - 15:30 hours from 20th February 2023 to 24th February 2023.** For further information please contact Bedford Borough Council, Tel: 01234 718003. **Signed Alternative Routes for vehicles will be displayed. Access for Emergency vehicles will be maintained.**

FELMERSHAM & RADWELL VILLAGE HALL

Karen Yasseen

A big thank you to everyone that attended our last Village Quiz before Christmas, we raised an amazing £700. This will hopefully be put towards making a few improvements to the seating in the play area.

Our next event will be a Family Bingo Evening at 4.00pm on Saturday 25th March. Tickets £2 each, under 2s free. Hot dogs available for purchase, bring your own drinks.

We currently have a vacancy for the role of Booking Clerk for the Village Hall. If you are interested or want further information please contact us on our email : frvhc@yahoo.com.

THE BIG BLUNHAM BOOK SALE

Ros Collins

Will be held on Saturday 25th February 2023, 10.00 am to 3.00 pm in Blunham Parish Church, MK44 3NQ.

There will be an enormous selection of nearly new books - specialist and fiction sorted into categories.

Home made soup, home made cakes, hot dogs, teas and coffees served all day. All profits to Blunham Church Fabric Fund.

For further details please ring Sue and Peter Holden 01767 640572.

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity Celebrates Its 70th Anniversary Year

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity (Beds RCC) is the leading community development agency working across Bedfordshire, with a proven track record built over 70 years. 2023 is the 70th Anniversary Year of Beds RCC.

The work is carried out in four main areas: Supporting Communities, Rural Development, Community and Wellbeing, and Community Transport. The charity also owns three non-profit businesses: The Barn – Cardington, Ridgmont Station Heritage Centre and Tea Room, and Warden Abbey Community Vineyard.

2023 will be a busy year for the Charity as they celebrate their anniversary. Plans for the year include a ball, staff celebration, 70th Anniversary AGM, and more commemorative events. Keep an eye out on Beds RCC's Social Media for more information on these.

If you'd like to find out more about Beds RCC, please contact us: The Old School, Cardington, Bedford MK44 3SX (registered office).

Tel: 01234 838771 / Email info@bedsrcc.org.uk



OUSE VALLEY MOTHERS' UNION



OUR NEXT MEETING

is on January 9th 2023 at 2.30pm

St Peter's Room, Sharnbrook Church

We welcome the return of **ROBERT WHAPPLES**
with a continuation of his vast selection of
STAINED GLASS WINDOWS
Visitors are very welcome



A suggested donation of £4 which go towards the
MU Charities (No. 249814)

Please feel free to contact us with your views or a chat, discussions or help
Jackie Biggs 782517 and Hazel Scott 781559

PS We are open for anyone who is interested in the Worldwide Mothers' Union and in knowing more about our organisation.



Make an entrance with a pair of Oakgate Joinery gates



Call us today for a free no obligation quote 0845 519 4049
info@oakgatejoinery.co.uk www.oakgate-joinery.co.uk