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HOUSE NEWS

May 2023

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REGULAR VILLAGE ACTIVITIES

1st Wednesday in each month	7.30pm Wednesday Sisters	The Sun
Every Tuesday	7.30pm Table Tennis Club	Village Hall
2nd Tuesday every other month	7.30pm Parish Council Meetings (Jan/Mar/May/July/Sept/Nov)	Committee Room

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 janeacarwithen@gmail.com

Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25th of the month

The Kings Coronation

The first king in recorded history is said to be King Sargon of Mesopotamia. Legend has it that around 4000 years ago he established the world's first global empire. The first recorded queen was Queen Kubaba of Sumer, also from the Mesopotamian region. She reigned around 2500 years ago. Since these ancient times, monarchies have ruled from Turkey to Tonga and Japan to Jordan. However, the 20th and 21st centuries have not fared well for monarchies with many, but not all, diminishing in power, scope and number. Nevertheless, for better or for worse, monarchies have ruled or at least have had a powerful influence over many countries throughout history.

Monarchs, both Kings and Queens, have never been elected, they are installed and coronated due to their hereditary ties. Basically it's a 'Family Affair' with very little, if any, say or influence from the people they will govern. Although the language of the monarchical office is often couched in terms of serving the people, historical reality has taught us that monarchs are more inclined to rule than serve. Not all, of course, can be defined in this way. An example in my mind is our late Queen Elizabeth II, who, many would argue, redefined the British monarchy and made every attempt to shape the office of the monarch as one of service to the country. Monarchs like Queen Elizabeth II (and I am sure the historians reading this editorial can identify others) seemed to have shaped the office they held, rather than be shaped by it.

It is in the gift of every monarch to decide how they will rule, and how they will shape their monarchical office. Will they simply rule, or will they serve? It is too early to judge how our new King Charles III will present himself and which posture he will adopt as monarch and king.

However, over 2000 years ago, Jesus Christ, who many saw as the 'King of Jews' and even as a 'King above all Kings', laid out clearly how the office and function of a monarch should be defined and how the people should be treated and served. Here's his monarchical manifesto:

- 'In everything do to others as you would have them do to you' ¹ (Ctd)

**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 MAY

Sun 30 April	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
Wed 3 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 7 May	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion & Baptism at St Mary's
	6.00pm	Evensong/Choral Coronation Celebration at St Peter's
Wed 10 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Thurs 11 May	7.30pm	Prayer and Praise at St Peter's
Sun 14 May	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Holy Communion at All Saints
	10.30am	Christian Aid Week Service at Methodist Church
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at St Mary's
Wed 17 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Thurs 18 May	7.30pm	Deanery Holy Communion at St Peter's
Ascension Day		
Sun 21 May	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30 am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at All Saints
	6.00pm	Easter Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 24 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 28 May	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at St Peter's
Wed 31 May	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
[Mondays	10.00am	<i>Christian Meditation at St Peter's Room</i>
Thursdays	9.30am	<i>Morning Prayer on Zoom</i>]



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VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES

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Wednesday 31st May, 12 for 12.30 pm - Next in our series of 'Lunches at the Mill'

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A special presentation by Anita Smith
preceded by 2 course lunch, tea /coffee
Wine & soft drinks available Raffle

Tickets £18, including 2 course lunch,
from Chrissie Summerling 07860 831481 /
christinesummerling@gmail.com

A fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

STOP! ...THE PLAY - Tuesday 23rd – Saturday 27th May, 7.30pm

Five neurotic actors, one stressed Stage Manager,
a crazed Director, an invisible Playwright and an escaped monkey are
rehearsing the world's worst play which keeps being rewritten...

The show must go on?!

TICKETS £15 (+ £1 booking fee) available now from

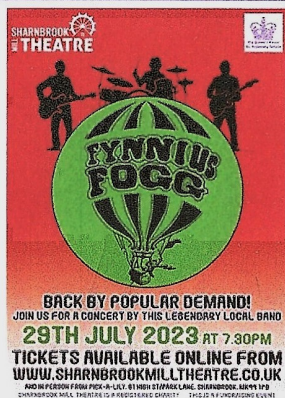
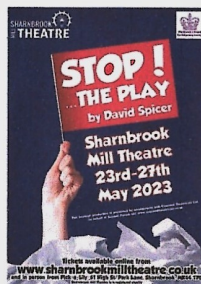
www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/tickets

or Pick-A-Lily Florists, Sharnbrook in person

CHARITY NIGHT is 23rd May in support of St Peter's Church, Sharnbrook

Tickets: £15 inc. welcome drink from 6.45 pm. Available now from

Paul Monk (01234) 782149 / Roland Carpenter 07801750963



Due to popular demand, legendary local band

FYNNIUS FOGG

will be returning to Sharnbrook Mill Theatre main stage

Saturday, 29th July, 8pm

They have performed more than 1,000 gigs, and love
playing hits such as, Just One Look, Keep on Running,
You've Lost That Loving Feeling and You Really Got Me.

Tickets £13.00 + £1 Booking fee (unreserved seats)

from www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

or Pick-a-Lily, Florist, Sharnbrook (in person)

This is a fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre;

Fynnus Fogg have kindly agreed not to charge a fee for the performance.

Saturday 14th June, 7.30pm

Musicals and More

A Cabaret Evening with Jonathan Reynolds & Friends

A fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre <> Licensed bar

Tickets £12, Chrissie Summerling 07860 831481 / christinesummerling@gmail.com

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- 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your
- mind and Love your neighbour as yourself.' ²
- 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
- 'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
- 'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be fulfilled.
- 'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
- 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
- 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.' ³

I pray and wish King Charles III every blessing as he structures his thoughts, intentions and office.

¹ The Bible, Matthew 7:12

² The Bible, Matthew 22:37-29

³ The Bible, Matthew 5:3-10

Online Link for Church Services

<https://zoom.us/j/763110804>

The Password is: 079014

Faith Explorers

In May we will be exploring the
meeting between two disciples and
Jesus on the road to Emmaus.

14th May 3pm - St Mary's, Felmersham

21st May 3pm - All Saints', Souldrop

28th May 3pm - St Peter's, Sharnbrook



Starting in May on Sunday afternoons at 3pm, once a month in each church in the Benefice, we have a new service for children and families. Join us for some songs, activities, prayers and to explore Bible stories together. Followed by tea and biscuits.

St Mary's, Felmersham - 2nd Sunday each month

All Saints', Souldrop - 3rd Sunday each month

St Peter's, Sharnbrook - 4th Sunday each month

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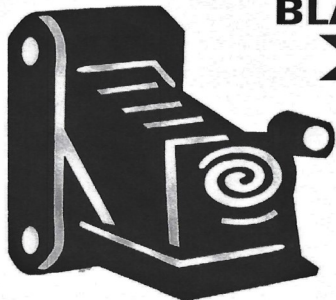
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FELMERSHAM AND RADWELL COMMUNITY TRUST

Another reminder to you all that the Felmersham and Radwell Community Trust was set up in accordance with the Will of the late Margaret Alleway, a resident of Felmersham between 1964 and 2002. This trust was set up for the benefit of residents of Felmersham and Radwell and is intended to provide financial help with domestic support for the elderly, sick, disabled or those in need within the two villages. It can also provide facilities for social welfare, recreation and leisure in cooperation with other relevant organisations for the benefit of the inhabitants of Felmersham and Radwell. If you would like to apply for a grant, or indeed if you know of someone who is in need, we would like to hear from you.

You can download the application form from the village website www.felmersham.net or approach any of the trustees for advice. The trustees are Peter Hartop, Gill Whiteway, Chris Spoor and Patrick Doyle.

K M Lovell

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Volunteer with Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity

Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity have a wide range of projects and services that benefit local communities across Bedfordshire. Many of these wouldn't be able to run without our fantastic volunteers.

We're always looking for more volunteers, and we'd love to have you join us for one (or more!) of our opportunities below. To find out how to get involved, visit bedsrcc.org.uk.

Wellbeing Walks are a great way to meet new people, get out in nature, and get some exercise – and they are free and open to all. If you love the outdoors and want to make a difference to others, become a trained walk leader for your local area.

You Can Do IT! is a digital inclusion project working to improve people's lives by getting them online and accessing services that will improve their wellbeing. People learn skills such as joining an online activity group, using email, booking GP appointments and making video calls. The sessions are run by volunteers who offer the one-to-one support which makes a real difference to people's lives.

Warden Abbey Vineyard is a community vineyard nestled between Old Warden and Cardington. Beds RCC has leased the vineyard since 2010, and developed it as a unique resource for the local community. The vineyard is cared for by volunteers and it's a great way to get outdoors, meet new people, and learn new skills.

Ivel Valley Conservation Volunteers carry out conservation tasks including tree planting, pond creation, and installing benches, which has made a real difference to the environment and communities in Bedfordshire.

Do you want to get involved and help out your local community?
Find out more about Beds RCC's volunteering opportunities by visiting bedsrcc.org.uk, calling 01234 838771 or emailing info@bedsrcc.org.uk.

Are you interested in knowing about the mission, restoration and running of St Mary's church?

The date of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is **Wednesday 3rd May 2023**, the venue is St Mary's Church and it will start at 7.30 p.m.

There are two parts to the meeting:

- 1) Election of Churchwardens
- 2) Reports on mission, restoration and management of St. Mary's church and election of members of the Deanery Synod.

If you are a resident of Felmersham and Radwell you are welcome to attend the first part of the meeting and vote for Churchwardens.

If you are a member of the church electoral roll you can also attend the second part of the meeting and vote for election of Deanery Synod members.

NO MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING FOR MAY

Jane Wells

Due to the King's Coronation taking place on the first Saturday in May, there will **NOT** be a coffee morning this month. The next coffee morning will take place on **Saturday 3rd June** from 10.30am. The venue will be announced in the next Ouse News.

TEAS IN THE CHURCH

Jane Wells

TEAS IN THE CHURCH will be taking place on **WEDNESDAY 17th May** from 2.30pm. There will be plenty of Tea/coffee, cake and chatter. Bring your friends and neighbours and enjoy. This event will also, take place on every **third Wednesday** during the summer months ie 21st June, 19th July, 16th August and 20th September.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK

Sue Whitehouse



Christian Aid week runs from 14th to 21st May. We will be delivering some envelopes around the village but will not be collecting them. If you are willing to make a donation to this very worthwhile cause (see TV adverts) please pop them through my letter box at 6 Trinity Close or make an online donation. I will make sure that anything I receive is handed over to the organisers in Sharnbrook.

FUNERAL OF ROD COLE

Rod's funeral will be on Tuesday 9th May at 1.45pm at Norse Road Crematorium and afterwards at The Sun in Felmersham. Edith and her children, Simon and Clare and Rod's children, Ian and Susie would like to thank all those friends and neighbours who have sent cards and flowers and made offers of help. It's been very comforting to receive them and it brings home how good it is to live in a friendly village like Felmersham.

Jeff Stokley: 1939 – 2023

Jeff, Karen and family settled in Felmersham during the long hot summer of 1976; fresh from an 11 year posting to Kenya. Felmersham suited Jeff very well and provided an enjoyable counterpoint to the daily London commute and office life with Barclays Bank. At that time, Pinchmill Players was in its infancy and Jeff was ever-ready to tread the boards in all manner of musical adaptations and plays. At the time, the village enjoyed three pubs and Jeff did his best to support them when time allowed!



Having ascended the ranks in Barclays Bank, Jeff's retirement at 56 afforded plenty of time for he and Karen to continue their travels and they criss-crossed the globe, enjoying widely diverse locations. However, South Africa was a special joy and they were not often found in Felmersham during the worst of England's winter months

Jeff was fascinated by a very wide range of subjects; from palaeontology to languages, and anything in between. He read and educated himself to an impressive degree. However, it was aviation that was his life-long passion and speciality. So much so, the family often felt an appearance on Mastermind was maybe worth a try...?

Jeff enjoyed the communal spirit found in Felmersham; valuing the long friendships it helped foster and was pleased to give back to the community where he could. Jeff engaged in many aspects of village life - too numerous to list here. At 47 years, Jeff lived in Felmersham longer than anywhere else in his life and was very happy to call Felmersham: Home.

CARERS TOGETHER

Come and join us for tea, cake, and a chat

We will be meeting at 2.30pm on

MAY 1st and MAY 15th

Meet with other Carers knowing the person you care for is enjoying activities in a safe and friendly environment.

The Methodist Church, Park Lane, Sharnbrook

For more information contact the group's Co-ordinator

Linda Hoar 07791214148 lindahoar@hotmail.co.uk

LIBRARY SERVICE

A reminder that the Mobile Library Service calls in Felmersham at The Sun between 1.05pm and 1.35pm, and at Moor End Road, Radwell between 1.40pm and 1.55pm on alternate Thursdays. In May it will be here on 11th and 25th and fortnightly thereafter. The mobile library service is often one of the first things to be cut, so we are very lucky to still have ours. Though small, they aim to carry a good range of books for all ages, plus large print.

There are a couple of apps available if you have a library card which will let you borrow free e-books and audiobooks; you can use it to read most newspapers, plus there is a home library service for the housebound.

For more information about using the Mobile Library Service tel: 01234 276453.

ALLOTMENT BONFIRE

As ever at this time of year, allotment holders need to dispose of stuff that cannot be composted effectively or crammed into their own green bin. As in past years this will include disposing of items that have been dumped on the site by persons unknown and who have no connection with the allotments. It is planned to have a bonfire on Sunday morning, 30th April unless weather conditions prevent it, in which case it will be the first convenient day after the Coronation, so as not to disrupt any celebrations.

Thank you for your patience.



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