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# HOUSE NEWS

August 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](mailto:janecarwithen@gmail.com)  
 Items to be with the Editor for the next edition by NOON on 25<sup>th</sup> of the month

### Rest and Reset

Revd Dr Diana Stretton

It is that time of year again, when those who have to follow the pattern of the school year are able to take a longer summer holiday. Even for people who do not have school patterns to think about, this is still the time of year when generally better weather can encourage us to have a bit of leisure time. It might be that you are picking up this article just having come back from, or just about to leave on holiday.

Whether you are able to take a holiday away or not, the holiday season can be a good reminder for us of the importance of rest. In a society which values busyness and productivity, we do need to remember the vital importance of rest and taking time away from all the overwhelming inputs that drive our lives. We know that rest improves mental health, concentration and memory and that, physiologically, rest and sleep are vital for our immune system as well as a number of the processes that our bodies use to physically repair themselves. Ask any athlete about the importance of rest days in an exercise regime.

The Bible also has quite a lot to say about the importance of rest. In 1 Kings 19 when the prophet Elijah is on the run and has all but given up, he falls asleep under a tree and an angel brings him food. If it is all feeling too much in life, then a nap and a snack can significantly improve our ability to cope with the next steps! In Mark 6, when Jesus' disciples have just done a good deal of work, Jesus tells them to 'Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while'. We have been set an example that time away and taking a break is important to rest and reset. And of course, in the story of creation, we are told that God rested from the work of creation on the seventh day. The importance of taking rest is there in the account of why we are here in the first place. Part of the fundamental nature of our being is in rest.

At the top of my 'to do' list I have the following quote from Isaiah 30:15 – 'In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength'. Holiday season can be a good reminder of the importance of taking a rest, but it is a reminder that we need all year round. Whether you are able to go away on holiday or not, at this time of year or at another time, I hope that you will still remember the importance of taking some rest, and be able to find some time to pause, reset and be refreshed.

**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](http://www.sharnbrookcofechurches.org)



**Welcome**



**FORTHCOMING CHURCH SERVICES AUGUST**

<b>Sun 30 July</b>	<b>9.00am</b> 10.30am	<b>Said Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Wed 2 August</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Sun 6 August</b>	9.00am <b>10.30am</b> 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's <b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Evensong at St Peter's
<b>Wed 9 August</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Mary's</b>
<b>Thurs 10 August</b>	7.30pm	Prayer and Praise at St Peter's
<b>Sun 13 August</b>	<b>9.00am</b> 10.30am 10.30am	<b>Said Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Choral Holy Communion at All Saints Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Wed 16 August</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Sun 20 August</b>	9.00am <b>10.30am</b> 6.00pm	Said Holy Communion at St Peter's <b>Choral Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Evensong at St Peter's
<b>Wed 23 August</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion at St Mary's</b>
<b>Sun 27 August</b>	<b>9.00am</b> 10.30am	<b>Said Holy Communion at St Mary's</b> Choral Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Wed 30 August</b>	9.30am	Holy Communion at St Peter's
<b>Thursdays</b>	9.30am	<i>Morning Prayer on Zoom</i>



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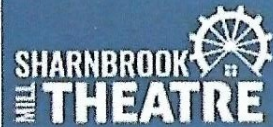
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**VILLAGE TRADES AND SERVICES**

Babysitting (Felmersham)	Laura Hewlett 782063	Electrical Services	Martin Blizard 782527
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Childminding	Maxine Boswell 781940 07985 228 116	IT Services (business or home)	Clive Just 781967 783246
<b>Community Care</b>	<b>07786 344 176</b>	Maths Tuition (inc. A Level & Further Maths)	Geraldine Hubbard 781413
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Join us for 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**  
preceded by a 2-course lunch, tea/coffee



Wine & soft drinks available Raffle

Tickets £18, including lunch  
Please contact: Brenda Stafford:

07484 843141 / [brendastafford@talk21.com](mailto:brendastafford@talk21.com)



*Fiona has put an amusing edge on caring for her Mother, who is blind, partially deaf, irritable, crabby, ratty, and highly opinionated! Be prepared for a giggle, if not a laugh out loud, as you listen to Fiona's stories. Fiona's book will be available to purchase on the day (cash only). Fiona has kindly offered to donate book sale proceeds to The Mill.*

*This is a fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre*

**Saturday 28th October, 7.30pm**

## GERALD DICKENS

Great-great grandson of Charles Dickens

Following his triumphs with  
*A Christmas Carol* and *Great Expectations*  
at The Mill Theatre, we welcome his return  
to perform, solo in his inimitable style,  
the *double-bill*:

## *THE SIGNALMAN* & *DOCTOR MARIGOLD*

See further details at: [www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/the-signalman-doctor-marigold/](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk/the-signalman-doctor-marigold/)

This is a fundraising event for Sharnbrook Mill Theatre

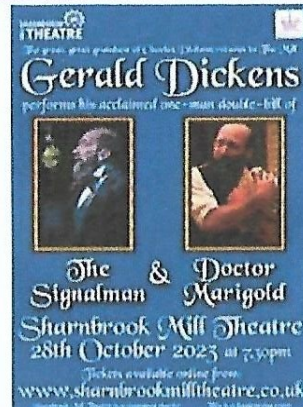


**Book now at:**

Pick-a-Lily, Florists, in person, or on-line:



[www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookmilltheatre.co.uk)



### Online Link for Church Services

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

### Coffee Morning: Saturday 5th August

Jane Wells

The August Coffee Morning will take place on **Saturday 5th August** 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 16th AUGUST** 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 Wednesday 20th  
September.  
Everyone welcome



## Sponsored Bike 'n Hike

BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

*Bike 'n Hike in Beds 'n Herts*

The annual bike and hike to raise money for the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust and our own church restoration fund (half each) takes place on **Saturday 9 September**. You can visit local churches at your own pace and in any order you choose, being sponsored per church visited, or simply self-sponsoring for a local, eco-friendly day out. For more details and for sponsorship forms, or if you would like to volunteer for an hour on the day as a greeter at St Mary's, please contact Stephen Hill (781064).

### 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](http://www.felmersham.net)

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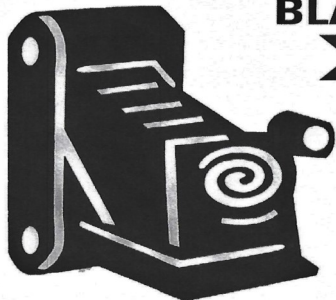
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Janet Welsh

Bridget, Alan and I would like to thank everyone who came to the concert on Friday 21 July, and to your generous contribution of £482 towards the new Church sound system. We hope to see you next time!



**Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity is 70!**  
**Celebrate with their Platinum Ball on Friday 3rd November.**

Beds RCC is the leading community development agency working across Bedfordshire, with a proven track record built over the past 70 years.

The Platinum Ball is Beds RCC's main celebratory event of the year and will be held at The Bedford Swan Hotel, overlooking the River Great Ouse.

There are limited tickets available, so book your ticket soon to ensure you get a space. Tickets are £85 per person and include a drinks reception, three course dinner, after dinner entertainment, DJ, silent auction and raffle.

**Purchase your ticket here: [www.bedsrcc.org.uk/ball](http://www.bedsrcc.org.uk/ball)**

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## CLAPHAM SCHOOL FOR SENIORS

We are ready to welcome back members and new members ( over 45 yrs) who want to start a new hobby or continue a hobby.

We meet on Wednesday (term time only) at Clapham Methodist Church on the High Street 9.00am – 4.00pm. The fee is £20 per term payable on enrolment day which is the first day of term 13<sup>th</sup> September.

Group subjects include: Scrabble, Dominoes, Lace making, reading, singing, Arts & Crafts (of all types), knitting, crochet, painting and a couple of new classes of card making and a cribage card school.

Bonuses are you get to meet new people/friends and join in the community spirit! And of course, learn a new hobby.

Please note we do not supply the materials you will need to bring them along.

Any questions or queries please give us a call:

Berta Barnes or Miriam Pulman  
07704 850974 07790 267176

## FELMERSHAM & RADWELL VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

Karen Yasseen

After our last meeting in July we have two dates for your diaries.

**1. Spooky Family Bingo** - after a very successful event in March we are arranging a family bingo with a spooky theme on **Saturday 14th October**, cost will be £2 per entry (under 2's free).

**2. Village Hall Quiz - Saturday 25th November**

Further details of both events to follow in the next edition of Ouse News.

Lastly we have a vacancy for the role of booking clerk. If you would like to find out more information please email [felmershamradwellvhc@gmail.com](mailto:felmershamradwellvhc@gmail.com) . There is no obligation to join the Village Hall committee or attend any meetings but you would be more than welcome to do so. Thank you.

**At Harrold-Odell Country Park**, we have recently been awarded Green Flag status again for 2023/2024 for the 16th consecutive year! This is a remarkable achievement and a massive thank you to The Friends of HOCP who contribute hugely to the running of the park.

We've entertained a number of school groups recently with activities such as pond dipping, bug hunting and orienteering – these have gone really well, with the kids going home having enjoyed themselves, learnt something and used up some spare energy!

We have been turning our attention to maintaining the memorial benches, sanding them down and treating the wood so that they last longer. The spring was hot and dry, so we were busy watering trees that were planted during the winter – this is very important to ensure that they survive to establish themselves. Now that the rain has returned, we are dealing with growing vegetation and we are grateful that the ground is not rock solid as we have holes to dig in order to replace posts!

You may have noticed that we have not been mowing some of the margins around the picnic meadow and elsewhere in the park – this is to allow more space for wildflowers, grasses and other wildlife. This has had positive results and you can see what wildlife we have recorded recently on the board just outside the café.

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 10th & 24th August, 7th & 21st September and 5th & 19th October. More info can be found at <https://hocp.co.uk/get-involved/health-walks/> In return for a donation, we have a pile of woodchips (no thorns) that are available for collection. Please call us on 01234 720016 or e-mail [hocp@beford.gov.uk](mailto:hocp@beford.gov.uk) to arrange. Only while stocks last!

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

Ed Green, Country Park Officer

# 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> September at 3:30pm***

**1<sup>st</sup> prize ~ Bar Meal for 4 ~ donated by THE SUN INN**

**2<sup>nd</sup> prize ~ Hand-painted local scene ~ donated by local artist PAUL PERRY**

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:mercedeslovesoscar@hotmail.com)



## Ouse Valley Mothers' Union

### *Trip to Olney*

Visit the home of  
Amazing Grace:  
the Cowper & Newton  
Museum (entry £9),  
the Church and tea!



**Thursday 10 August  
leaving at 1 pm prompt  
from kissing gate by St Peter's Room  
Please book your place/lift by Sunday 6th  
with Jackie Biggs (782517)**

**Non-members welcome**

Charity No.249814



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