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HOUSE NEWS

July 2023

www.felmersham.net



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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 Leader of Worship	Rosemary Drewery	(07792 926 004)
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

Our Shared Humanity

Ernest Carwithen

I was at the Olympic stadium on a fine early August evening in 2012. How we cheered till our lungs would burst as Greg Rutherford, Mo Farah and Jessica Ennis-Hill won their gold medals. It was intoxicating to be in the crowd of some 80,000 people on what was to become known as Super Saturday. There is nothing more exhilarating than being in a crowd at a sporting event. Nothing matches the feeling of solidarity, of shared identity, of tribalism almost. At rugby and football matches and at Wimbledon in the summer, we display our unflinchingly loyal support for our players as they battle against their opponents. The crowd of which we are a part is almost a living being with its own identity. One moment it is disappointed. Yet, in a flash its mood can change to triumph. We feel a collective sense of purpose, of belonging and pride.

As human beings, we belong to communities and groups which have their own identities. However, there are dangers. A mob has a feeling of togetherness but is often destructive. Football hooligans can vandalise town centres and frighten passers-by. Political rallies can be a collective expression of prejudice and contempt for opposing beliefs. Gangs of youths armed with knives can terrorise their locality. Local communities can show hostility towards strangers. The Orange Marches in Northern Ireland can burn effigies of the Pope and frighten the Roman Catholic population.

Just as we need to belong to a group, we also need to be able to detach ourselves from it. Here, religion is a valuable, indeed essential, antidote to blind loyalty to "a tribe". When I say the Lord's Prayer, there is just God and me. I have detached myself from my loyalty to my teams and great sports players, from my groups of friends, and even from my local community. I am alone before my God, a God who exists for everyone, whatever their tribe, nationality, or group identity. Christianity teaches me that all human beings are made in the image of God, whatever their race and wherever they come from.

To be fully ourselves, there needs to be a sliver of ice in our souls that enables us to detach ourselves from the crowd of which we are a part. It is this detachment that safeguards us from being swept along by collective enmity or by this fashion and that. We are able to stand back and use our critical judgement. Above all, it reminds us of our shared humanity. As Shylock the Jew says in "The Merchant of Venice" - "If you prick us, do we not bleed." What human beings share is greater than their differences. At the Olympics in 2012, athletes from every country were worthy of respect, even when we were cheering proudly for our British competitors.

**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 JULY

Sun 2 July	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion and Ordination Service with the Bishop of Bedford at St Peter's
Wed 5 July	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 9 July	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's
	3.00pm	Faith Explorers at St Mary's
	6.00pm	Evensong at St Peter's
Wed 12 July	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Thurs 13 July	7.30pm	Prayer and Praise at St Peter's
Sun 16 July	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
Wed 19 July	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
Sun 23 July	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
	6.00pm	Evensong at Knotting
Wed 26 July	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Mary's
Sun 30 July	9.00am	Said Holy Communion at St Mary's
	10.30am	Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
Mondays	10.00am	Christian Meditation at St Peter's Room
Thursdays	9.30am	Morning Prayer on Zoom



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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		



The welcome return of legendary local band
FYNNIUS FOGG
on Saturday 29th July, 7.30pm

Celebrate the hits
of the '60s to date
*A trip down
Memory Lane!*
Licensed bar opens 7pm



Tickets £13.00
+ £1 booking fee
BOOK NOW!

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

or Pick-a-Lily, Florist, Sharnbrook (in person)
This is a fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre.

The next in our series of
'Lunches at The Mill'
Fi's Ability with Fiona Ritchie
Author & Biographer

Wednesday 13th September,
12 for 12.30 pm
Talk preceded by
2-course lunch, tea/coffee

Wine & soft drinks available Raffle

TICKETS £18, including lunch
from Brenda Stafford:

07484 843141

brendastafford@talk21.com



This is a fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

EVITA

Tuesday 3rd - Saturday 7th October, 7.30pm

Due to high demand – new ticket release!
Saturday matinee 2.30pm

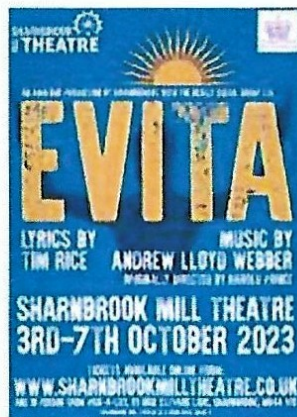
**This multi-award winning musical charts the rise of
the young Eva from poor, illegitimate child to
ambitious actress, to the wife of the
President of Argentina**

An international hit comes to Sharnbrook!

TICKETS: £17 (+ £1 booking fee)
(Subject to availability)

www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

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



www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk

Online Link for Church Services

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

Coffee Morning: Saturday 1st July

Jane Wells

The July Coffee Morning will take place on **Saturday 1st July** from **10.30am** in
St Mary's Church, Felmersham.

There will be a small raffle, plenty of chatter, coffee, tea and biscuits.
Everyone welcome.

TEAS IN THE CHURCH

Jane Wells

TEAS IN THE CHURCH will be taking place on **WEDNESDAY 19th JULY** 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 16th August and 20th September.

Everyone welcome.

Wildlife in the Churchyard

Sue Whitehouse

On Saturday 4th June, Revd. Diana organised a nature hunt for families in the church-
yard which was very successful. It engaged young children and others in the search for
bugs and identifying wildflowers on a lovely sunny morning. We were also joined by
David Gowing, Professor of Botany at the Open University who surveyed our wild-
flower area and the churchyard. He found 58 species of native plant life, including one
or two rare specimens and his list of them all will be posted on the church notice-
board. Mr Gowing will be sharing the information with national surveys of churchyard
environments and the contribution they make to maintaining our wildflower and mini
beast populations.

My thanks for the patience of those of you who like to see a neatly mown churchyard.
The area that is being protected will be cut at the end of June, then the cut material
left to dry so that seeds can drop, before being raked off and removed.

Felmersham & Radwell Autumn Show and Art Exhibition

We look forward to welcoming you to the 23rd Autumn Show
and Art Exhibition being held in Pinchmill Hall on
Sunday 10th September.
Schedules have been delivered. Additional copies can be down-
loaded from the website www.felmersham.net

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Bulky Waste Collection

Saturday 22 July

The Green, Radwell 8am to 10am

Marriots Close, Felmersham 10.30am to 12 noon

CARERS TOGETHER

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

Our meetings will be at 2.30pm on Monday

JULY 3rd and JULY 17th

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

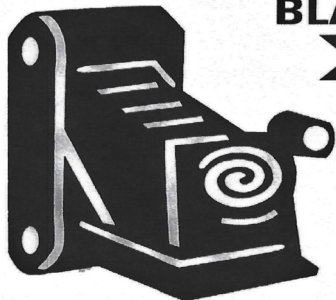
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FELMERSHAM & RADWELL
SCARECROW FESTIVAL 2023

Free to enter & prizes to be won!



This year's theme ~

RURAL LIFE

(so anything to do
with gardening,
farming,
the countryside,
village life etc)

This year we are joining hands
with the Felmersham & Radwell
Village Show

Make your scarecrow and put it out where it can be seen
(no requirement to formally enter)

Judging will take place on 10th SEPTEMBER between 12-2pm
by Reverend Diana Stretton & friends

Points will be awarded for: Closest to the theme, Scariness, Funniness,
Robustness & Creativity

Winners to be announced at Felmersham Village Hall on
Sunday 10th September at 3:30pm

1st prize ~ Bar Meal for 4 ~ donated by THE SUN INN

2nd prize ~ Hand-painted local scene ~ donated by local artist PAUL PERRY

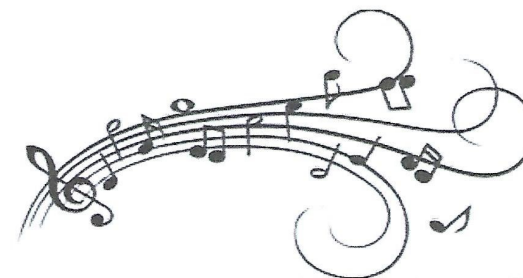
3rd prize ~ Homemade crocheted plushy ~ donated by PINCHMILL SCHOOL

Special Prize ~ For the closest to the theme ~ Hamper donated by ST MARY'S CHURCH

Contact for any queries: mercedeslovesoscar@hotmail.com

An Evening Concert of light music

on Friday 21st. July at 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church,
Felmersham



Bridget Peirson Davis Soprano

Alan MacKenzie Baritone

Janet Welsh Piano

Wine and light refreshments will be served in the interval.

*Retiring donations please at the end of the
concert, in aid of a sound system for St. Mary's
Church.*



Residents' Survey



Dear Resident

Community care has been running successfully in the village for a number of years and we would like to find out more about how this is used and supported. We want to ensure that the scheme can continue to provide this valuable community resource which is run by volunteers in the village.

We are working with Beds RCC to promote this and raise awareness for the benefit of all residents in Felmersham and Radwell.

We would be very grateful if you would complete the survey below. Thank you for your help.

If you think you might like to help, the amount of time you volunteer is entirely up to you – even a couple of hours a month helps! Volunteer expenses can be reimbursed and all volunteers are fully insured and DBS checked.

Possible Services	I might need this myself	I might be able to help with this
Occasional lifts to doctors, lunch clubs, shops, etc.		
Befriending – popping round for a chat over a cup of tea		
Collecting prescriptions, pensions, etc. / occasional help with shopping		
Pet-care / dog-walking etc.		
Being part of the phone rota, to answer callers and match them to a suitable volunteer		
Being part of the organising group – help with administration.		
Other – please specify		

Name:

Address:

Telephone/ email:

Please return to: The Sun, Felmersham or Debra Aitken at The Old School, Cardington. MK44 3SX or email to debra.aitken@bedsrcc.org.uk by 31st July

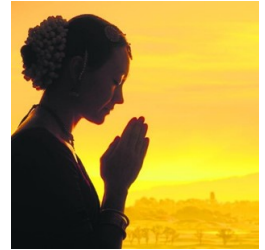


Ouse Valley Mothers' Union

Bring and Share a

Psalm or a Prayer

Please bring along your favourite psalm or prayer to read out – or if you haven't got a favourite come along and hear other people's ideas!



Thursday 13 July 2.30pm

St Peter's Room

Visitors welcome (suggested donation £4 for MU charities)

Details: contact Jackie Biggs (782517) or Hazel Scott (781559)

We welcome anyone who would like to know about Mothers' Union

Charity No.249814



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